

January 22, 2026

The Honorable Ritchie Torres
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Torres:

On behalf of the undersigned national associations, schools, student organizations, and accrediting bodies, **we write in strong support of H.R. 6677, the Professional Degree Access Restoration Act**. This legislation is an essential step toward restoring fair, predictable access to federal student loans for graduate and professional students, including those pursuing accredited degrees that are required for licensure and practice.

Recent federal changes have sharply reduced loan availability and imposed borrowing caps that do not reflect the actual cost of professional education, particularly in high need, licensure-based fields. As a result, talented students without family wealth or access to private credit are being priced out of advanced educational programs, pushed into higher cost private loans, or forced to delay or abandon their degrees altogether. These barriers undermine efforts to maintain a representative workforce across our campuses and firms, and they weaken the pipeline of future professionals across the spectrum.

By restoring the federal loan structure that existed prior to the “One Big Beautiful Bill,” H.R. 6677 would reverse harmful restrictions on federal borrowing and help ensure that financial access keeps pace with the cost of completing an advanced education. The bill will reduce reliance on risky private lending, stabilize enrollment in accredited programs, and support a stronger workforce ready to tackle urgent challenges in housing, climate adaptation, public health, and community development.

We are united in the view that restricting access to federal loans does not lower costs; it simply shifts risk onto students and narrows who can enter the profession. The Professional Degree Access Restoration Act sends a clear signal that Congress values graduate and professional education in architecture and other critical fields, and that the federal government will remain a reliable partner in making these pathways attainable for students from all backgrounds.

We respectfully urge you and your colleagues to advance H.R. 6677 without delay and to encourage broad bipartisan co-sponsorship. Our institutions and organizations stand ready to work with you to ensure that federal student loan policy supports the next generation and the communities they will serve.

Sincerely,

American Institute of Architects

American Institute of Architecture Students

American Society of Landscape Architects

Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture

National Architectural Accrediting Board

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards

National Organization of Minority Architects