



UPSTATE

MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION · HEALTHCARE · RESEARCH

Office of the President & Health System CEO

Dec. 8, 2017

Dear Colleagues and Students,

As you know, SUNY Upstate Medical University and the entire SUNY system strongly supports the public higher education afforded to our students. Keeping higher education that is affordable is a distinct goal of the system. That is why I write to inform you that I, as President of SUNY Upstate Medical University, have signed on to a letter being sent by SUNY Chancellor Kristina Johnson and SUNY Trustee Chair Carl McCall expressing our deep concerns with provisions that will be considered while H.R. 1 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is conferenced by the House and the Senate.

Three provisions of the bill would be detrimental to students. We therefore urge our representatives to prevent tuition waivers from becoming taxable income, to preserve the Lifetime and the American Opportunity Tax Credits, and to maintain the full income and property tax deductions.

There are few things more valuable to a society than an educational system that is committed to access for all and which provides its students with the knowledge to discover, enlighten and improve the lives of others.

Thank you for being at Upstate and we will continue to monitor this legislation as the reconciliation process moves forward.

Be well and stay safe,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Danielle Laraque-Arena".

Danielle Laraque-Arena, MD, FAAP
President & Health System CEO
SUNY Upstate Medical University