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**Macias, Wendy**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**ent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2009 12:56 AM  
**ro:** negreg09  
**Subject:** Student Loan Changes

Hello Department of Education, I am writing in regards to changes that I would like to see in the Student Loan Program. The main change that I would like to see is how interest is applied. The way the interest is set up and calculated your monthly payment is basically your interest so your principle never decreases. You continue to make payments but at least 90% goes towards the interest. For example, my original loan was \$10,000.00 I missed a few payments due to financial hardship and it grew to \$32,000.00. I now pay \$300.00 a month and have been paying this consistently for at least the last five years. Instead of my principle going down from \$32,000.00 it is now at \$35,000.00. Although I've tried to refinance to get a lower interest rate. I was informed that I did not qualify because it is an old "Stafford Loan". The main change that I would like to see made is how the interest is calculated so that it will be easier to payoff this loan. Due to the current economic crisis I am struggling to make the minimum payment of \$300.00 which only covers most of the interest. At this rate I will never pay off this Student Loan.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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