May 14, 2015

The Honorable Lamar Alexander, Chairman
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and
Pensions
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray, Ranking Member
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and
Pensions
648 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), with a collective membership of nearly all four-year public institutions of higher education, write to provide constructive comments on S. 590, the Campus Accountability and Safety Act (CASA).

We appreciate the strong interest in improving safety and enhancing support services at our nation’s colleges and universities. Additionally, public institutions recognize their special obligation to be transparent and accountable to the public and government. We submit this accompanying analysis of CASA as a follow-up to our previous letters sent last fall. AASCU and APLU appreciate the reintroduction of this bill and that the sponsors have given consideration to our previous recommendations by making improvements to the legislation.

We hope this analysis will prove useful as you consider how the legislation could be further improved to most effectively combat campus sexual assault.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us directly or have your staff contact Craig Lindwarm at clindwarm@aplu.org or Makese Motley at motleym@aascu.org.

Sincerely,

Muriel A. Howard, Ph.D.
President
American Association of State Colleges
Universities

Peter McPherson
President
Association of Public and Land-grant
Universities

cc: Members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee