## THE FLORIDA SENATE



Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

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Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and
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## SENATOR SHEVRIN D. "SHEV" JONES 35th District

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Miguel Cardona Secretary, U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20202

## Dear Secretary Cardona:

I am writing to express my support of Keiser University's mission to provide higher educational opportunities to students of all ages and backgrounds through both traditional and non-traditional online programs. My office is pleased to provide this letter commending Keiser University for their efforts to provide the nontraditional student with opportunities to develop the knowledge, understanding, and skills necessary for successful employment.

As a State Senator, I recognize Keiser University's significant impacts on the State of Florida, as the institution contributes over \$3 billion annually to Florida's economy and directly or indirectly supports over 30,000 Florida jobs. Additionally, I commend Keiser for holding the #1 ranking in Florida and #5 ranking nationwide for Social Mobility in the 2022 U.S. News & World Report.

Through my role as Vice Chair of the Senate Education Committee, my colleagues and I have had much discussion on how to support our underserved students on the fridges - the ones who need more resources and support to thrive in a traditional 4-year university setting. I commend Keiser University for empowering students of all backgrounds through offering more than 100 degrees from the associate to doctoral level to a diverse group of students, 63% of whom identify as an adult learner over the age of 25.

## REPLY TO

- ☐ 606 NW 183rd Street, Miami Gardens, Florida 33169 (305) 493-6022
- ☐ 1965 South State Road 7, West Park, Florida 33023 (954) 893-5003
- □ 214 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5035

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

Senate District 35 is the largest Black district in the Sunshine State, in addition to being one of the largest in the nation overall. As someone who represents such a diverse community within Florida, I commend Keiser University for recognizing the importance of maintaining a diverse student body, which has a population made up of 58% of Black and Hispanic students. Additionally, nearly 75% of Keiser students are women.

Keiser University has a meaningful impact on both my District and the State of Florida overall, and I greatly appreciate their efforts to provide students across the nation with the tools they need to succeed in such a fast-changing workforce.

I look forward to seeing what University accomplishes in 2023 and beyond.

Your Partner in Making a Difference,

Shevrin D. "Shev" Jones State Senator, District 35

<sup>☐ 1965</sup> South State Road 7, West Park, Florida 33023 (954) 893-5003