

Recent Action Taken on the HEOA Legislation *[Archive of the [HEOA Resource Page Overview, 2007-2008](#)]*

Because the higher education community appreciates and benefits from copyright laws, it has a vested interest in protecting the rights of copyright owners. Colleges and universities are making a concerted effort to discourage and limit any copyright infringement that may take place on their campuses. These institutions of higher education are challenged to restrict infringing peer-to-peer activity through education, policy, and technology while searching with the entertainment industry for viable and legal online alternatives.

Preparing for the Department of Education Hearings on the Higher Education

Opportunity Act: This is a [letter](#) to EDUCAUSE members concerning regional meetings with the Department of Education to address the Peer-to-Peer File Sharing Provisions in the HEOA.

EDUCAUSE Memo on P2P Provisions in the Higher Education Act: EDUCAUSE, along with ACE, AAU, and NASULGC, have prepared a [memo](#) summarizing what the law will require, what happens next, and what you should do now. The memo also includes the relevant portions of the Act, as well as the report language that accompanies and clarifies the law. (August 11, 2008)

ACE Letter to Congress: EDUCAUSE has joined other organizations in signing a July 31st [letter from the American Council on Education](#) to U.S. congressional leaders about requirements in the House and Senate joint committee report of the final version of the Higher Education Act (HEA) Reauthorization.

Analysis of HEA Reauthorization: The [EDUCAUSE analysis](#) focuses on two principal requirements that will be challenging for higher education institutions: (1) that every college and university will develop “plans to effectively combat the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including...the use of a variety of technology-based deterrents”; and (2) that institutions “will, to the extent practicable, offer alternatives to illegal downloading or peer-to-peer distribution of intellectual property, as determined by the institution in consultation with the chief technology officer or other designated officer of the institution.” (July 30th, 2008)

Message to Congress: A message to Congressional staff of the House and Senate Education Conference Committee, requesting key wording changes in the copyright infringement language contained in the Higher Education Act, was sent on May 27, 2008. [Read the request.](#)

- [HEA Legislative Update](#)
- [House Education and Labor Committee member names and phone numbers](#)

[Letter sent by USACM](#), to Congress regarding technology-based filtering of Internet traffic by universities (April 14, 2008)

College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007 (HR 4137)

- [Entire Bill](#) as introduced in the House (November 9, 2007)
- [Bill with adopted amendments](#) (as of November 15, 2007)
- [Specific P2P language](#) of concern to higher education contained in College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007 (November 9, 2007)
- [Substitute copyright infringement language approved by the Senate](#), SB 1642 (July 26, 2007)

What You Can Do

- [ACTION ALERT](#) (February 15, 2008)
- [Talking points](#) College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007 (*updated March 3, 2008*)
- [Suggested Templates](#) for your use in calls and faxes (*updated March 3, 2008*)

Member Letters to Congress

- [MIT Letter](#) to the Massachusetts delegation concerning proposed Peer-to-Peer language in the HEA bill.

Other Resources

- Higher education associations join EDUCAUSE in opposing House HEA Reauthorization language (March 11, 2008): [House Letter](#) and [Senate Letter](#)
- [Letter to the Editor: Respect for Copyright Comes from Education](#)
EDUCAUSE Vice President, Mark Luker, responds to an opinion piece by Dan Glickman of the MPAA (December 10, 2007)
- [Letter to Chairman George Miller and Ranking Member Howard McKeon](#)
This letter from EDUCAUSE requests that Section 494(a)(2) be deleted from H.R. 4137 (November 27, 2007)
- [Letter Opposing the Including of the Entertainment Industry Proposal on Illegal File Sharing in the HEA](#)
This Joint Committee letter was sent to members of the House Education and Labor Committee concerning the College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007 (November 7, 2007)
- [Letter to Presidents from the Higher Education Members of the Joint Committee](#)
This Joint Committee letter encourages universities and colleges to continue to educate students on illegal file sharing and copyright infringement (October 15, 2007)