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## Leadership and Advocacy

July 22, 2015

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch Chairman Committee on Finance United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Ron Wyden Ranking Member Committee on Finance United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

## **RE: Extension of Expired Higher Education Tax Incentives**

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

On behalf of the American Council on Education and the higher education associations listed below, I write to thank you for including two year extensions of the above-the-line deduction for qualified tuition and related expenses (tuition deduction) and the Individual Retirement Account (IRA) Charitable Rollover in the tax extenders bill marked up in the Finance Committee yesterday.

The two year extension of the tuition deduction restores a valuable benefit to students and their families, providing another tool to help reduce the cost of college. This step is particularly helpful to graduate students who are not eligible for the American Opportunity Tax Credit. In addition, the two year extension of the IRA Charitable Rollover provides colleges and universities with some predictability and a longer window of time to use this worthwhile charitable giving incentive to raise new or increased contributions at a time when private giving has becoming increasingly important to helping maintain access to higher education and supporting our missions of teaching, research, and public service.

Thank you again for including two year extensions of these important tax provisions in the extenders bill. We look forward to working with you to help ensure its enactment as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Terry W. Hartle

In What

Senior Vice President

TWH/ldw

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On behalf of:

American Association of Community Colleges

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

American Council on Education

Association of American Universities

**Association of Community College Trustees** 

Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges

Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

College and University Professional Association for Human Resources

Council for Advancement and Support of Education

Council for Opportunity in Education

Council of Graduate Schools

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities

National Association of Colleges and University Business Officers

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities