

December 10, 2019

Representative Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy,

On behalf of the organizations listed below, we write to express our strong support for H.R.5363, the FUTURE Act. This legislation is fully offset and offers practical solutions to critical issues facing students and institutions. H.R. 5363 has strong bipartisan support, which is reflected in the fact that previous iterations of this bill passed the House under suspension in September, and an amended version passed the Senate under unanimous consent last week.

This legislation addresses several important issues. First, it would restore, and make permanent, critical mandatory funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities and other Minority-Serving Institutions that had expired at the end of September, allowing those institutions to strengthen STEM education programs and build institutional capacity to better serve students. It is vital that this funding be restored immediately as campuses are already making decisions regarding staffing, facilities and programming, which are directly influenced by the availability of this support.

Beyond the benefits to historically under-resourced institutions, the FUTURE Act would make significant improvements to the federal student aid system, by simplifying and streamlining the processes for applying for student aid and repaying student loans. This will dramatically simplify the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and make it far easier for low- and middle-income families to apply for and receive federal student aid. In addition, the changes proposed in the legislation will also make the process of paying for college significantly easier for students and their families. This bill would also strengthen the accuracy and effectiveness of the administration of these programs.

Finally, the bill includes additional funding for the Federal Pell Grant program, which is the cornerstone of federal student aid. These grants enable millions of low-income students to access and afford college, and we appreciate the inclusion of additional support for this valuable program.

For all of these reasons, we urge you, and the Members you represent, to support this legislation when it comes to the floor for a vote today. We appreciate your attention to this

important legislation and look forward to working with you to ensure passage into law of the FUTURE Act.

Sincerely,



Ted Mitchell
President

cc: Chairman Scott, Ranking Member Foxx, Chairman Neal, Ranking Member Brady

On behalf of:

Achieving the Dream, Inc.
ACPA-College Student Educators International
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Association of University Professors
American Council on Education
American Dental Education Association
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
Association of American Universities
Association of American Colleges and Universities
Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
College and University Professional Association for Human Resources
Common App
Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area
Council for Advancement and Support of Education
Council for Higher Education Accreditation
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Graduate Schools
Council of Independent Colleges
Council on Social Work Education
EDUCAUSE
ETS
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
NAFSA: Association of International Educators

NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
National Association of College and University Business Officers
National Association of Colleges and Employers
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships
Phi Beta Kappa Society
The College Board
TMCF
UNCF
UPCEA