



February 10, 2025

The Honorable Bill Cassidy
Chair, Senate HELP Committee
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cassidy and Members of the HELP Committee,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, representing a coalition of taxpayer, limited government, education, and free market advocates, we write to express our strong support for the nomination of Linda McMahon to lead the Department of Education.

After four years of incompetent and highly partisan stewardship, the DoEd is in absolute disarray on all levels. Linda McMahon has a distinguished track record as a proven executive within the public and private sectors, and her thoughtful, principled leadership is exactly what is needed to right the Department's ship. We strongly support her vision and urge you to support her nomination.

The DoEd needs a fundamental course correction to best serve America's students and taxpayers given its four failed years under the previous administration. American taxpayers and students experienced an unprecedented level of incompetence, partisanship, and arrogance coming directly from the Secretary's office. From fumbling the FAFSA rollout and ignoring the rebuke from the Supreme Court on illegal student loan bailout scheme, to misguided rulemakings and weaponization against certain types of schools, the Department has been mired in deep controversy.

Linda McMahon is ideally qualified to fix the Department's core problems. At the Department, Mrs. McMahon will draw on her extensive experience as a business executive, entrepreneur, and former Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration. An education leader, she served on the Connecticut Board of Education and as a longtime trustee of Sacred Heart University, a private Catholic school.

Combining her experiences in the private and public sectors, Linda McMahon will be the Department's urgently needed agent of change. Not only has she been an outspoken critic of the Department's many missteps but achieved public notoriety as a forceful advocate for reining in its bureaucracy. We are confident she will end the unconstitutional student loan bailout scheme, retool misguided regulations, promote choice in higher education, and strengthen the Pell grant system to ensure every American has access to high-quality education.

We look forward to Mrs. McMahon promoting competition in the higher education sector and bringing an end to the previous administration's relentless and egregious attacks on career-oriented colleges. Career colleges serve a critical role in our society – providing affordable and flexible learning opportunities for working families, minorities, and veterans. These schools teach a skills-

based curriculum and provide hands-on experience in key fields such as public safety, nursing, cosmetology, senior-care, cyber security, and more.

We are also hopeful that Mrs. McMahon will review some particularly burdensome regulations that harm students who attend such colleges. We would urge her to look closely at regulations finalized in the last administration pertaining to 90/10 and Gainful Employment – two regulations that many of our organizations have highlighted as ripe for reversing.

We have full confidence in Mrs. McMahon to be an independent and thoughtful leader on education issues in President Trump’s historic second term. She will have a long agenda ahead of her to restore accountability, end the bailouts, promote competition, and end the Department’s far-left activism. With no time to waste, we urge you to swiftly confirm Linda McMahon as Secretary of Education.

Sincerely,

Gerard Scimeca
Chairman
Consumer Action for a Strong Economy

David Williams
President
Taxpayers Protection Alliance

Jim Martin
Founder & Chairman
60 Plus Association

Saulius “Saul” Anuzis
President
American Association of Senior Citizens

Carrie Lukas
President
Independent Women’s Forum

Jeff Mazzella
President
Center for Individual Freedom

Bob Carey
Director
National Defense Committee

Jenna Robinson
President
The James G. Martin Center
for Academic Renewal

Seton Motley
President
Less Government

George Landrith
President
Frontiers of Freedom

Charles Moran
President
Log Cabin Republicans

Stephanie Smith
President & CEO
Alabama Policy Institute

Paul Gessing
President
Rio Grande Foundation

Derrick Max
President & CEO
Thomas Jefferson Institute for Public Policy

Heather R. Higgins
CEO
Independent Women’s Voice

Peter W. Wood
President
National Association of Scholars
The James Madison Center