



CollegeSavings
FOUNDATION

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May 6, 2009

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
Vice President of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20500

FAX: 202-456-2461

Dear Mr. Vice President:

On behalf of the College Savings Foundation (CSF), we are writing to commend the Middle Class Task Force for its commitment to making college accessible and affordable for American families, and to offer our assistance to you and Secretaries Geithner and Duncan as you study ways to make 529 college savings plans more effective and reliable.

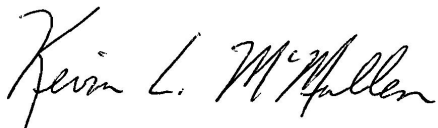
The College Savings Foundation is a 501(c)(6) organization dedicated to the advancement of 529 college savings programs. CSF's mission is to help American families achieve their education savings goals by working with public policymakers in support of education savings programs. CSF's members include many of the country's leading financial services firms that collectively manage more than \$50 billion in savings-type section 529 accounts, representing more than one half of the dollars in such programs. CSF's membership also includes governmental and non-profit agencies that establish and maintain section 529 programs, as well as other individuals who support CSF and its mission.

CSF has been actively engaged with federal policymakers and the Department of Treasury to ensure that 529 plans are meeting their intended objectives and to make such plans effective for all American families. Most recently, CSF worked with Representatives Earl Pomeroy (D-ND) and Pat Tiberi (R-OH) to help develop H.R. 1351, legislation allowing more investment flexibility for 529 account owners, clarifying that computers and educational software are eligible qualified higher education expenses, and making 529 contributions eligible for the Saver's Credit. In November, 2008, we joined with the Investment Company Institute and the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association to urge the Department of Treasury to permit greater investment flexibility in order to allow 529 account owners to better respond to changes in the financial markets. In December, 2008, additional flexibility was permitted on a temporary basis through Treasury Notice 2009-1. CSF also has actively consulted with the Department of Treasury on its ongoing work to draft 529 plan regulations, providing meaningful technical comments through in-person meetings and written submissions.

On both our legislative and regulatory agendas, we have worked in close consultation with the National Association of State Treasurers (NAST) and the College Savings Plans Network (CSPN). We note that NAST and CSPN recently wrote you regarding the upcoming study on 529 plans.

College savings plans have a proven track record in helping families achieve their education goals. CSF welcomes the opportunity to work with the Middle Class Task Force and the Departments of Treasury and Education to ensure that 529 plans continue to enable American families to save for college in a meaningful and reliable way. We hope to meet with the team that will be preparing the 529 plan study and will follow up with your office soon to pursue this.

Sincerely,



Kevin McMullen
Chairman
College Savings Foundation



Stephen R. Jobe
Chairman, Legislative Committee
College Savings Foundation

cc: The Honorable Timothy Geithner
Secretary of Treasury
Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable Arne Duncan
Secretary of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202