

From: AGM3038@LAUSD.NET on 06/07/2008 04:15:00 PM

Subject: Regulation AA

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My credit card debt is all due to graduate school. I was lucky enough to attend UCLA for my B.S. in Biology and owed less than \$10,000 after graduation. My dream has been to teach science in underserved communities like the one I grew up in. I went to graduate school at Drexel University and then completed my credential through Univerity of Phoenix. Now I am a No Chile Left Behind (NCLB) qualified science teacher working for L.A. Unified School District with my prelimnary credential. The only problem is getting my Masters Degree in education, science, and teaching credential costs me over \$110,000. With SallieMae school loans charging interest rates of 8.5% and higher I have little doubt it will take me 30 years to pay off this debt and I will never be able to buy a home. I have been renting the same apartment for 3 years now and rent is now \$1450/month. My teachers salary is \$2200/month after taxes. Now Ca lifornia is cutting funding to education and I may lose my teaching position or have to take a 10% pay cut! How will I ever pay off my school loans on a teachers salary? I feel cheated, lied to, and plead legislators to help teachers earn a sustainable living income. Home prices are still rising and with median housing costs in California well over \$400k, how will I ever live the American dream as a science teacher. Where are the incentives for math/science teachers. Was NCLB a complete lie? Please do something for education and teachers who give their lives for the education of Americans in public schools. Sincerely, Alfredo Munoz II.