

June 25, 2025 U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce 2176 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the James G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal, I write to emphasize the critical importance of H.R. 4054, the Accreditation Choice and Innovation Act, which takes bold, necessary steps to reform our antiquated and ineffective accreditation system.

By empowering alternative credentialing bodies to compete for federal recognition, this Act will help to dismantle the current accreditation cartel and open the door to educational innovation. It restores autonomy to institutions and creates real choice for students seeking educational pathways that best align with their goals—whether delivered online, through apprenticeships, or via competency-based programs. Such flexibility is critical to reducing costs and improving student outcomes.

Moreover, the legislation's emphasis on transparency and accountability will elevate quality and ensure federal dollars are spent wisely. This modernized system refocuses accreditation on student achievement, institutional effectiveness, and consumer protection rather than rigid process compliance.

H.R. 4054 advances vital reforms that align with the Martin Center's commitment to cost-effective education, market-based solutions, and viewpoint diversity in higher education. By encouraging institutional innovation and student-centered accountability, the bill fosters a more dynamic and accessible postsecondary landscape.

Thank you for your leadership in reimagining accreditation to foster excellence and innovation in American higher education.

Respectfully,

Jenna A. Robinson

President