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Messer, Pocan Introduce Bipartisan Resolution in Support of the Perkins Loan Program

WASHINGTON (June 3, 2015)—U.S. Representatives Luke Messer (IN-06) and Mark Pocan (WI-02) today introduced a resolution in support of the Federal Perkins Loan Program.

A Perkins Loan is a low-interest loan which helps undergraduate and graduate students with demonstrated financial need meet the costs of higher education. Currently, the program is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2015. If Congress does not act to reauthorize this program, thousands of students across the country will not be able to afford their college tuition.

“Without the Perkins Loan, I honestly do not know how I am going to pay for school this upcoming year,” **said Indiana University student Zac Acker.**

Reps. Messer and Pocan agree Perkins Loans provide a much-needed service for their constituents and are working together to encourage their colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the program’s reauthorization.

“Millions of American students have benefited from Federal student financial aid,” **said Congressman Messer.** “I understand that because I’m one of them. I appreciate the opportunity to work with Rep. Pocan on this important issue. I am committed to ensuring programs like Perkins are around for years to come so that the cost of a college degree doesn’t prevent someone from pursuing their dream of earning one.”

Just last school year alone the University of Wisconsin System awarded \$28.8 million dollars in loans to 15,829 students. During the same timeframe, the Indiana University System awarded \$9.3 million in loans to more than 5,300 students.

“The Perkins Loan Program is an important tool to help make college more affordable for all,” **said Rep. Pocan.** “Perkins Loans have helped millions of students struggling to find a way to pay for college, in Wisconsin and across the country. Perkins Loans are an essential aspect of ensuring college is both accessible and affordable for all students. I am proud to introduce this resolution with Rep. Messer to show bipartisan support for preserving the Perkins Loan Program.”

To view the resolution Reps. Messer and Pocan introduced in the House today in support of the Federal Perkins Loan Program, click [here](#).

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