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COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EXAMINES OPPORTUNITIES TO REFORM FEDERAL AND STATE FINANCIAL AID

Dr. William Doyle of Vanderbilt University keynotes CED luncheon, discusses new policy brief, “A New Partnership: The Road to Reshaping Federal & State Financial Aid”

January 24, 2013 - Washington, DC – The Committee for Economic Development (CED) today hosted a luncheon discussing a new policy brief authored by Dr. William Doyle, Assistant Professor of Higher Education, Department of Leadership, Policy and Organizations, Peabody College of Vanderbilt University titled, “A New Partnership: The Road to Reshaping Federal & State Financial Aid.” The brief presents Dr. Doyle’s recommendations on how best to reform federal and state financial aid and centers on the premise that simply through an overall increase in efficiency, the system of higher education will result in increased educational attainment for underserved populations.

“Student financial aid should ensure that individuals who can benefit from college, and would not otherwise attend, are able to enroll. This policy brief lays the ground work for policymakers to design a student financial aid system that works at every level - federal, state and institutional - in order to accomplish this goal,” said Will Doyle. “CED’s previous work has established the necessity of creating a more productive system of higher education, and I feel privileged to work with them in developing new ideas to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of student financial aid.”

“In 2012, CED released Boosting Postsecondary Performance, a report that calls on business leaders to become active participants in shaping postsecondary education reform and finance policies, focusing attention on strengthening the capacity of broad-access institutions to fill workforce gaps,” said Steve Odland, Chief Executive Officer of CED. “This discussion today reignited deliberations around how best to reform federal and state financial aid in order to increase access to postsecondary education.”

CED has long taken an active role in terms of promoting education reform in this country:

• from engaging in an aggressive outreach program that helped to increase funding at the state level to expand access to pre-K programs for children across the U.S.;
• to working at the state level to promote teacher effectiveness and sound human resource policies toward teachers;
• to drawing attention to the need for expanded access to broad-access institutions, which educate the majority of our nation’s college students – many more than the better-known research universities and highly selective schools.

“Dr. Doyle’s analysis comes at a critically important time, as the U.S. system of higher education continues to fall behind the rest of the world in the production of postsecondary degrees and certificates,” said Carl Camden, CED co-chair and President and Chief Executive Officer of Kelly Services, Inc. “College prices continue to rise faster than prices in other sectors; Pell Grant funding is failing to keep pace with increases in college prices; and low-income students continue to struggle to pay for and attain an advanced degree. We cannot assume that ever-greater amounts of public support will
solve our access problems. We do need to think about how to use our dollars more effectively. We want to thank Will Doyle for helping CED explore this pressing issue.”

**About CED**
CED ([www.ced.org](http://www.ced.org)) is a non-profit, nonpartisan business-led public policy organization. CED conducts research on major economic and social issues and actively informs and engages the business community in an effort to achieve policy reform for the good of the nation. Membership is made up of some 200 senior corporate executives and university leaders who lead CED’s research and outreach efforts.

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