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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

PAMELA J. SMITH, STAFF DIRECTOR
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<http://help.senate.gov>

September 16, 2013

Dear Higher Education Stakeholder:

In preparation for the upcoming reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA), the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) will embark on a series of hearings over the next several months to examine important policy issues facing postsecondary education in the United States. As part of this process, the Committee will seek recommendations on the issues addressed in our hearings from diverse voices throughout higher education to help inform our views on reauthorization.

While details may change, we expect the hearings to cover topics such as:

- The roles of the state, the federal government, and accreditors in higher education;
- Keeping college affordable;
- Examining ways to increase quality in higher education;
- Student access;
- Innovative approaches to improving student success;
- Student financial aid; and
- Teacher preparation programs.

Each hearing will be announced at least one week in advance by the Senate HELP Committee. Once a hearing has been announced, we ask your organization to submit recommendations related to that announced hearing topic only. Recommendations should be submitted before the hearing occurs. Please make your recommendations as specific as possible and limit each submission to no more than 5 pages. We ask you to provide background on the issue addressed, citing the appropriate statutory reference or regulation, details on each recommendation, including proposed legislative language, if appropriate, and the rationale for the recommendation. In addition, please include the name, title, email address and phone number for the appropriate point of contact. Please submit your recommendations to hea_reauth113@help.senate.gov. Your recommendations will be used to inform the Committee's thoughts regarding the reauthorization but will not be included in the hearing record.

Thank you in advance for your input and support for postsecondary education. Your assistance is critical to the work of our Committee in moving forward with reauthorization of the *Higher Education Act*.



Tom Harkin
Chairman

Sincerely,



Lamar Alexander
Ranking Member