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COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2181 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100

> MAJORITY – 202-225-3725 MINORITY – 202-225-4527 http://edlabor.house.gov

February 12, 2007

Mr. Albert L. Lord Chairman Sallie Mae 12061 Bluemont Way Reston, VA 20190

Dear Mr. Lord:

We write regarding your recent sale of more than \$18 million of Sallie Mae stock just prior to the public announcement of significant student lender cuts outlined in President Bush's Fiscal Year 2008 Budget.

According to recent news accounts, you sold 400,000 shares of Sallie Mae (SLM Corp.) stock between February 1 and February 2, 2007—just three days before the official, public release of the President's budget. As you know, the President has called for more than \$17 billion in cuts to the lending industry, including \$11 billion in reduction to Special Allowance Payments (SAP). Such cuts could have an impact on the financial health of companies such as Sallie Mae, which are wholly reliant on the federal student loan program.

Given the timing between your stock sale and the public announcement of lender cuts, we seek additional information about these events. Specifically, we ask that you provide us with information about communications you and SLM Corp. have had with the White House and the Department of Education about the lending industry beginning November 1, 2006 through the date of this request. Please provide us with copies of written correspondence, e-mails, meeting minutes, notes, etc. memorializing these communications.

As members of Congress and Chairmen of the Committees with oversight in the areas of education and financial services, we respectfully request your written response within 10 days of receiving this letter. We further ask that you direct SLM Corp. staff to coordinate the production of the requested information with Michael Zola, Chief Investigative

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Sincerely,

GEORGE MILLER Chairman BARNEY FRANK Chairman Committee on Financial Services

Enclosure: Information Request Supplemental Instructions