



February 8, 2021

The Honorable Bobby Scott
Chairman
Committee on Education and Labor
U.S. House of Representatives
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
Ranking Member
Committee on Education and Labor
U.S. House of Representatives
2101 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Scott and Ranking Member Foxx,

As your committee prepares to mark-up legislation in response to the FY21 budget resolution's reconciliation instructions, we wish to offer our support for the emergency relief it contains for higher education students and institutions.

While the nearly \$40 billion in the bill provides less than half of the \$97 billion we know students and campuses need, it is the most significant effort so far to address the crippling financial impact of the pandemic on American higher education. As the Chronicle of Higher Education documented, over 650,000 jobs have been lost in the higher education sector since the declaration of a national emergency, which is roughly one out of every eight jobs.

What is worse, we know that the financial impact of the pandemic has disproportionately affected low-income students and communities of color. Substantial federal support is critical to limiting the losses experienced and to restoring opportunity to those who most need it.

We are grateful for the committee's work, and are especially appreciative that you have provided funding above the amount requested by the administration. We are similarly pleased that the bill makes clear that all nonprofit colleges and universities, public and private, will be eligible for these funds as they were in the CARES Act and in CRRSAA.

We offer our support for this measure and encourage the members of your committee to vote in favor of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Mitchell".

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
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
Association of American Universities
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 Advancement and Support of Education
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities
Council for Higher Education Accreditation
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Graduate Schools
EDUCAUSE
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators 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
State Higher Education Executive Officers Association