March 2, 2017

Honorable Rodney Davis
United States House of Representatives
1740 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Davis:

Thank you for your leadership in introducing H.R. 795, the Employer Participation in Student Loan Assistance Act of 2017. As members of the Coalition to Preserve Employer Provided Education Assistance (CPEPEA), we support your efforts to encourage employers to assist in the financing of higher education, by expanding Sec. 127 of the Internal Revenue Code to include loan repayment assistance.

The CPEPEA is a broad-based coalition of groups representing business, labor and education dedicated to preserving and expanding Section 127. We believe that providing tax-free educational assistance, and now, to expand this benefit to include student loan repayment assistance, are important tools for employers to attract the best employees, build a skilled workforce, and position the U.S. economy to compete globally.

Increasingly, individuals entering the work force need assistance with repayment of student loan debt. This debt often precludes workers from contributing to personal savings and more importantly, retirement savings plans. Employers providing a student loan repayment benefit not only help to mitigate this challenge, but they are able to recruit and retain top talent.

Again, thank you for your leadership and support of the Employer Participation in Student Loan Assistance Act of 2017. The Coalition looks forward to working with you to advance this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

The Coalition to Preserve Employer Provided Education Assistance

American Association of College Registrars
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Association of University Professors
American Council on Education
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
American Federation of Teachers
American Society for Engineering Education
American Society for Training & Development
Asbury College
Associated General Contractors of America
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of American Universities
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Bellarmine University
Bellevue University
Brescia University
College & University Professional Association for Human Resources
College Bound
Cornell University
Corporate Voices for Working Families
Council for Adult and Experiential Learning
Council of Graduate Schools
Creighton University
Dobler College Consulting
Duke University
Edlink, LLC
Emory University
Fresno Pacific University
Government Finance Officers Association
Guidance Gurus
Hartford Consortium for Higher Education
Harvard University
Hewlett-Packard
Hope College
Information Technology Industry Council
Institute of Electric and Electronics Engineers
International Public Management Association for Human Resources
John Carroll University
Lake Forest Graduate School of Management
Lehigh University
Loyola University
Marquette University
Mercer University
MetroHartford Alliance
National Association of Colleges and Universities Business Officers
National Association of Graduate Professional Students
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Independent Schools
National Council for Advanced Manufacturing
National Public Employer Labor Relations Association
National Tooling and Machining Association
Neumann University
New York University
Pace University
Pepperdine University
Princeton University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Seton Hall University
Society for Human Resource Management
St. John’s College
St. John’s University
Syracuse University
TechAmerica
Texas Instruments
The George Washington University
The Precision Metalforming Association
Training Solutions, Inc.
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
United Auto Workers
United Technologies Corporation
University Continuing Education Association
University of Pennsylvania
University of Rochester
Vanderbilt University
Verizon
Webster University
Westminster College
Yale University
Zmarketeers, Inc.

Cc: The Honorable Scott Peters
The Honorable Jared Polis
The Honorable Elise Stefanik