

Honorable Chairs,

Thank you for today's admirably inclusive and informative hearing on Higher Education. As the former P-20 Alignment Director for the State of Colorado, I applaud your determination to avoid segregating the education agencies into their individual silos, but to comprehensively view the entire continuum of preparation for career, college, and civic readiness.

To that end, I would urge you to consider addressing two significant aspects of student learning:

1. The obsolete aidable cap of \$30,000 on Career Technical Instructors. Allowing the cap to float to \$65,000 would mean relief of up to \$30,000 p.a. per FTE to component school districts based on their aidable ratio, and allow districts to expand student placement in career-oriented courses, many of which carry transferable credit to post-secondary studies.

2. Thank you for your focus on the need to fund dual enrollment courses, another artificial impediment, particularly to the educational aspirations of low-income and first-generation students. In Dutchess County, participating school districts have just been presented with a mandate to fund student participation, which has hitherto been provided at no charge. This places an unanticipated financial burden on districts who are only now beginning to recover from decades of deprivation. Other states which have provided revenue streams for dual enrollment have reaped substantial returns on that investment, through the persistence, success and ultimately the gainful employment of beneficiary students.

Thank you for your consideration!

Gully Stanford