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April 27, 2021

Dear Secretary Cardona,

When Congress passed the CARES Act in March 2020, numerous waiver authorities were provided for the Secretary of Education to meet the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. These waiver authorities required the Secretary report to the authorizing Committees every 180 days on details of which institutions received a waiver under each section. To date, the authorizing Committees have not received this information.

The waivers, provided under Sections 3517 and 3518, allowed for flexibilities with certain matching requirements, uses of funds, eligibility data requirements, and regulations during the declared national emergency. These waivers were extended so students and educational institutions could properly adapt to a global health crisis. As stewards of public trust and taxpayer dollars, it is imperative Congress and the American people have access to information regarding use of these funds and flexibilities. Please send the required information immediately and include the date by which we can expect the next update, in accordance with the 180-day requirement.

In addition to data required by statute, we are seeking additional information to improve our emergency response protocols. To assist with that effort, please provide the following information:

1. The reason the institution of higher education asked for the relief;
2. The precise modification given to the institution;
3. The duration of such modification;
4. Why the Secretary approved the modification;
5. The date the modification was provided;
6. The number of students affected by the modification; and
7. As applicable, the amount saved by the institution through the waiver of the programmatic matching component.

You can contact Mandy Schaumburg (mandy.schaumburg@mail.house.gov) and Kelsey Avino (Kelsey.avino@mail.house.gov) should you have any questions about the request.

Sincerely,



Virginia Foxx



Gregory Murphy, M.D.