For Immediate Release:
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Statement by Carrie Wofford on Important Dept. Ed Bulletin
And Release of New Veterans Education Success Report on Unwanted Student Loans

Thanks Dept. Ed for issuing important bulletin warning colleges not to trick veterans into student loans they didn't want or need.

Washington, DC -- Today, in conjunction with the Education Department's announcement that its Federal Student Aid (FSA) office has issued a bulletin warning colleges not to trick veterans into student loans they didn't want or need, Veterans Education Success is releasing its report, "Veterans with Student Loans They Never Authorized or Wanted."

Veterans Education Success provided this report, privately, to the Education Department in January, and FSA officials were gracious in calling Veterans Education Success last week to thank us and give us a heads up about this morning's FSA bulletin. FSA officials said that Veterans Education Success' report prompted them to look hard at the issue.

Carrie Wofford, President of Veterans Education Success, called FSA's bulletin, "A great first step. We thank FSA for warning schools to stop tricking veterans into loans they didn't want or need. This is the single top issue we hear about in the thousands of veteran complaints we receive. Veterans who have the GI Bill are understandably angry when they find out that a school took out student loans in their name without their knowledge. We also call on the Education Department to follow our policy recommendations -- especially to give the 'Master Promissory Note' a more accessible, common-sense name (or at least subtitle) such as 'Student Loan Agreement.'"

In addition, Veterans Education Success has three veterans available for media interviews. All three have student loans that were taken out in their names that they did not authorize or need, because of their VA education benefits. Reporters who would like to interview these veterans should call Chris Madaio, at 410-812-7946.