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March 12, 2019

The Honorable Kel Seliger  
Texas State Senate  
P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station  
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Senator Seliger:

Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (TASFAA) a nonprofit organization comprised of financial aid professionals from approximately 140 Institutions of high education from all sectors across the state of Texas. TASFAA appreciates your introduction Senate Bill 499.

Senate Bill 499 clarifies that higher education institutions would not be required to include student loan debt disclosure information regarding loans issued by a private entity.

While we believe, the language in Senate Bill 887 from the previous legislative session is clear. We know there has been confusion as to the legislative intent of Senate Bill 887. Information concerning loans issued by a private entity provide a unique set of issues, as institutions of higher education base their notifications on the often-incomplete student loan information available within their institutional databases. With the high number of transfer students, an institution notice may lack substantial state and private loan debt amounts.

We believe the clarifying language in Senate Bill 499 would alleviate questions and confusion that has arisen concerning the types of loan debt that need to be disclosed to students.

The TASFAA membership and I thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Delisa Falks  
TASFAA President  
delisafalks@yahoo.com