

June 30, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-04) today announced the final phase of implementation of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act passed by Congress in September 2007. The Act, signed by President George W. Bush on September 27, 2007, cut interest rates on subsidized student loans. The final reduction, set to occur on tomorrow, July 1, 2011, will reduce the student loan interest rate from 4.5 percent to 3.4 percent. Overall, the Act reduced rates from its highest of 6.8 percent in 2008.

"Smart economic policy means making investments in America's young people to ensure their future success," said Congressman Altmire. "The College Cost Reduction and Access Act is one of the most important education initiatives in decades and, at a time when many students are worried about the affordability and accessibility of higher education, this reduction gives many students hope for a brighter future."

Once fully phased in, the Act will save typical student borrowers approximately \$4,400 over the life of their loan. Congressman Altmire was appointed to the conference committee in 2007 to negotiate the final bill that was signed into law.