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September 27, 2017

Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington DC 20515

Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi,

On behalf of the higher education associations listed below, I write you with an urgent request to bring H.R. 2482, the Perkins Loan Extension Act to the floor for a vote this week. This legislation enjoys strong bipartisan support and a majority of Members of Congress have already joined the legislation as cosponsors.

We realize this is an unusual request, but the circumstances require it, as the Perkins Loan program is set to expire on September 30th. Allowing the program to expire without any alternative in place will mean half a million students struggling to fund their college educations.

A similar extension was passed by unanimous consent in both chambers two years ago. This legislation would simply provide a two-year extension of the program to ensure that there is sufficient time to address the program in a comprehensive manner through the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Ted Mitchell
President

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

Council for Christian Colleges & Universities

Council for Opportunity in Education

Council of Graduate Schools

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities

EDUCAUSE

NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education

National Council for Community and Education Partnerships

National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education

National Association of College and University Business Officers

National Association of Independent Colleges & Universities

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

Thurgood Marshall College Fund

UNCF