January 30, 2008

The Honorable George Miller  
Chairman  
Committee on Education and Labor  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Miller:

On behalf of the Association of American Universities (AAU) and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC), we write to express our continuing support for the Grijalva-Bishop amendment to H.R. 4137, which would expand the calculation of the cohort default rate on student loans from two to three years.

We supported passage of the Grijalva-Bishop amendment when the Education and Labor Committee considered H.R. 4137, and we continue to believe that this change would improve the accuracy of the student loan default measurement and provide more meaningful information for students, families, and taxpayers. At its heart, this amendment is an important measure to ensure the integrity of the federal student loan programs and help students avoid student loan default.

We would be glad to assist you and your staff as they seek to mitigate any unintended negative outcomes that may arise as a result of this policy change.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Berdahl  
President  
AAU

Peter McPherson  
President  
NASULGC