

Saul Ewing
Higher Education
Practice Group:

James A. Keller
Chair

“What keeps you up at night?”

U.S. Department of Education issues summary of the Higher Education Opportunity Act

By Amy C. Foerster

The Higher Education Opportunity Act was signed into law on August 14, 2008. At that time, the United States Department of Education noted that it would be publishing a “Dear Colleague” letter regarding the lengthy Act. That letter is now available on the Department’s website at <http://ifap.ed.gov/dpcletters/attachments/GEN0812FP0810AttachHEOADCL.pdf>

It was hoped that the much-anticipated Dear Colleague letter—like similar letters issuing from the Department—would provide some insight into the Department’s interpretation of the Act, as well as its expectations regarding implementation, particularly in light of the August 14, 2008 effective date applicable to many of the law’s provisions. At first blush, however, it appears that the 219-page letter summarizes and organizes the Act’s provisions without providing additional guidance.

Saul Ewing’s Higher Education Practice Group is in the process of digesting the Department’s letter. In the meantime, if you have questions regarding a specific provision in the HEOA, or would like to see a particular requirement discussed in greater detail in an upcoming Alert, please contact any of the attorneys listed below.

This Alert was prepared by Amy C. Foerster, an Associate in the Firm’s Higher Education Practice Group. Amy can be reached at afoerster@saul.com or 717.257.7573. James A. Keller, Chair of the Firm’s Higher Education Practice Group, can be reached at jkeller@saul.com or 215.972.1964. This publication has been prepared by the Higher Education Practice Group for information purposes only.

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