

**NLWJC - Kagan**

**DPC - Box 021 - Folder 002**

**Education - Service**



Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP

cc: Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP, William R. Kincaid/OPD/EOP, Laura Emmett/WHO/EOP

Subject: Higher ed reauthorization and our service summit proposal

There is a sticky issue on implementing one of our service summit proposals. This is the proposal that interest should not accumulate on any student loans when students take time off to serve. Our plan has always been to include this in our higher ed reauthorization bill, which is being readied for transmittal to the Hill in the next few weeks.

The issue is that the Department's draft would not permit this subsidy if the service is with an organization engaged in religious activities, with certain exceptions. Education is taking the position that doing otherwise raises constitutional questions. This means that a group like the Rev. Tony Campolo's would not qualify. As you recall, Campolo's program was the inspiration for this idea, and the President talked about Campolo when he announced this (see below).

Elena, do you want to review the language to make sure they aren't going overboard? They are reexamining it after I pointed out a few areas where it seems excessively strict. For example, it would rule out teaching English in a program that offered any religious instruction, even if the student was not doing religious instruction. However, I should note that Campolo's people do proselytization for part of their day, so they're not right on the edge of this line.

When we resolve this, we can tell him in the weekly report. Let me know if you want this in the weekly while we're figuring it out.

[FYI, here's what the President said at the summit. Actually, he deviated from the prepared text in a way that made it sound like this new proposal applied ONLY to religious service.]

"For here in Philadelphia, a minister who is a friend of mine, Reverend Tony Campolo, is helping to organize a movement among churches to get churches to sponsor 10,000 full-time youth volunteers to take a year off from college, or defer a year from college, under the sponsorship of their churches. The churches will do what we do in AmeriCorps, helping to provide for the living expenses of the young people. But I think we ought to say to them, at the very least, it shouldn't cost you any money to serve. And so if you've got a college loan, and you take a year off to serve under the sponsorship of a religious organization, I am going to propose legislation to say, 'During that year, no interest should accrue on that college loan.' It should not cost you any money to serve your country."

Diana -

I just got round to reading this - sorry. What's going on? Have we sent up the legislation? Is this still in dispute? etc.

Elena



10:17:47 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP  
cc: Laura Emmett/WHO/EOP  
Subject: Religious service and student loans

Elena: You asked if this is still in dispute. It is. Our bill hasn't gone to the Hill yet.

Bruce: Any reaction? Do you think I should push Education on this?

----- Forwarded by Diana Fortuna/OPD/EOP on 10/07/97 10:32 AM -----



10:24:43 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP  
cc: Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP, William R. Kincaid/OPD/EOP, Laura Emmett/WHO/EOP  
Subject: Higher ed reauthorization and our service summit proposal

There is a sticky issue on implementing one of our service summit proposals. This is the proposal that interest should not accumulate on any student loans when students take time off to serve. Our plan has always been to include this in our higher ed reauthorization bill, which is being readied for transmittal to the Hill in the next few weeks.

The issue is that the Department's draft would not permit this subsidy if the service is with an organization engaged in religious activities, with certain exceptions. Education is taking the position that doing otherwise raises constitutional questions. This means that a group like the Rev. Tony Campolo's would not qualify. As you recall, Campolo's program was the inspiration for this idea, and the President talked about Campolo when he announced this (see below).

Elena, do you want to review the language to make sure they aren't going overboard? They are reexamining it after I pointed out a few areas where it seems excessively strict. For example, it would rule out teaching English in a program that offered any religious instruction, even if the student was not doing religious instruction. However, I should note that Campolo's people do proselytization for part of their day, so they're not right on the edge of this line.

When we resolve this, we can tell him in the weekly report. Let me know if you want this in the weekly while we're figuring it out.

[FYI, here's what the President said at the summit. Actually, he deviated from the prepared text in a way that made it sound like this new proposal applied ONLY to religious service.]

"For here in Philadelphia, a minister who is a friend of mine, Reverend Tony Campolo, is helping to organize a movement among churches to get churches to sponsor 10,000 full-time youth volunteers to take a year off from college, or defer a year from college, under the sponsorship of their churches. The churches will do what we do in AmeriCorps, helping to provide for the living expenses of the young people. But I think we

ought to say to them, at the very least, it shouldn't cost you any money to serve. And so if you've got a college loan, and you take a year off to serve under the sponsorship of a religious organization, I am going to propose legislation to say, 'During that year, no interest should accrue on that college loan.' It should not cost you any money to serve your country."

4-14

Ed/Service Meeting

ED - Most imp - to get p to the right place

getting most qual to inner-city / remote rural areas

Fellowship units - to prepare teachers best (like acad med ctr)

fellowships, loan forgiveness etc - not an effective way

to get p. into teaching - p don't change behavior.

(partly - loc. small) (but otherwise fairly expensive)

50% of undergrads w/ degree in ed - becoming - abt 17,000



Fellowship? up to \$5,000 - as certain insts. stud commits to

some # of yrs to teaching in hi-poverty school

• convey sense of socially + state

instead of loan forgiveness

hi-quality school / ed partly - gets p. into class-room early

90% of grants going to fellowship

10% - supporting services - for inst.

Summer institutes - to give p a taste of teaching.

Need this to keep focus on state

Can't just be bright young Ivy leaguers.

OR - need #s - what need is

how many openings in inner-city etc.

can't know how many applicants per job inner-city etc. <sup>partly</sup>

how much they make / how much we

Kind of teaching - high need in spec ed / limited Eng proficiency

Smaller ways to do incentives -

↗ e.g. business awards not taxash.

Make - need list - next couple of days.

Educational-service

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Diana Fortuna 04/25/97 04:07:28 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: HS service requirements

I'm still concerned about the implications of the Ed Dept. study on a decision to call for HS service requirements. It will be released eventually. It shows that by far the most common school policy is to arrange community service without requiring it, and that policy is virtually as successful as arranging it and requiring it. So, as we discussed, it seems to provide a pretty strong argument that requiring service is not that productive.

The survey asks 25,000 students if:

Their school arranges community service:	68%
Their school arranges & requires service:	16%
Their school does neither	14%
Their school requires service without arranging it:	2%

Percent of students who do perform service, by type of school:

School requires and arranges service:	56%
School arranges service	52%
School does nothing	30%
School requires service only	19%

|| Also, Gomperts thinks that this will become the story if we add it in because the press is fascinated by it, and will draw attention away from AmeriCorps.