

MAJORITY MEMBERS:

JOHN KLINE, MINNESOTA, Chairman

THOMAS E. PETRI, WISCONSIN
HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON, CALIFORNIA
JUDY BIGGERT, ILLINOIS
TODD RUSSELL PLATTS, PENNSYLVANIA
JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
VIRGINIA FOXX, NORTH CAROLINA
BOB GOODLATTE, VIRGINIA
DUNCAN HUNTER, CALIFORNIA
DAVID P. ROE, TENNESSEE
GLENN THOMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA
TIM WALBERG, MICHIGAN
SCOTT DESJARLAIS, TENNESSEE
RICHARD L. HANNA, NEW YORK
TODD ROKITA, INDIANA
LARRY BUCSHON, INDIANA
TREY GOWDY, SOUTH CAROLINA
LOU BARLETTA, PENNSYLVANIA
KRISTI L. NOEM, SOUTH DAKOTA
MARTHA ROBY, ALABAMA
JOSEPH J. HECK, NEVADA
DENNIS A. ROSS, FLORIDA
MIKE KELLY, PENNSYLVANIA



COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND THE WORKFORCE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2181 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100

MINORITY MEMBERS:

GEORGE MILLER, CALIFORNIA,
Senior Democratic Member

DALE E. KILDEE, MICHIGAN, Vice Chairman
DONALD M. PAYNE, NEW JERSEY
ROBERT E. ANDREWS, NEW JERSEY
ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT, VIRGINIA
LYNN C. WOOLSEY, CALIFORNIA
RUBÉN HINOJOSA, TEXAS
CAROLYN MCCARTHY, NEW YORK
JOHN F. TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS
DENNIS J. KUCINICH, OHIO
RUSH D. HOLT, NEW JERSEY
SUSAN A. DAVIS, CALIFORNIA
RAÚL M. GRIJALVA, ARIZONA
TIMOTHY H. BISHOP, NEW YORK
DAVE LOEBSACK, IOWA
MAZIE K. HIRONO, HAWAII
JASON ALTMIRE, PENNSYLVANIA

January 18, 2012

The Honorable Arne Duncan
Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Duncan:

On October 27, 2011, the Committee on Education and the Workforce sent you a letter regarding the President's intention to unilaterally alter federal policies governing federal student loans. Your November 18 reply failed to provide adequate responses to the majority of the questions posed. To gain a better understanding of the provisions included in the President's student loan plan and how these changes will affect taxpayers, students, parents, financial aid administrators, and institutions of higher education, please provide the following information:

1. A detailed list of taxpayer costs and/or savings, as well as administrative costs, associated with each of the programs or initiatives included in the "Help Americans Manage Student Loan Debt" plan.
2. The number of borrowers the department expects to be eligible for each of these programs and an explanation of how the agency developed those numbers.
3. A copy of the materials that will be distributed or utilized to explain the loan conversion/consolidation plan to borrowers and financial aid officers.
4. An ongoing timeline of the implementation of the new programs or initiatives, from the planning stage to when students will realize alleged benefits, and an explanation of how the programs will avoid harming institutions under other administration policies, including but not limited to the regulations defining gainful employment.
5. A list of debt counseling services that will be provided to students and training that will be provided to loan servicers during the implementation of this plan.

The Honorable Arne Duncan
January 18, 2012
Page 2

Please provide a written response and all corresponding documents as requested herein to the committee no later than February 3, 2012. Please also note that when submitting your response, you are assuring the committee that the materials provided are complete and exhaustive.

In addition, please provide my staff with weekly briefings beginning next week about the implementation of the Special Consolidation Loan program, much like what transpired during the implementation of the *Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans* programs. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Jones or Mandy Schaumburg of the committee staff at (202) 225-6558.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Kline". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

JOHN KLINE
Chairman
Committee on Education and the Workforce