



March 18, 2010

Martha--

The language of the health care and student loan reconciliation bill was just released. While it will take some time to analyze the [153 pages of amendments](#) to the [2,309-page bill](#), there is one remarkable victory for community colleges--\$2 billion funded from the Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance program.

Sec. 1501. TAA for communities. Appropriates \$500 Million a year for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 in the Community College and Career Training Grant program for community colleges to develop and improve educational or career training programs. Ensures that each state receives at least 0.5 percent of the total funds appropriated.

Here is the [section-by-section summary](#) of the amendments.

Thank you for your remarkable advocacy on the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act and our College Can't Wait campaign. You helped keep community college funding alive when it appeared all hopes were dashed. We also need to thank AACC, ACCT and the Chancellor's Office who have partnered with the League in this advocacy effort.

While the funding falls short of President Obama's initiatives, this will provided needed funding at a critical time for our colleges and nation. Obviously, the bill has a long ways to go before the expected Sunday vote by the House of Representatives, but this is one giant step forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott".

Scott Lay
President and Chief Executive Officer
Orange Coast College '94