

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 your co-sponsorship of the Congressional Independent Colleges Caucus. The Caucus is a bipartisan, bicameral Congressional caucus to celebrate the contributions made by private, nonprofit colleges and universities, such as **[YOUR INSTITUTION NAME]**, to the educational, intellectual, economic, cultural 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, church-related colleges, 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 dramatic impact on our nation's larger 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 diversity of American independent colleges, learning 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 the issues facing independent colleges. **[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]**, and a proven ally of the private, nonprofit sector, 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.

** The current Congressional contacts:

- Rep. Joyce's office, contact: Will Mascaro: Will.Mascaro@mail.house.gov
- Rep. Kilmer's office, contact: Heather Painter: Heather.Painter@mail.house.gov