

# Student Aid Alliance



January 25, 2010

United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

## Re: Vote No on Coburn Amendment

Dear Senator:

On behalf of more than 80 organizations representing students, parents, faculty and staff and higher education institutions, we ask you to vote in opposition to Sen. Coburn's amendment to H.J. Res. 45.

Sen. Coburn's amendment would seek to address deficits by cutting funding to programs that promote a strong economy. By targeting education and skills-training programs that produce the kinds of workers who drive economic growth, this amendment would serve to slow any recovery, damaging efforts to responsibly address federal deficits.

By seeking to cut funding for financial aid for smart, qualified low-income students and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education, the amendment offered by Sen. Coburn specifically targets those programs that would help America's economy compete in the global information age.

Beyond the negative economic impact, this amendment would seek to reduce the benefits made available to veterans who have served in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan through the Post 9/11 GI Bill. We strongly disagree with the assertion in this amendment that veterans' benefits constitute "wasteful Washington spending."

This amendment would damage America's economic position and would do so on the backs of veterans, deserving students and employers seeking skilled workers in high-tech fields. We strongly urge you to reject this approach and vote against the Coburn amendment, when offered.

Sincerely,

Molly Corbett Broad  
Co-Chairperson

David Warren  
Co-Chairperson

