



American Council on Education
Office of the President

July 11, 2007

The Honorable Margaret Spellings
Secretary of Education
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Spellings:

We write to commend you for the new regulations you have proposed to strengthen the loan programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. In addition to improving the administration of these programs, the proposed rules will bring needed clarity to the relationships that exist between lenders and college financial aid administrators.

We are also working with members of Congress to revise the Higher Education Act in ways that will strengthen and complement your initiative. Taken together, these changes will ensure that an appropriate balance is struck going forward so that students can continue to rely upon the kind of vibrant and successful federal student loan programs that have served them so effectively for nearly four decades.

Prior to the expiration of the comment period, we may be back in touch with specific suggestions for modifying the proposed regulations in relatively minor ways. But at this time, we want to convey our support for the steps you are taking and applaud your leadership. We look forward to working with you to bring about changes in policy and perception regarding the integrity of the federal student loan programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Ward'.

David Ward - President
American Council on Education

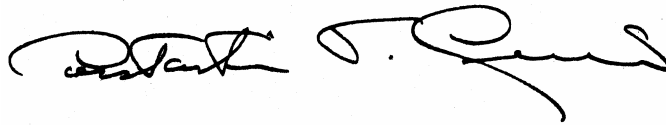
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George R. Boggs'.

George R. Boggs - President
American Association of Community
Colleges

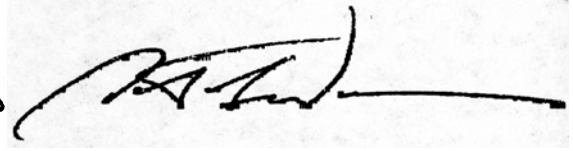
Re: Title IV Loan Programs

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Constantine W. Curris - President
American Association of State Colleges and
Universities



David Warren - President
National Association of Independent
Colleges and Universities



Robert Berdahl - President
Association of American Universities



Peter McPherson - President
National Association of State Universities
and Land-Grant Colleges

DW/mmm