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1ST SESSION

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To provide access and assistance to increase college attendance and completion by part-time students.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 24, 2007

Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HARE, Mr. SIRES, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. WATSON, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. LEE, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HONDA, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. HOLDEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. MCGOVERN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To provide access and assistance to increase college attendance and completion by part-time students.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Part-time Student Assistance Act”.

6 (b) REFERENCES.—Except as otherwise expressly
7 provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal

1 is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of,
2 a section or other provision, the reference shall be consid-
3 ered to be made to a section or other provision of the
4 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.).

5 **SEC. 2. SUPPORT FOR WORKING STUDENTS: INCREASES IN**
6 **INCOME PROTECTION ALLOWANCES.**

7 (a) **DEPENDENT STUDENTS.**—Subparagraph (D) of
8 section 475(g)(2) (20 U.S.C. 1087oo(g)(2)) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 “(D) an income protection allowance of
11 \$9,000 (or a successor amount prescribed by
12 the Secretary under section 478);”.

13 (b) **INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITHOUT DEPEND-**
14 **ENTS OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.**—Clause (iv) of section
15 476(b)(1)(A) (20 U.S.C. 1087pp(b)(1)(A)) is amended to
16 read as follows:

17 “(iv) an income protection allowance
18 of \$12,000 (or a successor amount pre-
19 scribed by the Secretary under section
20 478);”.

21 (c) **INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS**
22 **OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.**—Paragraph (4) of section
23 477(b) (20 U.S.C. 1087qq(b)) is amended to read as fol-
24 lows:

1 “(4) INCOME PROTECTION ALLOWANCE.—The
 2 income protection allowance is determined by the fol-
 3 lowing table (or a successor table prescribed by the
 4 Secretary under section 478):

“Income Protection Allowance

Family Size (including student)	Number in College					For each additional subtract:
	1	2	3	4	5	
2	\$17,580	\$15,230	.....	.....	.....	.....
3	20,940	17,610	\$16,260	.....	.....	.....
4	24,950	22,600	20,270	\$17,930	.....	.....
5	28,740	26,390	24,060	21,720	\$19,390	.....
6	32,950	30,610	28,280	25,940	23,610	\$2,330
For each additional add:	3,280	3,280	3,280	3,280	3,280	”.

5 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Paragraph (1) of
 6 section 478(b) (20 U.S.C. 1087rr) is amended to read as
 7 follows:

8 “(1) REVISED TABLES.—

9 “(A) PARENT’S INCOME PROTECTION AL-
 10 LOWANCE.—For each academic year after aca-
 11 demic year 1993–1994, the Secretary shall pub-
 12 lish in the Federal Register a revised table of
 13 income protection allowances for the purpose of
 14 section 475(c)(4). Such revised table shall be
 15 developed by increasing each of the dollar
 16 amounts contained in the table in such section
 17 by a percentage equal to the estimated percent-
 18 age increase in the Consumer Price Index (as
 19 determined by the Secretary) between Decem-

1 ber 1992 and the December next preceding the
2 beginning of such academic year, and rounding
3 the result to the nearest \$10.

4 “(B) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITH DE-
5 PENDENTS OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—For each
6 academic year after academic year 2007–2008,
7 the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Reg-
8 ister a revised table of income protection allow-
9 ances for the purpose of section 477(b)(4).
10 Such revised table shall be developed by in-
11 creasing each of the dollar amounts contained
12 in the table in such section by a percentage
13 equal to the estimated percentage increase in
14 the Consumer Price Index (as determined by
15 the Secretary) between December 2006 and the
16 December next preceding the beginning of such
17 academic year, and rounding the result to the
18 nearest \$10.”.

19 **SEC. 3. EXEMPTING EARNED INCOME CREDITS FROM THE**
20 **CALCULATION OF INCOME.**

21 Section 480(a)(2) (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(a)(2)) is
22 amended by inserting “or section 32” after “section 25A”.

1 **SEC. 4. CHILD CARE MEANS PARENTS IN SCHOOL.**

2 (a) **MINIMUM GRANT.**—Section 419N(b)(2)(B) (20
3 U.S.C. 1070e(b)(2)(B)) is amended by striking “\$10,000”
4 and inserting “\$30,000”.

5 (b) **ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS.**—Section 419N(b)(4) is
6 amended by striking “\$350,000” and inserting
7 “\$250,000”.

8 (c) **INCOME ELIGIBILITY.**—Section 419N(b)(7) is
9 amended by striking “who is eligible to receive” and in-
10 sserting “whose income qualifies for eligibility for”.

11 (d) **PUBLICITY.**—Section 419N(b) is further amend-
12 ed by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

13 “(8) **PUBLICITY.**—The Secretary shall publicize
14 the availability of grants under this section in appro-
15 priate periodicals in addition to publication in the
16 Federal Register, and shall inform appropriate edu-
17 cational organizations of such availability.”.

