United States Senate  
Washington, DC  20510  

Dear Senator:  

On behalf of the higher education associations listed below, I write to express support for S. 1762, the Higher Education Access Act of 2007.  Senators Kennedy and Enzi deserve enormous credit for their efforts to make college more affordable for the millions of American students who have worked hard to prepare for college, but whose families lack the resources to send them.  

S. 1762 will provide an unprecedented $17 billion boost in federal assistance for needy students by reducing subsidies in the federal student loan program.  This increase in mandatory funding, combined with the discretionary funds allocated to the Pell Grant program in the FY 2008 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriation bill, would make possible the largest Pell Grant maximum in history.  We deeply appreciate this bold step toward expanding the federal government’s commitment to educational opportunity for all who are qualified to pursue a college education.  We also trust that it will result in a significant expansion of funding for the Pell Grant program that will be delivered in the most efficient way to the neediest of Pell Grant recipients.  

We support the passage of S. 1762, and urge all members of the Senate to vote in favor of increased access to college for low- and middle-income students.  

Sincerely,  

David Ward  
President  

DW/mmn  

On behalf of:  

American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Community Colleges  
American Association of State Colleges and Universities  
American Association of University Professors
Association of American Colleges and Universities
Association of American Universities
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Governing Boards
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Research Libraries
ACPA – College Student Educators International
American Council on Education
American Dental Education Association
Council of Graduate Schools
Council of Independent Colleges
EDUCAUSE
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
National Association of College Admissions Counselors
National Association of College and University Business Officers
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)
The College Board
Thurgood Marshall College Fund
United Negro College Fund (UNCF)
Women’s College Coalition