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House of Representatives  
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**Increase Pell Grants and Reduce the Deficit....  
at No Additional Taxpayer Cost**

*Cosponsor H.R. 1425, the 'STAR Act,' to Make College More Affordable.*

Dear Colleague:

I wanted to call your attention to the latest editorial in support of H.R. 1425, the *Student Aid Reward (STAR) Act*. The editorial clearly highlights why local communities support this commonsense, fiscally-responsible approach towards making college more affordable and reducing the deficit.

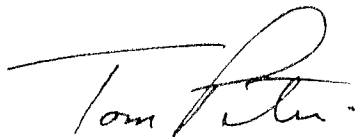
Last month, the Congressional Budget Office confirmed that the *STAR Act* would save taxpayers \$13.4 billion in wasteful spending over the next 10 years.

These savings are made possible when colleges and universities choose to participate in the federal student loan program that is most cost-effective for taxpayers. The *STAR Act*, in turn, would return over \$10 billion of those savings to the schools in the form of Pell Grants for low and middle-income students. This would increase student aid as much as an additional \$1,000 per recipient, per year while not costing taxpayers a single penny more.

Taxpayers are not only getting more for their money, they are also saving. One quarter of the savings, \$3.35 billion, would be devoted towards deficit reduction.

While the STAR Amendment was not made in order when the Higher Education reauthorization was considered last month, you can still show your support by cosponsoring H.R. 1425 today. Please contact Tom Culligan at 5-2476 to cosponsor or for more information.

Sincerely,



THOMAS E. PETRI  
Member of Congress

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**The Sheboygan Press  
Editorial: Congress fails to make sense on student loans**

Sometimes — OK, many times — it's hard to figure out what Congress is trying to do.

Our latest puzzlement is over proposal by Wisconsin Rep. Tom Petri that would allow low-income college students to get more money to pay for their education and save the federal government billions of dollars.

Sounds like a no-brainer.

But when the House recently took up the College Access and Opportunity Act and complete reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, leaders didn't even allow Petri to make his amendment, much less let the full House membership to vote up or down.

Petri's blocked amendment is based on his Student Aid Reward Act that was introduced more than a year ago. He got support from Democrat George Miller of California, but not from the House Rules Committee which didn't allow the amendment to be considered.