

September 28, 2015

Representative Mike Bishop
U.S. House of Representatives
428 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Mark Pocan
U.S. House of Representatives
313 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bishop and Representative Pocan:

On behalf of the organizations listed below, representing the entire spectrum of American higher education, we write to express our strong support for the Higher Education Extension Act of 2015 (HR. 3594) which you have introduced to extend the Perkins Loans program.

As you well know, the Perkins Loans program is set to expire on October 1. This legislation sensibly extends the authority for the program until October 2016, allowing the merits of the program to be considered within the context of the ongoing reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. Such an extension is a necessary step to ensure that the over 500,000 students who receive an average of \$2,000 in aid through this program are not unduly harmed.

In addition, we are pleased that the cost of this extension is provided in such a way that the savings are derived from the program itself, without reducing the benefits to borrowers. This thoughtful approach ensures that the interests of both students and taxpayers are protected as Congress examines federal financial aid programs on the whole.

Our members are greatly appreciative of the efforts taken by you and your staffs to make sure that the future of the Perkins Loans program is determined through careful debate, and not as the result of an arbitrary deadline. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to advance this legislation.

Sincerely,



Molly Corbett Broad
President

Higher Education Extension Act of 2015 (HR. 3594)
September 28, 2015

On behalf of:

American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Council on Education
Association of American Universities
Association of Community College Trustees
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
Council for Christian Colleges and Universities
Council for Higher Education Accreditation
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Graduate Schools
EDUCAUSE
National Association of College and University Business Officers
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Student Personnel Administrators
UNCF