



April 8, 2014

United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the millions of students, educators, administrators and college presidents we represent, we urge you to oppose the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Budget Resolution when it comes to the floor for a vote.

The budget proposed by Chairman Ryan for FY 2015 would make devastating cuts to college aid and access programs. It would do so at a time when America needs more skilled workers than it has, and is in danger of losing the intellectual arms race with countries such as China, India and South Korea, which have chosen to accelerate their investments in postsecondary education.

Among the damaging changes proposed by this budget resolution are:

- Freezing the maximum Pell Grant at \$5,730 for the next 10 years, and eliminating mandatory funding for the program. This would result in a loss of \$90 billion for the foundation of federal student aid.
- Eliminating or reducing eligibility criteria for Pell Grants, causing millions of students to lose their Pell Grants entirely or see them significantly reduced.
- Eliminating the in-school interest subsidy for student loans, making undergraduate loans more expensive by \$41 billion over 10 years.
- Repealing the expansion of the Income-Based Repayment program, simultaneously adding burden to students while restricting the tools they have to repay their debts.
- Proposing deep cuts to non-defense discretionary (NDD) funding, and shifting defense sequester cuts to non-defense programs starting in FY 2016, which would result in NDD funding below the FY 2013 sequester levels.

This budget resolution would devastate funding for the other core postsecondary aid programs. Programs like the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Federal Work Study, TRIO, GEAR UP and others would face significant reductions, leaving deserving students with fewer and fewer resources just as Pell Grants are cut and the cost of borrowing rises significantly.

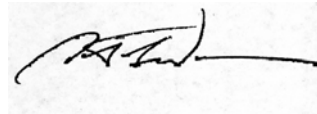
Cuts like these are simply unsustainable if America aims to continue its leadership role in the world economy. Rather than building a stronger country with the skills and talents to excel in the global marketplace, this budget would put American students and workers at a disadvantage relative to their competition abroad. It would be damaging now, and for decades to come.

We urge you to vote against this budget resolution and to support a stronger, better educated and more competitive American future.

Sincerely,



Molly Corbett Broad
Co-Chairman



David Warren
Co-Chairman



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