



American Council on Education  
Office of the President

April 1, 2009

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the undersigned higher education associations, I write in support of H. Con. Res. 85, the budget resolution passed by the House Budget Committee last week.

We greatly appreciate the emphasis on the Pell Grant program in the budget resolution and are encouraged by the committee's interest in ensuring its long-term health. The fact that the resolution is designed to make it possible to consider making Pell an entitlement program is both noteworthy and desirable. We support a Pell Grant entitlement and believe this change would bring important stability and predictability to the program for low- and middle-income students. We look forward to working with you and the members of the Education and Labor Committee as efforts proceed to craft legislation effectuating this proposal.

We recognize that, as part of these efforts, Congress may also consider changes to the federal student loans programs. The nature of those changes is of great interest to our colleges and universities, and we would welcome the opportunity to assist you in the development of policies that will best meet the needs of students and their families. We look forward to an ongoing dialogue with you and your staff on these issues in the coming months.

We thank the House Budget Committee for providing a blueprint for further consideration of important student aid proposals, and we look forward to working with you going forward on developing policies that meet our common goal of serving students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Molly C. Broad".

Molly Corbett Broad  
President

MCB/ldw

On behalf of:  
American Association of Community Colleges  
American Association of State Colleges and Universities

H. Con. Res. 85 Support Letter

April 1, 2009

Page 2

American Council on Education

American Indian Higher Education Consortium

Association of American Universities

Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities

Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities

EDUCAUSE

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

United States Students Association