December 17, 2019

Ms. Pam Davidson
The Office of the Honorable Mike Enzi
379A Senate Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ms. Davidson:

Military veterans, active military and other federal employees of the Department of Defense constitute a substantial portion of adult enrollment in post-secondary education in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, across all sectors of higher education. For those seeking focused pathways to occupational, technical or professional education that is valued in the workplace, many choose proprietary colleges and schools represented by the Kentucky Association of Career Colleges and Schools (an affiliate of Career Education Colleges Universities, or “CECU”).

On that basis, KACCS strongly endorses the efforts of Sen. Enzi, through legislation, to extend and apply the 90/10 financial earnings ratio to all institutions of higher education, regardless of the tax status. The policy is intended to ensure that all colleges and schools who enroll veterans rely on resources in addition to the GI Bill to operate and sustain their operations. To the degree the policy has merit for proprietary schools, it also must apply to non-profit and public institutions who wish to retain eligibility to participate in Federal Student Aid programs under Title IV of the Higher Education Act. Fair and equitable accountability for all higher education institutions will safeguard against abuse of taxpayers’ dollars.

Preserving access for Veterans, active military and DoD employees to career education remains a top priority for our member institutions and the students they serve. The association appreciates Senator Enzi’s policy entrepreneurship and supports the letter and spirit of his proposed legislation. We look forward to educating members of our community about the proposal, and weighing in with Congressional offices as and when appropriate.

Regards,

Chris Ernst, President
Kentucky Association of Career Colleges and Schools

Copies: Ericka King, Office of Sen. Rand Paul; Emily Louden, Office of Sen. Mitch McConnell