

[STUDENT GOVERNMENT'S LETTERHEAD GOES HERE]

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[YOUR SCHOOL] Student Leaders Reject Anti-Education Drug Law

Student Government Calls on Sen. [SENATOR'S NAME] To Act

[YOUR TOWN, STATE] – The [SCHOOL] [STUDENT GOVERNMENT] overwhelmingly passed a resolution [last night/on XXXday] calling on Congress to overturn a law that has stripped federal financial aid from more than 160,500 would-be students with drug convictions.

The controversial law is the result of an amendment attached to the Higher Education Act (HEA) in 1998. Sen. [SENATOR'S NAME] and other members of the U.S. Senate education committee are currently considering scaling back the law for the first time in seven years as part of this year's HEA revision.

“It makes no sense to block access to education to students with minor drug convictions,” said [STUDENT GOVERNMENT OFFICER]. “This law places a counterproductive roadblock on the path to education for low- and middle-income students who have made mistakes but are trying to turn their lives around. Pulling students out of school is not going to solve our nation's drug problems. Sen. [SENATOR'S NAME] should realize that this law only makes things worse.”

[YOUR SCHOOL'S STUDENT GOVERNMENT] adds its voice to more than 120 other student governments who have adopted resolutions calling for the law's repeal. The resolution, backed by overwhelming student body support, passed by a [VOTE TALLY] margin.

More than 240 organizations have called on Congress to scrap the aid ban, including the National Education Association, the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, the Association for Addiction Professionals, the NAACP, and the United States Student Association.
LOCAL ORG'S

More information about the HEA Drug Provision is available from Students for Sensible Drug Policy at www.DAREgeneration.com or (202) 293-4414.

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