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The Honorable Marco Rubio
Committee on Small Business and
Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ben Cardin
Committee on Small Business and
Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

May 29, 2020

Dear Chairman Rubio and Ranking Member Cardin:

On behalf of the American Council on Education and the undersigned higher education associations, we write in support of the language included in the recently passed H.R. 6800, the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act, that expands the Small Business Administration (SBA) Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to all nonprofits, regardless of size. As the Senate begins to consider the next COVID-19 package, we urge you to include this important provision in future legislation. We also urge you to explicitly make all nonprofit and public institutions of higher education eligible for PPP, just as the HEROES Act did for the Main Street Lending Program.

As you know, colleges and universities are often the largest or one of the largest employers in their local communities. Those institutions, like other sectors, are facing a major cash flow crisis in light of the reduced revenues and increased expenses imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Institutions expect to refund nearly \$8 billion in room and board charges alone. Anticipated sources of auxiliary revenue have dried up as campus events have been canceled. Summer programs that provide revenue to many institutions also have been canceled. At the same time, institutions are facing additional costs—such as deep cleaning campus buildings and increased security expenses.

Sec. 90001, “Amendments to the Paycheck Protection Program,” of the HEROES Act would expand the PPP program to nonprofits of any size. This expansion would help institutions of higher education of all sizes address the financial issues caused by COVID-19, especially given the forgiveness options for this important program. These benefits should explicitly be made available to public institutions of higher education, that are not organized as nonprofits, as well. We look forward to working with you as Congress works to support businesses and other organizations and strengthen the economy, including assistance for nonprofit institutions of higher education, during the COVID-19 crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ted Mitchell', written in a cursive style.

Ted Mitchell, President

On behalf of:

ACPA-College Student Educators International
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
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 College Health Association
American Council on Education
American Dental Education Association
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
Asociación de Colegios y Universidades Privadas de Puerto Rico
Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools
Association for Biblical Higher Education
Association of American Universities
Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania
Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Rhode Island
Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts
Association of Independent Colleges of Art & Design
Association of Presbyterian Colleges and Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Vermont Independent Colleges
College and University Professional Association for Human Resources
Conference for Mercy Higher Education
Common App
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities
Council for Higher Education Accreditation
Council of Independent Colleges
Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia
EDUCAUSE
ETS
Georgia Independent College Association
Great Lakes Colleges Association
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida
Independent Colleges of Indiana
Independent Colleges of Washington
Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
Kansas Independent College Association
Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
Maryland Independent College and University Association
Minnesota Private College Council
NAFSA: Association of International Educators
NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education
National Collegiate Athletic Association
National Association for College Admission Counseling

National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
National Association of Colleges and Employers
National Association of College and University Business Officers
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
Network of Colleges and Universities, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities
Oregon Alliance of Independent Colleges & Universities
State Higher Education Executive Officers Association
Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association
UNCF (United Negro College Fund, Inc.)
West Virginia Independent Colleges & Universities
Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
Yes We Must Coalition