



April 25, 2017

The Honorable Joe Manchin III
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Manchin:

Thank you for your correspondence dated April 4, 2017 to the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs (OCLA) on behalf of your constituent, the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, regarding the late submission of West Virginia's 2016 audit information to the Department. Your correspondence was forwarded to the Department of Education's (Department's) Federal Student Aid office for review, and I am pleased to respond.

The Department is currently reviewing the issue(s) referenced in your letter. Specifically, the Chancellor's Office of the State of West Virginia is requesting that the Department not cite the institutions of higher education in West Virginia for past performance violations due late submission of the statewide audit. This is the third consecutive year that the State of West Virginia has been unable to submit its audit to the Department by the due date of March 31. The Department plans to issue correspondence to the Chancellor's office with its decision on the matter shortly.

Should you have questions while the review is being completed, you may contact the Department's Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs at (202)401-0020.

Sincerely,

Nancy P. Gifford For:

Nancy P. Gifford
Director, Philadelphia School Participation Division

Federal Student Aid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Philadelphia School Participation Division
The Wanamaker Building, 180 Penn Square East, Suite 511, Philadelphia, PA 19102
StudentAid.gov