

RICHARD J. DURBIN

ILLINOIS

ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON RULES
AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-1304

June 25, 2014

Dear President:

As you may have seen in the news, Corinthian Colleges, Incorporated will sell or close its campuses across the country due to its deceptive and fraudulent business practices. As a result of its actions, the company has put the futures of tens of thousands of students in jeopardy.

In Illinois, Corinthian enrolls an estimated 3,300 students at its Everest College brand campuses in Bedford Park, Burr Ridge, Melrose Park, Merrionette Park, North Aurora, and Skokie. While it is not yet clear whether their campuses in our state will be sold or closed, it is important that Illinois students have the option to continue or restart their education at quality, affordable institutions.

Illinois' community college system provides students with a quality education and at a fraction of the cost of for-profit colleges. I encourage you to work with Corinthian, its accreditors including the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges, and the Department of Education as they develop teach-out plans for Corinthian's campuses. Illinois community colleges should work to fill the void that Corinthian has irresponsibly created.

If not, we know who will. Other for-profit colleges are anxious to get access to these students. It would only be adding insult to injury to allow these students to be pushed into the open arms of another for-profit college, especially one that is being investigated by state or federal agencies.

Thank you for any assistance to these students that you and your institution can provide. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator