

April 8, 2025

The Honorable Timothy Walberg
Chair
Committee on Education and the Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable William Cassidy
Chair
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and
Pensions
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Robert Scott
Ranking Member
Committee on Education and the Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Bernard Sanders
Ranking Member
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and
Pensions
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Preserving the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program

We, the undersigned organizations, write to highlight the success and importance of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program and urge its preservation. Congress recognized the importance of recruiting and retaining highly-qualified public service professionals when it enacted PSLF with bipartisan support during the George W. Bush Administration. PSLF is a vital tool that strengthens our communities, fills critical workforce shortages, and ensures that public service remains an accessible and attainable career path. Accordingly, we strongly oppose actions to restrict eligibility or cut resources to PSLF given the strength, efficiency and importance of the program.

PSLF is a critical investment in our nation’s public service workforce. It is a contract between public service professionals and the federal government: if you work in public service for 10 years and make 120 loan repayments, the remaining debt is forgiven. By ensuring student loan relief for those who work in public service for 10 years, PSLF strengthens America’s schools, hospitals, law enforcement agencies, and military. Without PSLF, many public servants—especially those in rural and underserved areas—would be forced to leave public service for the private sector, where salaries are often higher.

Given the efficiency and strength of the program and its importance to communities across the country, the undersigned organizations strongly oppose actions to restrict eligibility or cut resources to PSLF which would limit its scope in a way that frustrates the benefits enacted by Congress and implemented since its inception 17 years ago. Doing so would result in fewer individuals pursuing careers that are integral to the health and well-being of our society and would deprive many Americans of the services they need in their schools, hospitals, courtrooms and neighborhoods.

Further, PSLF works because repayment plans are affordable and accessible. Income-driven repayment (IDR) allows public servants the ability to repay their student loans on a scale

adjusted to their income and continue to work in their communities. Without an affordable IDR plan, PSLF repayments would be prohibitively expensive for many of the program's participants, rendering it ineffective as a recruitment and retention tool.

PSLF works and millions of American taxpayers reap its benefits every day in communities nationwide. It is a proven investment in America's workforce that should be safeguarded to ensure communities across the country receive the critical services public service professionals provide. We urge you to honor this agreement and preserve affordable, accessible IDR plans(s) and the PSLF program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

PSLF Coalition
AccessLex
Equal Justice Works
AASA, The School Superintendents Association
Afterschool Alliance
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Atheists
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American Council on Education
American Dental Association
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
AFT, AFL-CIO
American Osteopathic Association
American Psychological Association
Americans United for Separation of Church and State
Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC)
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions
Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)
Committee for Public Counsel Services
Council of Administrators of Special Education
Council of Graduate Schools
Council for Social Work Education
EDGE Consulting Partners
Education Reform Now
Educators for Excellence
Fair Chance
Financial Protection Law Center
Forefront

Fosterus
Independent Sector
Institute for Advancing Computing Education (IACE)
Just Futures
Lawyers for Good Government
MDC Inc.
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Black Justice Collective
National Council of Nonprofits
National Disability Rights Network
National District Attorneys Association
National Education Association
National Legal Aid & Defender Association
Native Ways Federation
Navigate Student Loans
Oregon Health and Science University
Pay It Forward Fund LLC
Public Service Promise
Rhode Island Office of the Public Defender
Service Year Alliance
Student Borrower Protection Center
Student Veterans of America
TechSoup
The Nonprofit Alliance
The Volcker Alliance
Washington Council of Lawyers
Washington State Office of the Student Loan Advocate