

Senator X
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Representative X
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator/Representative:

I am writing to respectfully request that you consider joining the Congressional Independent Colleges Caucus. The Caucus is a bipartisan, bicameral Congressional caucus whose mission is to celebrate the contributions made by private, nonprofit colleges and universities—including **[YOUR INSTITUTION NAME]**—to the educational, economic, cultural, intellectual, and social life of our nation and **[state / congressional district]**.

Private, nonprofit colleges and universities across the United States reflect the diversity of American higher education and provide great benefit to the students they serve and the communities in which they reside. Independent colleges include major research universities, faith-based institutions, historically black colleges, art and design colleges, traditional liberal arts and science institutions, women's colleges, two-year colleges, and schools of law, medicine, engineering, business, and other professions. With more than 5 million students attending independent colleges and universities, the nonprofit sector of American higher education has a considerable impact on our nation's economy and other major public interests.

The Congressional Independent Colleges Caucus is co-chaired in the House of Representatives by Rep. David Joyce (R-OH-14) and Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA-6). The Caucus provides an opportunity for Members of Congress to both celebrate and advance the broad array of American independent colleges, and gain insight about the challenges and issues faced by these institutions. The Caucus serves as an informal group of Members dedicated to issues related to independent institutions of higher education and the students they serve, celebrating the diversity found within our nation's higher education system, and educating other Members on these issues. **[Suggestion: Print a copy of the downloadable member roster found on the NAICU website and include with letter]**

As a strong advocate for **[NAME OF YOUR INSTITUTION]**, I hope you will give serious consideration to joining the Congressional Independent Colleges Caucus. I encourage your membership and ask that you, please contact **[NAME **]**.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our nation's students and higher education institutions.

**** Caucus staff contacts:**

- Rep. Joyce's office, contact: Ashley Roberts: ashley.roberts@mail.house.gov
- Rep. Kilmer's office, contact: Heather Painter: heather.painter@mail.house.gov