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Macias, Wendy

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2009 9:46 AM
To: negreg09
Subject: Support Letter
Attachments: Ashford University Department of Education.doc

[REDACTED]
President
Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce

[REDACTED]

June 23, 2009

Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue S.W.
Washington, DC 20202

To Whom It May Concern:

As the President of the Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce and a former student at Mt. St. Clare (now Ashford University) I would like to tell you of the value that Ashford University has brought to Clinton and around the world.

The City of Clinton is very proud of the two colleges that we have in our area. Ashford University has made a dramatic difference in the economic development of our region.

Ashford University and the Ashford Call Center in the Clinton community have made a positive impact both in employment and with student population-both at the Campus and On-Line. Two new buildings were erected directly off the Millcreek Parkway to house the Call Center bringing hundreds of jobs to our area.

The college (Ashford University) has "saved" a tradition in Clinton created by the Sisters of Saint Frances over one hundred years ago. A tradition of honor and academics that continues to flourish because of the base established here those many years before.

Ashford offer opportunity for both the traditional and non-traditional students to come to campus or to participate via the Net. They have raised their staff levels to meet the demand of over 40,000 on-line students and 500 campus students. They have grown at such a rate that it required two graduation ceremonies this past May. The dollars this City received from that graduation and those attending graduation caused a **daily** economic impact of \$64,250. These are base numbers with no rollover attached.

You can see that Ashford University has made a serious impact both financially and in attitude with their presence in Clinton, IA. We expect Ashford to continue to thrive in our community making a quality education available both locally and nationwide.

Sincerely,

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