

November 20, 2015

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

Senator Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Thad Cochran
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Room S128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

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

Senator Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Barbara Mikulski
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Room S128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan, Leaders Pelosi, McConnell and Reid, Chairmen Rogers and Cochran and Ranking Members Lowey and Mikulski:

We write on behalf of the 53 higher education organizations and 535 institutions listed below to request your support for a one-year extension of the Perkins Loan Program. This valuable program, which makes low-cost loans available to college students with demonstrated financial need, is strongly supported across the full spectrum of American higher education. The recent expiration of the program has caused significant concern for the hundreds of thousands of students who rely on Perkins loans to finance their

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education, and it is critical that an extension is passed as soon as possible to prevent further harm to students.

The Perkins Loan Program, founded in 1958, is the original federal student aid program. Millions of students with financial need have used Perkins loans to complete their undergraduate or graduate education. These loans, which have comparable interest rates to Stafford loans for undergraduates and are available at a lower interest rate for graduate students, include forgiveness provisions for many public service positions after 10 years. Approximately 1,500 institutions participate in the Perkins Loan Program, and last year over 500,000 students borrowed an average of \$2,000 through the program. Without an extension, 100,000 students who would be eligible will be denied access to the program and forced to find alternative (and more expensive) financing or forego their educations altogether.

The campus-based aid programs, including Perkins loans, require institutions to provide “skin in the game,” balancing any risk the federal government might incur. In order to participate in the Perkins Loan Program, institutions have to match a portion of the federal funds. Currently, nearly 30 percent of the total aid provided to students comes out of institutional funds. As borrowers repay their loans, the funding is added to a revolving fund on campuses that provides new loans to students, guaranteeing a steady source of new aid without any new federal investment. In fact, the federal government has not appropriated new funding to Perkins loans since 2004, yet the program has continued to grow because of the financial commitment of colleges and universities.

Legislation to provide this extension, the Higher Education Extension Act of 2015 (H.R. 3594) has received strong bipartisan support in both chambers. The bill was passed by the House under suspension but did not receive unanimous consent in the Senate before the expiration date. Recently, a bipartisan group of senators, representing a majority of the chamber, expressed their support for this extension. H.R. 3594 would push back the authorization of the program for one year to allow for consideration of the Perkins Loan Program within the framework of the ongoing reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. This thoughtful approach ensures that the interests of both students and taxpayers are protected until Congress has had the opportunity to examine the full range of policy options for the federal financial aid programs. In addition, this legislation fully offsets the cost of the extension by changes within the program, meaning that students benefit without any new cost to taxpayers. The organizations and institutions signing this letter strongly endorse the use of this offset for the extension.

Without additional time, campuses will be forced to wind down the program, imposing unnecessary costs on students working to pursue their postsecondary goals. Due to the urgent nature of the extension, we ask that you either advance a stand-alone extension soon or attach such legislation to a legislative vehicle (such as pending appropriations bills) likely to move to the floor before the end of the year.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and your continued support of American students and higher education institutions.

Sincerely,



Molly Corbett Broad
President

On behalf of the following organizations:

American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American College Personnel Association
American Council on Education
American Dental Education Association
APPA, Leadership in Educational Facilities
Association for Biblical Higher Education
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Universities
Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities
Association of Chiropractic Colleges
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Governing Boards of Universities & Colleges
Association of Independent Colleges of Art & Design
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Research Libraries
Campus-Based Aid Coalition
Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations
Colorado Association of Administrators of Student Loans and Accounts Receivable
Consortium on Financing Higher Education
Council for Christian Colleges and Universities
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Graduate Schools
Council of Independent Colleges
Educational Testing Service
EDUCAUSE
Higher Education Accounts Receivable Organization
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
Kansas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

Kentucky Association of Financial Aid Administrators
Kentucky Association of Student Receivable Officers
Michigan Association for Student Financial Services Administrators
NASPA - Student Affairs Professionals in Higher Education
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
National Association of College and University Business Officers
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
New York State Financial Aid Administrators Association
Ohio Bursars Association
State University of New York Business Officers Association
State University of New York Financial Aid Professionals
Student Aid Alliance
Texas Bursars for Universities and Colleges
UNCF
University Professional and Continuing Education Association
Utah Association of Student Loan Administrators
Yes We Must Coalition

And the following institutions:

Abilene Christian University
Adams State University
Adrian College
Albright College
Allegheny College
Alvernia University
Alverno College
American Baptist College
Anderson University
Anna Maria College
Arcadia University
Arizona State University
Asbury University
Assumption College
Auburn University
Augsburg College
Augustana College
Avila University
Bacone College
Baker University
Baldwin Wallace University
Barclay College
Barton College
Belhaven University

