



For Immediate Release

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***STATEMENT OF U.S. SENATOR MIKE ENZI, R-WY:
"Conference Committee Meeting on HR 2669, the College Access and
Cost Reduction Act of 2007"***

Washington D.C. – U.S. Senator Mike Enzi, R-WY, Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (HELP Committee), issued the following statement following today’s Conference Meeting on HR 2669, the College Access and Cost Reduction Act of 2007:

“My highest priority is to ensure that comprehensive higher education reauthorization is not left undone. The Reconciliation package before us today does take important steps to increase assistance for students seeking a college degree, but it is a mistake to take up this measure without the important, bipartisan reforms included in its companion reauthorization bill.

The Higher Education Amendments of 2007, S. 1642, which passed the Senate by a 95-0 vote, contains real reforms to root out bad actors in student lending, protect students borrowing money and takes steps to ensure that students and parents receive sound, honest advice about their student loans. In addition its provisions will require that students and parents have access to information they need to understand and manage their debts.

Now is the time to get both bills done and have comprehensive higher education reform before we tackle No Child Left Behind, which is all about getting students ready to go to college. I don’t believe that we should continue any further discussions or negotiations on No Child Left Behind with our colleagues until the Higher Education Act amendments are reauthorized.”

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