

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
Chairwoman
House Committee on
Education and Workforce
2462 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bobby Scott
Ranking Member
House Committee on
Education and Workforce
2328 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

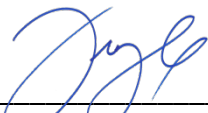
Dear Colleagues:

We are writing regarding H.R. 793, the Jumpstart Our Business by Supporting Students (JOBS) Act. This bill expands access to the federal Pell Grant program for students enrolled in short-term credential programs. These programs offer high quality education and training programs to address worker shortages and close the skills gap. Unfortunately, as introduced, this bill would exclude students who attend short-term programs at proprietary career colleges from accessing this financial aid. This limits student choice and restricts the pipeline of high demand workers. We urge you to ensure that Pell Grant-eligible students at all high-quality institutions of higher education can participate.

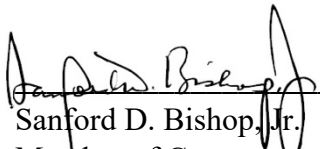
Expanding access to the Pell Grant to include short-term workforce training programs is a step in the right direction. Not all students want to or can enroll in traditional higher education programs, and Congress should support changes to the Higher Education Act that provide students an opportunity to earn short-term credentials that will help them succeed in the workforce.

Any expansion of Pell Grant eligibility should include numerous safeguards to ensure that low-performing programs are excluded. Such safeguards could include linking program eligibility to student outcomes or requiring states and employers to play a role in the vetting process. With these safeguards in place, preventing students at all proprietary institutions from participating in short-term Pell will limit valuable opportunities for low-income and minority students. We believe Congress should support access to all high-quality programs, including those offered at proprietary institutions, which currently serve nearly one million students in the United States. Many offer programs that are not available or not convenient for non-traditional students attending public institutions. Career programs at high quality proprietary institutions produce graduates who are ready to succeed in high-demand occupations, such as nurses, tradesmen and women, and truck drivers.


We ask that funding for the new short-term Pell Grant program created in the JOBS Act be available to students at all high-quality institutions. This will give all students the ability to choose the school that best fits their needs.



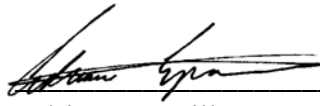
Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress




Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



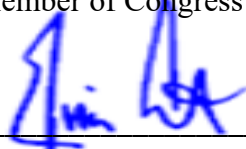
Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



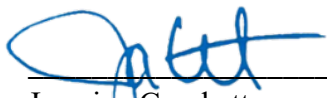
Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress




Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress




Jim Costa
Member of Congress



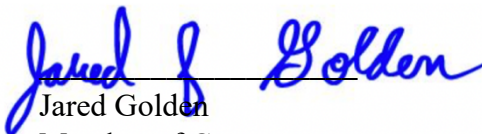
Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



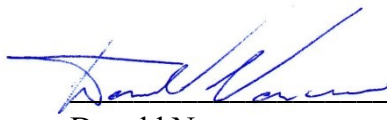
Darren Soto
Member of Congress



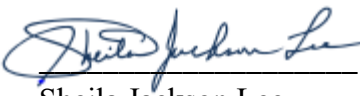
Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



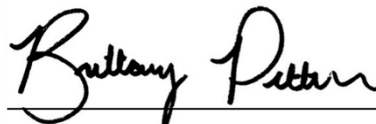
Jared Golden
Member of Congress



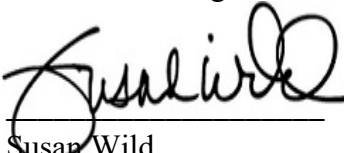
Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



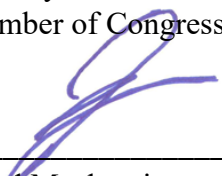
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress




Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



Susan Wild
Member of Congress



Jared Moskowitz
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress