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## **Conservative Leaders and Free Market Advocates Join Together to Hold the Department of Education Accountable and Protect American Taxpayers**

**Washington, D.C.** – Today, conservative leaders and free market advocates representing associations across the country sent a [letter](#) to Department of Education Secretary Miguel Cardona urging him to take seriously the Department's responsibility regarding the "Borrower Defense to Repayment" (BDTR) program.

BDTR is a program meant to help students who are genuinely defrauded by their schools and universities; regrettably, it is being used to forgive disingenuous claims at the expense of the American taxpayer.

*"Under the Biden administration, The Department of Education has been quietly transferring billions of dollars in student loans to taxpayers and is considering doing so with tens of billions more. As of September 2021, your department [had already forgiven \\$9.5 billion in student loan debt](#). It is clear that the American public does not support wholesale student debt forgiveness, so it is unfortunate that this Administration would use the BDTR's covert regulatory maneuvers to potentially shift the cost of the education received by millions of students onto the backs of hardworking taxpayers.*

*"[Internal agency documents have revealed that the Department of Education is planning a mass discharge](#) of claims, many of which are meritless, providing winning lottery tickets for scammers. The Department of Education needs to review these claims on a formal, evidence-based basis and spell out for the American people what process it is going to use to adjudicate these claims fairly."*

Secretary Cardona must take control of his department before hardworking Americans are on the hook for trillions of dollars in student loan debt. Millions of Americans across the county work to pay off their student loan debt each month – it is simply not fair to those American taxpayers if the Biden administration continues to forgive billions in bogus claims.

**To read the letter in its entirety, please visit:**

<https://86a1c46a-d427-40b7-a208->

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