

April 30, 2019

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
United States Senate
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Stabenow:

On behalf of Education Finance Council (EFC), I am writing to endorse the *Early Pell Promise Act*. EFC supports this legislation and your efforts to ensure that all students, regardless of their financial circumstances, have the opportunity to access and succeed in postsecondary education.

EFC is the national trade association representing nonprofit and state-based higher education finance organizations. These mission-driven, public-purpose entities are dedicated to improving college access, success, and affordability in their states and nationwide. In the past year alone, EFC Members provided over 2.5 million families the resources needed to successfully plan, save, and pay for college.

EFC members across the country work directly with students from elementary to high school to instill the idea that anyone, regardless of circumstances, can be college material. Many also provide support services to guide vulnerable populations, including foster youth, homeless youth, and students with incarcerated parents, through the higher education process. EFC members know first-hand that engaging students early in their academic careers can inspire them to achieve academic and personal success and to set and reach higher education goals.

By authorizing an Early Federal Pell Grant Commitment Program, this legislation would give students, early in their academic careers, the motivation and support that stems from knowing that a college education is possible for them.

EFC looks forward to working with you and your colleagues as this legislation moves through Congress.

Sincerely,



Debra J. Chromy, Ed.D.
President