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March 2, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Boxer:

We are writing on behalf of the more than 1,000 financial aid administrators who belong to the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CASFAA) representing over 500 postsecondary institutions of higher education. We would like to express our strong opposition to HR 1, the Fiscal Year 2011 Continuing Resolution, as passed by the House of Representatives.

HR 1 would cut funding for education programs by \$11.55 billion or 16.1%, the largest education cut in history, as well as cut Head Start by \$1.1 billion (15%). These sweeping cuts devastate programs benefiting children and students from Pre-Kindergarten through post secondary graduate education. The bill reduces funding for over 70 education programs including Title I, school improvement grants, teacher quality state grants, after school, literacy, math and science partnerships, education technology, school leadership, arts in education, parent resource centers, school counseling, career and technical education, Pell Grants, Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants, LEAP, aid to minority-serving institutions, TRIO, GEAR-UP, Byrd Honors Scholarships, higher education teacher quality partnerships, statewide data systems, and regional educational labs.

Of particular concern is the Pell grant maximum award cut by \$845 (15.2%) which will make college less affordable and accessible for nine million low-and moderate-income students nationwide. For many, such a cut would disrupt or derail their postsecondary education. It also contains provisions that would jeopardize the student loan and Pell Grant provisions included in last year's health care and education reconciliation bill. Cuts of this magnitude would completely reverse progress on improving student achievement, closing achievement gaps and increasing high school graduation, postsecondary education attendance and college completion rates. These disruptions impact the national recovery and thwart the President's American Graduation Initiative of 5 million Americans with earned post secondary degrees and certifications by 2020. One of the best ways to create jobs and improve our economy through global competitiveness is investing in education.

CASFAA supports budget solutions that protect access and choice for all students. For our educational system, students, and America's future, we urge you to reject the dramatic cuts contained in HR 1 and continue to support education. Please let us know if we can provide any other assistance as you move forward.

Sincerely,



Melissa Moser
Vice President, Federal Issues



S. Lynn Fox
President



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The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

We are writing on behalf of the more than 1,000 financial aid administrators who belong to the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CASFAA) representing over 500 postsecondary institutions of higher education. We would like to express our strong opposition to HR 1, the Fiscal Year 2011 Continuing Resolution, as passed by the House of Representatives.

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The Honorable Tom Harkin
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Harkin:

We are writing on behalf of the more than 1,000 financial aid administrators who belong to the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CASFAA) representing over 500 postsecondary institutions of higher education. We would like to express our strong opposition to HR 1, the Fiscal Year 2011 Continuing Resolution, as passed by the House of Representatives.

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March 2, 2011

The Honorable Michael Enzi
379A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Enzi:

We are writing on behalf of the more than 1,000 financial aid administrators who belong to the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CASFAA) representing over 500 postsecondary institutions of higher education. We would like to express our strong opposition to HR 1, the Fiscal Year 2011 Continuing Resolution, as passed by the House of Representatives.

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March 2, 2011

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Alexander:

We are writing on behalf of the more than 1,000 financial aid administrators who belong to the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CASFAA) representing over 500 postsecondary institutions of higher education. We would like to express our strong opposition to HR 1, the Fiscal Year 2011 Continuing Resolution, as passed by the House of Representatives.

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March 2, 2011

The Honorable John McCain
241 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McCain:

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