Senator Jerry Moran U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510 Senator Maggie Hassan U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

September 29, 2025

Dear Senator Moran and Senator Hassan:

Thank you for your commitment to student parents and for leading the efforts to make September 2025 the fifth annual "National Student Parent Month." The 64 undersigned organizations and individuals are thrilled to join you in celebrating the recognitions and achievements of student parents across the country this month.

Parenting students continue to make up almost <u>one-fifth</u> of the undergraduate student population — over 3 million students. Additionally, <u>48%</u> of parenting students are first-generation college students and 30% are food insecure. Furthermore, <u>66%</u> of parenting students work full-time or more while attending school, studying, and caring for their children.

Parenting students are uniquely motivated to succeed in higher education, despite facing many challenges. In fact, student parents tend to have higher grade point averages than their non-parenting peers. But, due to structural barriers and lack of support, they are 10 times less likely than students without children to complete a bachelor's degree within five years. Only by changing how the system serves this critical population can their likelihood of attaining a degree increase.

Raising awareness about this population is critical to understanding their experiences and paving a smoother path for their postsecondary success. We are grateful for your commitment to supporting and celebrating student parents through the passage of the National Student Parent Month Resolution, and we look forward to continuing to work with you to support student parents.

Sincerely,

Today's Students Coalition
American Association of University Women
ASCEND at the Aspen Institute
Association of Community College Trustees
CAEL
California Competes
Center for Higher Education Policy and
Practice at SNHU
City College of San Francisco's Family
Resource Center
Coalition of California Welfare Rights
Organizations, Inc.
Community Food Bank of San Benito County

Early Childhood Learning School at UC Davis
Generation Hope
Healthy Teen Network
InsideTrack
Institute for Women's Policy Research
Jeremiah Program
LeadMN
LIFT
Michigan State University Student Parent
Resources Center
Mount Mary University
NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in
Higher Education

National Women's Law Center New America Higher Education Program New Mexico Basic Needs Consortium One Family Prismatic Research & Strategy Student Basic Needs Coalition Student Parent Help Center University of Minnesota Student Veterans of America Student Helping Oz Peers Student With Dependents Program The Education Trust The Hope Center for Student Basic Needs The Institute for College Access and Success The Pregnant Scholar **UAspire** UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden **Teaching Nursery UC Student Association** UIC CCAMPIS/Little Sparks Program **UPCEA** Women Employed

Individuals

Sydney Barnes Eve Castellanos Kathy Castillo Escutia Jessica Chatman Sarah Dahlen Amber Davenport Whitney Donielson Giovvana Guerrero Schinal Harrington Anne Hofmann Justyce Leyva Abigail Madrid Laurie Magulac Diana Malarchik Ashley Moncrief Heather Moon Rama Ouattara Paulina Rojas Victoria Salemme Celeste Salinas Valerie Shepard Sabrina Valdez Kate Zinsser