



April 26, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-226, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell,

On behalf of the undersigned higher education associations, I write to express our enthusiastic support for James Kvaal, who has been nominated to serve as Under Secretary in the U.S. Department of Education. Our endorsement reflects the profound respect our members have for Mr. Kvaal's judgement, expertise, and professionalism, qualities he has consistently demonstrated in and out of government.

Throughout an accomplished career in the public and private sectors, Mr. Kvaal has distinguished himself through his deep knowledge of higher education and federal postsecondary policy. With his extensive experience working in the Senate, the House of Representatives, the White House, the Department of Education, and as a professor, Mr. Kvaal will bring comprehensive knowledge of the design, implementation, and management of federal programs to the role of Under Secretary.

Perhaps more importantly, this wealth of skill and experience has always been focused first and foremost on elevating the needs of students and their families to the center of policymaking. In his current role as president of The Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS), Mr. Kvaal has continued this dedication to ensuring that all students have an equal opportunity to succeed in postsecondary education.

Considering the importance of the federal role in higher education, it is critical that the position of Under Secretary be filled by someone with the judgement, experience, personal commitment, and vision necessary to succeed in this role. For this reason, we strongly urge the Senate to vote in favor of Mr. Kvaal's nomination when it comes to the floor for a vote.

Sincerely,

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

Ted Mitchell
President

On behalf of:

Achieving the Dream

ACPA-College Student Educators International

ACT

American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

American Association of Community Colleges

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

American Association of University Professors

American Council on Education

APPA, "Leadership in Educational Facilities"

Association of American Medical Colleges

Association of American Universities

Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities

Association of Community College Trustees

Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges

Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Pennsylvania

Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

Association of Research Libraries

Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions

College Board

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

Council of Independent Colleges

EDUCAUSE

ETS

Higher Education Consultants Association

Higher Education Loan Coalition

International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators

NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education

National Association for College Admission Counseling

National Association of College and University Business Officers

National Association of College Stores

National Association of Colleges and Employers

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs

National Association of System Heads

National Council for Community and Education Partnerships

State Higher Education Executive Officers Association

TMCF

UPCEA