18 (e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Section
19 419N(g) is amended by striking “\$45,000,000 for fiscal
20 year 1999” and inserting “\$75,000,000 for fiscal year
21 2008”.

22 **SEC. 5. YEAR-ROUND PELL GRANTS.**

23 Section 401 (20 U.S.C. 1070a) is amended by adding
24 at the end the following new subsection:

25 “(k) **YEAR-ROUND PELL GRANTS.**—

1 “(1) PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—The Sec-
2 retary shall establish in accordance with this sub-
3 section a year-round Pell grant pilot program. Any
4 institution of higher education that desires to par-
5 ticipate in the program under this subsection shall
6 submit an application to the Secretary at such time
7 and containing or accompanied by such information
8 and assurances as the Secretary may require. The
9 Secretary may select not more than 200 institutions
10 of higher education for participation in the program.

11 “(2) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—With respect to
12 students enrolled in institutions participating in the
13 program under this subsection, the Secretary is au-
14 thorized—

15 “(A) to award such students two Federal
16 Pell Grants in one calendar year to permit such
17 students to accelerate progress towards their
18 degree or certificate objectives by enrolling in
19 academic programs for 12 months rather than
20 9 months of the year at participating institu-
21 tions; and

22 “(B) to award such two Federal Pell
23 Grants to such students in a total amount up
24 to 133 percent of the maximum Federal Pell

1 Grant under subsection (b)(2)(A) that is appli-
2 cable for the academic year.

3 “(3) CONDITIONS.—An institution submitting
4 an application to participate in the program under
5 this subsection shall—

6 “(A) in the case of an associate’s degree-
7 granting institution, commit to improving the
8 completion rate for the institution by at least
9 10 percent over the period of the pilot grant;
10 and

11 “(B) in the case of a bachelor’s degree-
12 granting institution, commit to improving the
13 graduation rate for the institution by at least
14 50 percent over such period.

15 “(4) TERMINATION; EVALUATION.—The author-
16 ity of the Secretary under this subsection shall cease
17 to be effective on October 1, 2013. Not later than
18 October 1, 2011, the Secretary shall conduct an
19 evaluation of the program under this subsection and
20 submit to the Congress a report on the results of
21 such evaluation.”.

22 **SEC. 6. ADDITIONAL FIPSE PROGRAM.**

23 (a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section—

24 (1) to allow a demonstration program that is
25 strictly monitored by the Department of Education

1 to test creative measures for improving the avail-
2 ability of higher education for part-time students;

3 (2) to provide for increased access for part-time
4 students; and

5 (3) to help determine the most effective assist-
6 ance for part-time students.

7 (b) NEW PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—Section 741(a)
8 (20 U.S.C. 1138(a)) is amended—

9 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph
10 (7);

11 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
12 graph (8) and inserting “; and”; and

13 (3) by adding at the end the following new
14 paragraph:

15 “(9) creating a program to create a holistic ap-
16 proach to addressing the needs of part-time students
17 at not more than 150 associate’s and bachelor’s de-
18 gree-granting institutions that would include grants,
19 leveraging funds from non-Federal sources, com-
20 prehensive child care, and better-tailored remedial
21 course programs.”.

22 (c) NOTIFICATION AND REPORTS.—Section 743 (20
23 U.S.C. 1138b) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing new subsections:

1 “(c) PROCEDURES AND AUTHORIZATION FOR PART-
2 TIME STUDENT PROGRAM.—

3 “(1) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that de-
4 sires to receive a grant under subsection (b)(9) shall
5 submit an application to the Secretary in such man-
6 ner and form, and containing such information and
7 assurances, as the Secretary may reasonably require.

8 “(2) SELECTION PROCEDURES.—The Secretary
9 shall by regulation develop a formal procedure for
10 the submission of applications for grants under sub-
11 section (b)(9) and shall publish in the Federal Reg-
12 ister an announcement of that procedure and the
13 availability of funds under such subsection.

14 “(3) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall evalu-
15 ate the program authorized under subsection (b)(9)
16 on an annual basis. Such evaluations specifically
17 shall review —

18 “(A) the extent to which the institution
19 has met the goals set forth in its application to
20 the Secretary;

21 “(B) the number of students participating
22 in the programs offered, including the progress
23 of such students toward recognized certificates
24 or degrees; and

1 “(C) what changes, if any, in law would fa-
2 cilitate both the participation of part-time stu-
3 dents in higher education and increased gradua-
4 tion rates amongst these students.

5 “(4) SEPARATE AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPRO-
6 PRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appro-
7 priated to carry out the program authorized by sub-
8 section (b)(9), \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2008
9 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the
10 five succeeding fiscal years.”.

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