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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact:

July 15, 2009

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NEW BILL MAKES HISTORIC INVESTMENT IN STUDENT AID

U.S. Public Interest Research Group Applauds HR XXXX

WASHINGTON, July 15 – <u>Christine Lindstrom, U.S. Public Interest Research Group Higher Education Program Director</u>, released the following statement on the higher education bill introduced on Wednesday by George Miller (D-CA), chair of the U.S. House Education and Labor committee:

"U.S. PIRG commends Chairman Miller (D-CA) for introducing HR XXXX, a game-changing proposal that enlarges the impact of student aid programs for the tens of millions of students and families who rely on grants, loans, and access to community college to attain a college education.

"In keeping with the higher education budget proposal that President Barack Obama released in February, the policy makes the single biggest investment in student aid in history. It reforms the Federal Pell Grant program to increase each year along with the cost of living, cuts the interest rate on subsidized Stafford loans, infuses our nation's community college system with more funding and support, and makes the student aid programs more efficient for students and taxpayers.

'We urge the House Education and Labor committee and Congress to pass this historic legislation."

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U.S. PIRG, federation of state Public Interest Research Groups, is a non-profit, non-partisan public interest advocacy organization. For more information, <u>click here or visit http://www.uspirg.org.</u> For more information in the <u>Affordable Higher Education campaign</u>, <u>click here</u>.