

**From:** Lauren Blair Aronson <Lauren.Aronson@AEI.org>  
**To:** Soura, ChristianChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov  
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**Subject:** AEI's new state policy brief: Near-term, actionable higher education reforms

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Dear Ms. Soura,

As we embark on fiscal year 2014, I thought you might find this new higher education policy brief of particular interest. In [Taking Charge: A State-Level Agenda for Higher Education Reform](#), AEI's Andrew Kelly and Daniel Lautzenheiser offer state policymakers concrete solutions to the interlocking challenges of producing more graduates and ensuring that those graduates are workforce-ready—all without breaking the bank.

Andrew and Daniel detail eleven actionable higher education reforms that will prime states' human capital engines, and ultimately improve their economic outlooks. The reforms are based on:

- Creating incentives for institutions to enhance student success, become more productive, and try new approaches,
- Measuring and rewarding cost-effectiveness,
- Improving transparency by reporting new data on student outcomes, productivity, and costs in ways the public and prospective students can understand, and
- Encouraging innovation by lowering barriers to entry and freeing existing institutions to experiment.

If you are interested in reading further, I've linked to the full brief [here](#). Also, for your convenience, I can happily send you a "one-pager" that synthesizes the recommendations.

Finally, please let me know if you'd like me to connect you with the Andrew or Daniel.

All the best,  
Lauren

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