

Adams, Ossoff Lead Four Corners Letter Urging Support for HBCUs, TCUs, and MSIs



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WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Alma Adams (NC-12), Senator Jon Ossoff (D-GA), and 15 of their House and Senate colleagues sent a letter to the Democratic and Republican leadership in both Houses of Congress urging support within landmark innovation legislation for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), including Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs), and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs). Specifically, the letter calls for robust funding for these institutions in the conference legislation that reconciles the Senate- and House-passed versions of the *America Creating Opportunities for Manufacturing, Pre-Eminence in Technology, and Economic Strength Act of 2022 (America COMPETES)*.

[A copy of the letter is available here.](#)

“In H.R 4521, the *America Creating Opportunities for Manufacturing, Pre-Eminence in Technology, and Economic Strength Act of 2022 (America COMPETES)*, the House of Representatives passed a historic, \$1.2 billion program to build research capacity in Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs),

and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), including Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs), and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs),” **wrote the Representatives and Senators.** “The bill also included language to establish separate grant competitions for similarly designated institutions. Further, On May 4, 2022, the Senate voted to instruct conferees to uphold robust funding for HBCUs and MSIs in any final competition legislation. We urge you to maintain the House-passed funding level and grant program, as currently structured, in any final competition legislation.”

The letter requests that the conference legislation include the full \$1.2 billion funding level included in the House *America COMPETES* bill to assist HBCUs, TCUs, and many MSIs in building their educational and research capacities. *America COMPETES* passed the House in January.

Other signatories include **House Majority Whip James E. Clyburn; Senators Cory A. Booker, Christopher A. Coons, Martin Heinrich, Ben Ray Lujan, Alex Padilla, Chris Van Hollen, Raphael G. Warnock, and Elizabeth Warren; and Representatives André Carson, Yvette D. Clarke, Gerald E. Connolly, Ro Khanna, Lucy McBath, and Nikema Williams.**

Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, Ph.D. represents North Carolina’s 12th Congressional District (Charlotte, Mecklenburg County) in the US House of Representatives. She serves on the House Committee on Education and Labor, the House Agriculture Committee, and the House Financial Services Committee in the 117th Congress. Before being elected to Congress, she served as a professor at Bennett College in Greensboro for four decades. She serves as the founder and co-chair of the Congressional Bipartisan Historically Black Colleges and Universities Caucus.

Jon Ossoff is the Senior United States Senator from the state of Georgia. Elected in 2021, he serves on the powerful Senate Judiciary; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; and Rules Committees. He also serves as Chairman of the Homeland Security Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

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