FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement on Chairman Alexander’s Proposed Higher Education Package

Washington, DC, September 26, 2019 - Ernest Ezeugo, Policy Director at the National Campus Leadership Council, issued the following statement today reacting Chairman Lamar Alexander’s piecemeal proposal to amend the Higher Education Act.

“While Chairman Alexander’s proposal reflects students’ demands for better data and simplifying FAFSA, the package fails to meet the scope of challenges facing today’s students. In March, a national coalition of student-led organizations representing more than 6.1 million college students, now called the Student Policy Alliance, called on Congress to advance a reauthorization of the Higher Education Act that improves affordability, centers on equity, and strengthens civil rights. The proposed package does little more than tinker with student aid.

“Moreover, America’s students, particularly those at minority-serving institutions, deserve better than the political maneuvering used to advance this proposal. We urge lawmakers to immediately extend urgently needed MSI funding and quickly return to negotiating a comprehensive, student-centric reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.”

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About NCLC
The National Campus Leadership Council cultivates, strengthens, and advances student leadership in higher education. Since our launch in 2012, we have empowered thousands of student body leaders at more than 500 colleges and universities around the country to develop the tools, networks, and skills necessary to confront exigent issues facing students today. We work closely with major higher education stakeholders in the public and private sectors to develop unparalleled resources and programs that support and elevate students' success on a wide range of issues including college affordability, campus sexual assault, mental health, diversity and inclusion, environmental sustainability, and campus to career transitions.

About Student Policy Alliance
The Student Policy Alliance is a coalition of statewide student associations and similar student-led, student-elected organizations that represents more than six million students at over 400 higher education institutions. Launched by National Campus Leadership Council in 2019, the Alliance supports advocacy, collection action, and consensus-building around a shared set of higher education policy priorities that address the issues today’s students face.