



Temperature Check Rubric

Measures will be based on an office's commitment to the requested actions in "Our Ask" of the offices summarized below, a tangible way to determine success and communicate actionable and specific commitment levels.

DoUsPart! members must push politicians to commit to one of the progressive actions listed or to take no action, so we can accurately determine involvement. "Watching" is not a commitment.

We need to ensure members understand what constitutes "commitment." The following table outlines commitment levels with examples.

Our Asks of the Offices

1. Be a liaison between constituent and ED by filing a formal Congressional Inquiry to OLCA.
 2. Contact the Department of Education's (ED) Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs to inquire about the status and pressure ED to deliver by the beginning of September.
 3. Schedule a staff-level call with ED to inquire about the status and pressure ED to deliver by the end of August.
 4. Utilize your Legislative Director to escalate status requests with ED's Director of Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs to inquire on the status and pressure ED to deliver by the end of August.
 5. Schedule a call with Department C-Staff & leadership (e.g., Cardona) to discuss this issue.
- ... and/or ...**
6. Request that work collaboratively with other offices that are committing to action to gain implementation.



Temperature	Commitment	Response
Cold	<p>1 The office fails to commit to any of the following actions and/or provides any of the following responses.</p> <p>“We’ll keep an eye on this.”</p> <p>“We’ll evaluate, and let us get back to you.”</p> <p>“We don’t help with student loan forgiveness.”*</p> <p>The office responds with a boilerplate response.</p> <p>Dodging or deferring response.</p> <p>They are forced to explicitly and overtly say they will not help and provide reasoning.</p>	<p>“We’ll keep an eye on this.” This is intrinsically passive and provides no meaningful help.</p> <p>“We’ll evaluate, and let us get back to you.” This is a postponement to commit to any action, and it is dodging your request for help.</p> <p>* “We don’t help with student loan forgiveness.” This is improperly categorizing our legal right to separate with broad forgiveness seekers, apples and oranges. It also dodges commitment to help a constituent. If these offices cannot be motivated by your story and request, then they need to deal with the awkward situation of overtly denying your request and extending the courtesy of providing a reason. In these scenarios, the office can be targeted on social media.</p> <p>The office responds with a boilerplate response. This is unhelpful, as our organization and its members are the bleeding tip of the spear. Many times, boilerplate responses discuss broad forgiveness because they don’t understand the request. Many other times, they provide boilerplate information from one of ED’s web pages that recycles 95% of the information that we already know. The objective is to move them to seek something beyond what we already know.</p> <p>The office dodges or defers to respond on the requested actions. If you sense poor engagement, politely challenge them to commit to helping in the ways you are requesting or force them to outwardly decline to help you.</p> <p>The office is forced to explicitly and overtly say they will not help. This can and should be called out on social media as part of our social media campaign.</p>
Cold	<p>2 The office occasionally or regularly engages the JCL borrower, providing a more profound response than boilerplate or fielded responses.</p>	<p>This is promising but not a commitment to desired action yielding meaningful status or pressure.</p> <p>Member follows up and leverages responses to work on progression.</p>



Warm	3	<p>The office commits to contact Mark Warner's, Joe Neguse's, or other offices to inquire. Offices respond to constituents by recycling available information from an ED source.</p>	<p>This is promising but not a commitment to desired action yielding meaningful status or pressure.</p> <p>Member follows up and leverages responses to work on progression.</p>
Warm	4	<p>The office commits to regularly coordinating or communicating with Mark Warner's, Joe Neguse's, or other offices to pressure ED to implement the JCLSA by the end of August or early September.</p>	<p>This is on the right track, indicating the office dedicates itself to meaningful effort.</p> <p>Member follows up and leverages responses to work on progression and check on collaborative efforts' status between offices.</p>
Very warm	5	<p>The office commits to directly contacting ED to pressure and seek accountability on timely implementation via one of the following mechanisms (which are progressive themselves).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Liaison with the ED by filing a formal Congressional Inquiry to OLCA. 2. Contact ED's Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs to inquire about the status and pressure ED to deliver by the end of August. 3. Schedule a staff-level call with ED to inquire about the status and pressure ED to deliver by the end of August. 4. Utilize their Legislative Director to escalate status requests with ED's Director of Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs to inquire on the status and pressure ED to deliver by the end of August. 5. Schedule a call with Department C-Staff & leadership (e.g., Cardona) 	<p>This is on the right track, indicating the office dedicates itself to meaningful effort and seeking results.</p> <p>Member follows up and leverages responses to work on progression through this commitment and others to check on the status of collaborative efforts between offices and direct efforts with ED.</p>
Hot	6	<p>Any combination of warm action and very warm action. The office commits to signing onto any tangible coalition effort or instrument with other congressional offices to pressure ED.</p>	<p>This is on the premium, indicating the office dedicates itself to meaningful effort and seeking results.</p> <p>Member follows up and leverages responses to work on progression through this commitment and others to check on the status of collaborative efforts between offices and direct efforts with ED.</p>