

February 5, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans of Students
Financial Aid Directors

FROM: William R. Strickland
Director, Student Development Services

SUBJECT: SOLOMON-POMBO AMENDMENT

The Department of Education has issued a clarification of the Solomon-Pombo Amendment in a Dear Colleague Letter (GEN-98-3), a copy of which is attached. The publication explains the obligation of a postsecondary institution to allow official military recruitment personnel to have access to certain student data.

The failure of a college to comply with the requirements of the Solomon-Pombo Amendment could result in the loss of institutional eligibility for certain specified federal student financial assistance funds. The specific funded programs are outlined in the Dear Colleague Letter.

Also attached is an analysis of the Solomon-Pombo Amendment compiled by the American Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO). While this is not a legal document, it represents the best analysis available and is based on AACRAO's direct communications with the Department of Defense which published the interim rule in the Federal Register on April 8, 1997. You will find that a number of significant questions are answered in this analysis.

The Department of Defense has received public comment on the interim rule. As you are aware, there is often an extended period of time between interim and final rules. Therefore, it would be well to establish your college's policies and procedures in light of the interim rule.

You are encouraged to study these documents carefully in order that your college may be prepared to respond appropriately should a military recruiter request access to student data on your campus.

Attachments: GEN-98-3
AACRAO Analysis

pc: Presidents
Dr. Elizabeth L. Johns

CC-98-042
Paper Copy