

Opinion > [Letters to the Editor](#)

Letter: DeSaulnier supports global education, health programs

Global Partnership for Education and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS both help in lower-income countries.



Congressman Mark DeSaulnier is photographed in his office on Monday, July 9, 2018, in Walnut Creek, Calif. (Aric Crabb/Bay Area News Group)

By **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** | Bay Area News Group

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DeSaulnier supports global education, health programs

Congratulations to U.S. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier for winning re-election to Congress. I'm especially happy because he's been very supportive of key international education and health development programs, such as the Global Partnership for Education and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

These programs incentivize lower-income countries to expand their education and health infrastructure. One symptom of government failure occurs when those basic social needs are ignored: the country's children die because of ignorance, disease and starvation.

Despite popular belief, less than 1 percent of the U.S. federal budget goes to foreign development. By robustly supporting international education and health programs, U.S. citizens can continue urging our government to help less developed countries invest in their own citizens. When that happens, opportunities increase for those folks to support themselves in their own countries and there's less of an incentive to migrate to our country.

— *Jim Driggers, Concord*