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Bellarmino University
Benedict College
Benedictine College
Benedictine University
Berea College
Berklee College of Music
Bethel College
Bethel University
Biola University
Birmingham Southern College
Boston College
Boston University
Brescia University
Brevard College
Briar Cliff University
Bridgewater College
Brown University
Butler University
Cabrini College
California Institute of Technology
California Institute of the Arts
California Lutheran University
California Polytechnic State University
California State University, Bakersfield
California State University, Chico
California State University, Fresno
California State University, Fullerton
California State University, Maritime Academy
California State University, Monterey Bay
California State University, Northridge
California State University, Sacramento
Calvin College
Canisius College
Capitol Technology University
Carleton College
Carlow University
Case Western Reserve University
Cazenovia College
Cedar Crest College
Central College
Centre College
Champlain College
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
Claflin University
Claremont School of Theology
Clark University

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Clarke University
Clarkson University
Clemson University
Coker College
Coleman University
Colgate University
College of Our Lady of the Elms
College of Saint Benedict
College of Saint Elizabeth
College of the Holy Cross
Colorado School of Mines
Columbia University in the City of New York
Concordia College (Moorhead, MN)
Concordia University (CA)
Concordia University (NE)
Concordia University (St. Paul, MN)
Converse College
Cornell University
Cornerstone University
Covenant College
Creighton University
Creighton University School of Medicine
Crossroads Bible College
D'Youville College
Daemon College
Dakota Wesleyan University
Davis College
Dean College
Denison University
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Dillard University
Dominican University
Dordt College
Drew University
Duke University
Earlham College
East Texas Baptist University
Eastern Virginia Medical School
Eckerd College
Emerson College
Emory University
Erskine College
Eureka College
Evangel University
Excelsior College

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Fairfield University
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising
Felician University
Ferrum College
Fisk University
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
Florida International University
Florida State University
Fordham University
Fort Hays State University
Fresno Pacific University
Friends University
Furman University
Gallaudet University
Gardner-Webb University
Geneva College
Georgetown College
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gettysburg College
Goddard College
Golden West College
Gonzaga University
Good Samaritan College of Nursing and Health Science
Gordon College
Goshen College
Goucher College
Grace College and Seminary
Graceland University
Grand View University
Greensboro College
Greenville College
Grinnell College
Gwynedd Mercy University
Hamline University
Hampden-Sydney College
Harding University
Hartwick College
Harvard University
Heritage University
High Point University
Hiram College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Hollins University
Holy Cross College

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Hood College

Hope College

Houghton College

Illinois Institute of Technology

Illinois State University

Illinois Wesleyan University

Immaculata University

Indiana Tech

Iona College

Iowa State University

James H. Quillen College of Medicine, East Tennessee State University

John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii

John Brown University

John Carroll University

Johns Hopkins University

Johnson & Wales University

Johnson C. Smith University

Judson College

Juniata College

Kalamazoo College

Kansas State University

Kent State University

Keuka College

Keystone College

Knox College

La Roche College

La Salle University

Lackawanna College

LaGrange College

Lake Forest College

Lakeland College

Lamar University

Lancaster Bible College

Lasell College

Lawrence University

Le Moyne College

Lebanon Valley College

Lees-McRae College

LeTourneau University

Lewis University

Lindsey Wilson College

Linfield College

Loras College

Los Angeles City College

Louisiana College

Lourdes University

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Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University Maryland
Loyola University New Orleans
Lubbock Christian University
Luther College
Lycoming College
Lynchburg College
MacMurray College
Madonna University
Malone University
Manchester University
Manhattan College
Manhattanville College
Maria College
Marian University-Wisconsin
Marist College
Marquette University
Mars Hill University
Marygrove College
Maryland Institute College of Art
Marywood University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McKendree University
McMurry University
Meharry Medical College
Meredith College
Merrimack College
Messiah College
Methodist College
Methodist University
Miami University
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Mid-Atlantic Christian University
Middle Tennessee State University
Middlebury College
Millikin University
Mills College
Millsaps College
Minneapolis College of Art & Design
Minneapolis College of Art and Design
Mississippi State University
Missouri University of Science and Technology
Monmouth College
Monmouth University

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Montreat College
Moore College of Art & Design
Mount Aloysius College
Mount Mary University
Mount Mercy University
Mount Saint Mary College
Mount St. Joseph University
Mount Vernon Nazarene University
Multnomah University
Naugatuck Valley Community College
Nazareth College of Rochester
Nebraska Methodist College
Nebraska Wesleyan University
New England Conservatory of Music
New Jersey City University
New Mexico Highlands University
New Mexico State University
New York University
Newman University
Niagara University
North Carolina State University
Northeastern Illinois University
Northeastern University
Northern Illinois University
Northwest Christian University
Northwest Nazarene University
Northwest University
Northwestern University
Notre Dame de Namur University
Notre Dame of Maryland University
Nova Southeastern University
Oak Hills Christian College
Oakland City University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Ohio Wesleyan University
Oklahoma Baptist University
Oklahoma Christian University
Oklahoma City University
Olivet College
Ouachita Baptist University
Our Lady of the Lake College
Our Lady of the Lake University
Pace University
Paul Smith's College
Penn State University

