

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

NCTQ and EducationCounsel to release new report on the teacher pension debt crisis and what it means for teachers and policymakers

Who: National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ), a nonpartisan research and policy organization dedicated to ensuring every classroom has a high quality teacher, and EducationCounsel, an education consulting firm that combines experience in policy, strategy, law, and advocacy to drive significant improvements in the U.S. education system.

What: NCTQ and EducationCounsel will release a new report, *Lifting the Pension Fog: What teachers and taxpayers need to know about the teacher pension crisis* on February 22, 2017. The report evaluates state teacher pension policies against a forward looking and sustainable approach to teacher retirement benefits in four key areas: sustainability, flexibility, neutrality, and for the first time, transparency. It includes policy profiles and tailored recommendations for each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. It finds that despite huge teacher pension debt, most states are not taking action to resolve this pension crisis. The report highlights recommendations for what states can do to better support the security and interests of teachers and taxpayers alike.

When: **RELEASE DATE** of Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 12:01am/ET.

Please contact Stephen Buckley on (202) 393-0020 ext. 129 for more details.

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About the National Council on Teacher Quality:

The National Council on Teacher Quality is a nonpartisan research and policy group, committed to modernizing the teaching profession and based on the belief that all children deserve effective teachers. NCTQ recognizes that it is not teachers who bear responsibility for their profession's many challenges, but the institutions with the greatest authority and influence over teachers. More information about NCTQ can be found at www.nctq.org.

EducationCounsel:

EducationCounsel is a mission-based education consulting firm that combines experience in policy, strategy, law, and advocacy to drive significant improvements in the U.S. education system. EducationCounsel develop and advance evidence-based ideas at the local, state, and national levels to strengthen educational systems and promote expanded opportunities and improved outcomes for all students in order to close achievement gaps and significantly improve education outcomes for all children from early childhood through postsecondary education. More information about EducationCounsel can be found at www.educationcounsel.com.