

Subject **Responding to your message to Senator Heinrich**
From Office of Senator Martin Heinrich
<donotreply@heinrich.senate.gov>
To <gordon@contractwithamerica2.com>
Date 2022-05-09 08:48



May 9, 2022

Dear Mr. watts,

Providing access to affordable higher education is very important. Building a better education pipeline from cradle-to-career and from one generation to the next is the one sure way to turn our economy around. Yet student loan debt continues to weigh upon graduates and is impacting their financial decisions and planning. The 2020 End of Year Spending Package, H.R. 133, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, included changes to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and expanded eligibility for Pell grants for low- and middle-income students to attend college. This was an effort I was proud to lead and see enacted into law.

Student loan payments have been paused during the COVID-19 pandemic and were set to resume on May 1, 2022. However, on April 6, 2022, President Biden extended the payment pause through August 31, 2022. Still, more legislative action is needed to make higher education affordable and accessible to all New Mexicans.

You wrote me specifically about Senate Resolution 46 (S. Res. 46), which was introduced by Democratic Leader Charles Schumer. If passed, it would call on the President to take executive action to cancel up to \$50,000 per person in federal student loan debt for borrowers. This resolution is currently with the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP).

I will keep your thoughts in mind if about this legislation and other efforts to reduce student loan debt during the 117th Congress. Your experiences, ideas, thoughts, and concerns inform my work and decisions. I hope you will write me again on any other issues that are important to you.

[Sign-up to receive email updates](#) for the latest news on issues important to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Martin Heinrich".

MARTIN HEINRICH
United States Senator

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