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June 24, 2008

The Honorable Patrick McHenry  
United States House of Representatives  
224 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Cosponsorship of HR 6160, *The Roosevelt Scholars Act of 2008*

Dear Congressman McHenry,

One of the many things of which I am most proud is the dedication of Duke students who apply their knowledge, research and energy in service to the city of Durham, the state of North Carolina, the nation and the world. A central theme of Duke's strategic plan, *Making a Difference*, is strengthening this university's traditional role of nurturing scholarship for its many intrinsic values and applying that knowledge in service of society. The plan promotes a culture of public engagement that is infused with education and research, and it is our strong hope that after a student graduates from Duke, that engagement continues. This is most recently illustrated by the success of DukeEngage, which supports students who pursue an intensive civic engagement experience by applying what they have learned in the classroom to address societal issues.

Your colleagues, Representatives David Price and Chris Shays, have recently introduced the *Roosevelt Scholars Act of 2008*, HR 6160, which will provide financial incentives for graduate students across the country to take positions with the federal government after their graduation. At a time when the federal government faces massive turnover and increased competition for knowledgeable and skilled workers with the private sector, it should be a national priority to encourage our best and brightest to consider public service as their first career choice.

On an annual basis, close to a quarter of graduate students from Duke's Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy choose to work for the federal government. Programs such as the one proposed by Mr. Price and Mr. Shays would likely increase this number while encouraging students in engineering, science, business and law to seek similar opportunities with the government.

This bill is an essential investment in our young people, the federal government and our future. I encourage you to support this legislation as a cosponsor – broad, bipartisan support from our delegation will send a strong message from our state and once again signal the importance North Carolinians place on service and higher education.

With all best wishes,



Richard H. Brodhead

bc: Mike Schoenfeld

~~Christina Simmons~~

Letter sent to the following  
(including McHenry):

The Honorable G.K. Butterfield  
United House of Representatives  
413 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Butterfield:

The Honorable Mike McIntyre  
United States House of Representatives  
2437 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman McIntyre:

The Honorable Virginia Foxx  
United States House of Representatives  
430 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Foxx:

The Honorable Howard Coble  
United States House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Coble:

The Honorable Heath Shuler  
United States House of Representatives  
512 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Shuler:

The Honorable Sue Myrick  
United States House of Representatives  
230 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Myrick:

The Honorable Robin Hayes  
United States House of Representatives  
130 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Hayes:

The Honorable Walter B. Jones  
United States House of Representatives  
2333 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Jones:

The Honorable Melvin L. Watt  
United States House of Representatives  
2236 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Watt: