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June 21, 2019

The Honorable Betsy DeVos
Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary DeVos:

I have sent the U.S. Department of Education (Department) a number of requests for information and data, many of which remain outstanding. For reference, the Committee's longest-standing requests are for:¹

- 1) Data and information regarding the Department's implementation of the Borrower Defense to Repayment regulations, originally transmitted on November 29, 2018.
- 2) Data and information regarding the Department's contracted student loan servicers' use of forbearance, initially sent on November 30, 2018. (On April 9, 2019 the Department provided responses to a sub-set of the committee's questions, but the Department failed to respond to the committee's requests for data.)
- 3) Communications related to the Deputy Secretary's decision to replace the Department's Acting Inspector General, initially sent on February 1, 2019. (The Department has sent the Committee three letters, with seven non-responsive documents, which the Department unlawfully redacted under the Freedom of Information Act. The Department has refused to provide additional materials, citing "substantial executive branch confidentiality interests" and has refused to produce a privilege log upon the Committee's request.)
- 4) Data and information related to the Department's implementation of the TEACH Grants program, initially sent on February 6, 2019. (On April 9, 2019 the Department responded to a sub-set of the Committee's questions. Many of the Committee's questions and all of the Committee's requests for data remain outstanding.)

Additionally, the Department has yet to sufficiently respond to more recent requests for:

¹ The requests listed here are attached as an enclosure with this letter.

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- 5) A briefing on the Department's assertion of the deliberative process privilege; withholding documents related to the Department's failure to implement the Gainful Employment regulations, initially requested on May 3, 2019.
- 6) Information on the Department's reorganization of the Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA), initially sent on April 18, 2019. (The FSA Chief Operating Officer briefed Committee staff on May 1, 2019, but the Department has failed to respond to written inquiries from Committee staff.)
- 7) A briefing on the Department's implementation of Public Service Loan Forgiveness, initially requested on May 14, 2019.
- 8) Information related to the Department's oversight of its contractors responsible for student loan servicing, initially sent on May 15, 2019.
- 9) Information related to the Department's planned changes to the College Scorecard, initially sent on May 29, 2018.

Accordingly, I request that you provide the information and documents described above not later than July 8, 2018. Additionally, I request the Department schedule briefings with Committee staff within one week of the Committee's request for such briefings.

Thank you for your attention to this request. Please contact Benjamin Sinoff with the Committee at (202) 225-3725 with any questions.

Sincerely,



ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

Chairman