

May 7, 2019

Rep. Nita Lowey
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member Granger,

On behalf of the associations listed below, representing college leaders, educators and professionals, we write offering our strong support for the FY2020 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill passed out of subcommittee last week.

The funding levels provided in this bill would, if enacted, have a profoundly positive impact on the millions of college students who rely on federal financial aid to afford college. The bill provides a \$150 increase in the maximum Pell Grant, an increase that allows the grant to keep pace with inflation. In addition, it provides substantial increases for the Federal Work Study and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant programs, which provide grant and work-based aid to low-income students.

Critical increases for programs such as TRIO, GEAR UP, Title VI international education, CCAMPIS, Teacher Quality Partnerships and the Titles III and V programs for historically black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions will lead to greater affordability and higher quality postsecondary education. We were also pleased to see that the bill includes \$150 million in new funding for community colleges to provide training and employment assistance under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

The bill also recognizes the vital role biomedical research plays in improving the quality of life for all Americans, while also strengthening our economy and global competitiveness, by providing a \$2 billion increase in funding for research at the National Institutes of Health. Support for this research pays benefits in both the short- and long-term, and is smart investment in our nation's research system.

We thank you for the efforts made on behalf of higher education and medical research in this bill, and encourage your members to vote in support.

Sincerely,



Ted Mitchell
President

On behalf of:

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 Council on Education
American Dental Education Association
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
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 Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Research Libraries
Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area
Council for Advancement and Support of Education
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Graduate Schools
Council of Independent Colleges
Council on Governmental Relations
EDUCAUSE
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
NAFSA: Association of International Educators
NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
National Association of College and University Business Officers
National Association of Colleges and Employers
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

National Council for Community and Education Partnerships
TMCF
UNCF
UPCEA