

MAJORITY MEMBERS:

GEORGE MILLER, CALIFORNIA, Chairman

DALE E. KILDEE, MICHIGAN, Vice Chairman  
DONALD M. PAYNE, NEW JERSEY  
ROBERT E. ANDREWS, NEW JERSEY  
ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT, VIRGINIA  
LYNN C. WOOLSEY, CALIFORNIA  
RUBÉN HINOJOSA, TEXAS  
CAROLYN Mc CARTHY, NEW YORK  
JOHN F. TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS  
DENNIS J. KUCINICH, OHIO  
DAVID WU, OREGON  
RUSH D. HOLT, NEW JERSEY  
SUSAN A. DAVIS, CALIFORNIA  
RAÚL M. GRIJALVA, ARIZONA  
TIMOTHY H. BISHOP, NEW YORK  
JOE SESTAK, PENNSYLVANIA  
DAVID LOEBSACK, IOWA  
MAZIE HIRONO, HAWAII  
JASON ALTMIRE, PENNSYLVANIA  
PHIL HARE, ILLINOIS  
YVETTE D. CLARKE, NEW YORK  
JOE COURTNEY, CONNECTICUT  
CAROL SHEA-PORTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MARCIA FUDGE, OHIO  
JARED POLIS, COLORADO  
PAUL TONKO, NEW YORK  
PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, PUERTO RICO  
GREGORIO KILILI-CAMACHO SABLÁN,  
N. MARIANA ISLANDS  
DINA TITUS, NEVADA  
JUDY CHU, CALIFORNIA



COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2181 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100

MINORITY MEMBERS:

JOHN KLINE, MINNESOTA,  
Senior Republican Member

THOMAS E. PETRI, WISCONSIN  
HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON, CALIFORNIA  
PETER HOEKSTRA, MICHIGAN  
MICHAEL N. CASTLE, DELAWARE  
MARK E. SOUDER, INDIANA  
VERNON J. EHLERS, MICHIGAN  
JUDY BIGGERT, ILLINOIS  
TODD RUSSELL PLATTS, PENNSYLVANIA  
JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA  
CATHY Mc MORRIS RODGERS, WASHINGTON  
TOM PRICE, GEORGIA  
ROB BISHOP, UTAH  
BRETT GUTHRIE, KENTUCKY  
BILL CASSIDY, LOUISIANA  
TOM McCLINTOCK, CALIFORNIA  
DUNCAN D. HUNTER, CALIFORNIA  
DAVID P. ROE, TENNESSEE  
GLENN THOMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA

December 11, 2009

The Honorable George Miller  
Chairman  
Committee on Education and Labor  
2181 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Miller:

In recent months I have grown increasingly concerned by reports that Department of Education officials are improperly using taxpayer resources to advocate for the Administration's proposal to eliminate the Federal Family Education Loan program. House and Senate Democrats have likewise questioned the Administration's "aggressive outreach," and the *Wall Street Journal* reported on December 5, 2009 that the leader of a large university recently refused to discuss the Administration's tactics, "fearful that the feds are taking names." Regardless of your position on the Administration's student loan proposals, I hope you will agree with me that such tactics by Administration officials are deeply troubling and warrant Congressional oversight.

I wrote to Secretary Duncan on November 3, 2009 to express my strong concerns that tactics being employed by Department officials may constitute improper political advocacy in contravention of the law. In that letter (enclosed), I requested specific documents and information from the Department that would permit this Committee to exercise its constitutional duty to oversee the Department. Unfortunately the Department's response largely disregards these oversight requests.

President Obama and Speaker Pelosi promised the American people open and transparent government. Unfortunately the Department of Education appears determined to stonewall legitimate congressional attempts to provide oversight of Administration activities. I therefore respectfully request that you immediately subpoena the documents I requested from the Secretary of Education on November 3 in order to provide the Committee and the American people a full and fair picture of their government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Kline".

John Kline  
Senior Republican Member

Enclosures: Letter to Secretary Arne Duncan, dated November 3, 2009  
Letter and Documents from Secretary Arne Duncan, dated November 30, 2009