

CAPELLA EDUCATION  
COMPANY



KEVIN GILLIGAN

*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*

July 10, 2014

The Honorable John Kline  
Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce  
2181 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: H.R. 3136, Advancing Competency-Based Education Demonstration Project Act

Dear Chairman Kline,

On behalf of Capella Education Company, I write to express our strong support of H.R. 3136, the Advancing Competency-Based Education Demonstration Project Act.

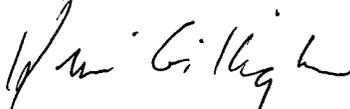
As I referenced in my testimony before the committee earlier this year, competency-based education broadly, and direct assessment programs specifically, hold enormous potential to dramatically increase flexibility for students; significantly reduce the cost of a degree; speed time to degree completion; and increase access for a wide variety of students that are not currently served by today's higher education model.

However, for this model to work at its full potential, there are specific legislative and regulatory barriers we need to resolve in ways that strengthen the model while responsibly maintaining safeguards for students. H.R. 3136 creates a much needed demonstration project on competency-based education and direct assessment to specifically address these barriers.

With the successful passage of H.R. 3136, there will be constructive opportunities for institutions to navigate and resolve the legislative and regulatory complexities around this new delivery model resulting in: lower cost, shortened time to completion, a better understanding of how best to support the direct assessment student, how to successfully build a scalable model and how to continually improve learning outcomes.

I appreciate your efforts to move this important bipartisan initiative forward. Thank you for your national leadership and commitment to strengthening American education and competitiveness.

Sincerely,



cc: Congressman Matt Salmon  
Congresswoman Susan Brooks  
Congressman Jared Polis