



June 27, 2003

The Honorable John Boehner
Chairman
Committee on Education and the Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the nearly 3,000 members of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and NASFAA's Board of Directors, I want to thank you for inviting the Association to submit recommendations on how to improve and strengthen the Higher Education Act. Our package submitted in December 2002 included our recommendations and rationale and now we are transmitting to you not only those elements of our prior package, but now we include specific legislative language to assist you in the writing of your Higher Education Act Reauthorization bill.

To facilitate your consideration of our recommendations, we have listed our recommendations in the following order: Federal Pell Grants, FSEOG, LEAPP/SLEAPP, Part B and D loans, Federal Work-Study, Federal Perkins Loans, Federal Methodology, General Provisions, Return of Funds and Tax Issues. Our format identifies the issue (and statutory citation where possible), our recommendation, rationale, current HEA statutory language and our proposed modifications to the law. For changes in the law we have used the following format: Where there are no changes in the current statute we have used a standard font (for example, Pell Grant). Where we add legislative language we have used a bold font (for example, **Pell Grant**). Where we recommend striking current legislative language we have used a strikeout font (for example, ~~Pell Grant~~).

NASFAA developed these recommendations using a fourteen-member Reauthorization Task Force to carefully analyze existing law and to solicit and develop proposals from our members. An Advisory Group of more than 75 individuals also provided valuable input. We throughout our process solicited and seriously considered all the recommendations, comments and feedback from our membership. We believe that the resulting recommendations, approved by NASFAA's Board of Directors, accomplish the goal of improving current programs, and more effectively meeting the goals and objectives of this Act especially to provide greater access to a postsecondary education for our nation's citizens, reduce regulatory burden, and promote accountability in the wise use of taxpayer's funds.

We hope these recommendations will be helpful to you as you begin your work. If we can assist you in any way, please feel free to contact us at (202) 785-0453.

Sincerely,

Dallas Martin
President