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Pepperdine University
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
Piedmont College
Pima Community College
Pittsburg State University
Pitzer College
Point Loma Nazarene University
Pomona College
Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico
Presbyterian College
Quincy University
Randolph College
Randolph-Macon College
Regis University
Robert Morris University Illinois
Roberts Wesleyan College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rockhurst University
Roosevelt University
Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Saint Anselm College
Saint John's University (MN)
Saint Joseph's College, Maine
Saint Joseph's University
Saint Louis University
Saint Mary's College
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
Saint Peter's University
Saint Xavier University
Salve Regina University
Samford University
San Diego State University
San Jacinto College
San Joaquin Delta College
San Jose City College
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Scripps College
Seattle University
Sewanee: The University of the South
Shimer College
Siena College
Simmons College
Skidmore College

South Dakota State University
South Mountain Community College
Southern Adventist University
Southern Illinois University
Southern Methodist University
Southern Nazarene University
Southern Vermont College
Southern Wesleyan University
Southwestern University
Spring Arbor University
Spring Hill College
St. Ambrose University
St. Bonaventure University
St. Catharine College
St. Catherine University
St. Edward's University
St. Francis College
St. John Fisher College
St. John's College (Annapolis, MD)
St. John's University (NY)
St. John's College (Santa Fe, NM)
St. Lawrence University
St. Olaf College
St. Thomas University
Stanford University
Sterling College
Stetson University
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stevenson University
Stony Brook University
Suffolk University
Susquehanna University
Syracuse University
Tabor College
Taylor University
Teachers College, Columbia University
Temple University
Tennessee Board of Regents
Texas Lutheran University
Texas State University System
Texas Wesleyan University
The California State University
The College of New Rochelle
The College of St. Scholastica
The College of Wooster
The Evergreen State College

The George Washington University
The Ohio State University
The Sage Colleges
The State University of New York
The University of Chicago
The University of Findlay
The University of New Mexico
The University of Texas at El Paso
Thomas More College
Thomas University
Transylvania University
Trevecca Nazarene University
Trinity Christian College
Trinity College (Hartford, CT)
Trinity Washington University
Tufts University
Tulane University
Tusculum College
Union College (KY)
University of Arizona
University of Bridgeport
University of California System
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Merced
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, San Francisco
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Central Florida
University of Charleston (WV)
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
University of Colorado Denver
University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus
University of Detroit Mercy
University of Evansville
University of Florida College of Medicine
University of Houston-Victoria
University of Kansas
University of Kansas Medical Center
University of La Verne
University of Maine System

University of Mary-Hardin Baylor
University of Maryland University College
University of Maryland, Baltimore
University of Massachusetts Amherst
University of Massachusetts Boston
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
University of Memphis
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri-Columbia
University of Missouri-Kansas City
University of Missouri-St. Louis
University of Montana
University of Mount Olive
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of Nevada, Reno
University of New Hampshire
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pikeville
University of Pittsburgh
University of Puget Sound
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of Saint Joseph
University of Saint Mary
University of San Francisco
University of Scranton
University of Sioux Falls
University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine
University of South Florida
University of Texas Medical Branch
University of the Cumberland
University of the Pacific
University of the Southwest
University of the Southwest
University of Toledo
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Western States
University of Wisconsin System
University of Wisconsin-Madison
University of Wyoming
University System of Maryland

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Utica College
Valparaiso University
Vanguard University
Vassar College
Ventura County Community College District
Virginia Tech
Virginia Wesleyan College
Walla Walla University
Warner Pacific College
Warren Wilson College
Wartburg College
Washington & Jefferson College
Washington Adventist University
Washington and Lee University
Washington State University
Washington University at St. Louis
Wayland Baptist University
Wayne State University
Waynesburg University
Weber State University
Webster University
Wellesley College
Wesley College
Wesleyan College
Wesleyan University
West Virginia University
West Virginia Wesleyan College
Western New England University
Western Oregon University
Western University of Health Sciences
Westminster College (PA)
Wheaton College (IL)
Wheaton College (MA)
Wheeling Jesuit University
Wheelock College
Whitman College
Whittier College
Whitworth University
Wilberforce University
Wiley College
William Jewell College
William Penn University
Williams College
Wilmington College
Winthrop University
Wofford College Work Colleges

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Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Worcester State University

Xavier University

Yale University

York College