

MAJORITY MEMBERS:

JOHN A. BOEHNER, OHIO, Chairman

THOMAS E. PETRI, WISCONSIN, Vice Chairman
MARGE ROUKEMA, NEW JERSEY
CASS BALLENGER, NORTH CAROLINA
PETER HOEKSTRA, MICHIGAN
HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON, CALIFORNIA
MICHAEL N. CASTLE, DELAWARE
SAM JOHNSON, TEXAS
JAMES C. GREENWOOD, PENNSYLVANIA
LINDSEY O. GRAHAM, SOUTH CAROLINA
MARK E. SOUDER, INDIANA
CHARLIE NORWOOD, GEORGIA
BOB SCHAFFER, COLORADO
FRED UPTON, MICHIGAN
VAN HILLEARY, TENNESSEE
VERNON J. EHLERS, MICHIGAN
THOMAS G. TANCREDO, COLORADO
ERNEST L. FLETCHER, KENTUCKY
JIM DeMINT, SOUTH CAROLINA
JOHNNY ISAKSON, GEORGIA
BOB GOODLATTE, VIRGINIA
JUDY BIGGERT, ILLINOIS
TODD RUSSELL PLATTS, PENNSYLVANIA
PATRICK J. TIBERI, OHIO
RIC KELLER, FLORIDA
TOM OSBORNE, NEBRASKA
JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON, TEXAS



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, Ranking Member

DALE E. KILDEE, MICHIGAN
MAJOR R. OWENS, NEW YORK
DONALD M. PAYNE, NEW JERSEY
PATSY T. MINK, HAWAII
ROBERT E. ANDREWS, NEW JERSEY
TIM ROEMER, INDIANA
ROBERT C. SCOTT, VIRGINIA
LYNN C. WOOLSEY, CALIFORNIA
LYNN N. RIVERS, MICHIGAN
RUBÉN HINOJOSA, TEXAS
CAROLYN McCARTHY, NEW YORK
JOHN F. TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS
RON KIND, WISCONSIN
LORETTA SANCHEZ, CALIFORNIA
HAROLD E. FORD, JR., TENNESSEE
DENNIS J. KUCINICH, OHIO
DAVID WU, OREGON
RUSH HOLT, NEW JERSEY
HILDA A. SOLIS, CALIFORNIA
SUSAN DAVIS, CALIFORNIA
BETTY MCCOLLUM, MINNESOTA

MAJORITY-(202) 225-4527
(TTY)-(202) 226-3372
MINORITY-(202) 225-3725
(TTY)-(202) 226-3116

December 5, 2001

Dear Colleague:

I am writing with an update on our efforts to provide regulatory relief within the student financial aid programs as part of the FED UP project. As indicated in previous correspondence, I am going to make every effort to provide periodic updates as to our progress.

Although the events of the past few months have slowed down our efforts somewhat, I am happy to report that a draft FED UP chart will be available for your review by the end of the week via the Internet at <http://edworkforce.gov> - then click on the FED UP link at the bottom of the page. It is important to note a few things about the chart. Most importantly, it is still a work in progress. If you submitted a specific issue and do not find it in this chart, that is not because we are not reviewing your issue; it will be updated on the next iteration of the chart. I felt it was important for you to see the steps being taken to move the process forward and not wait for a completed chart. Updates will be posted to the same web site, so please check back. Next, many comments received were the same or similar on many topics. Therefore, we consolidated comments, rationale and proposed language where we could to avoid duplication.

Also, we have begun conversations with the U.S. Department of Education and they have been extremely receptive to working with us on the issues listed in FED UP. A negotiated rulemaking process to specifically address FED UP issues is now underway and will take place over the next several months. This will allow several of the regulatory issues on the FED UP chart to be addressed, leaving the statutory issues for legislative action and reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

I look forward to our continued collaboration on this important project and appreciate your patience while we continue to move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard P. 'Buck' McKeon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Howard P. "Buck" McKeon
Chairman
Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness