

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4216

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase support for working students, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 30, 2019

Mr. DELGADO (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. FITZPATRICK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase support for working students, and for other purposes.

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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Strengthening Finan-  
5 cial Aid for Students Act (Strengthening FAFSA)”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCREASING SUPPORT FOR WORKING STUDENTS**  
7 **BY 35 PERCENT.**

8 (a) DEPENDENT STUDENTS.—Section 475(g)(2)(D)  
9 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
10 1087oo(g)(2)(D)) is amended to read as follows:

1 “(D) an income protection allowance (or a  
2 successor amount prescribed by the Secretary  
3 under section 478) of \$9,230 for award year  
4 2020–2021;”.

5 (b) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITHOUT DEPEND-  
6 ENTS OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 476 of such Act  
7 (20 U.S.C. 1087pp) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “award pe-  
9 riod” and inserting “award year”; and

10 (2) by amending subsection (b)(1)(A)(iv) to  
11 read as follows:

12 “(iv) an income protection allowance  
13 (or a successor amount prescribed by the  
14 Secretary under section 478)—

15 “(I) for single or separated stu-  
16 dents, or married students where both  
17 are enrolled pursuant to subsection  
18 (a)(2), of \$14,360 for award year  
19 2020–2021; and

20 “(II) for married students where  
21 one is enrolled pursuant to subsection  
22 (a)(2), of \$23,030 for award year  
23 2020–2021;”.

(c) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS  
OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 477 of such Act (20  
U.S.C. 1087qq) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking “award pe-  
riod” and inserting “award year”; and

(2) by amending subsection (b)(4) to read as  
follows:

“(4) INCOME PROTECTION ALLOWANCE.—The  
income protection allowance is determined by the fol-  
lowing table (or a successor table prescribed by the  
Secretary under section 478), for award year 2020–  
2021:

“Income Protection Allowance						
Family Size	Number in College					
(including student)	1	2	3	4	5	For each additional subtract:
2	\$36,370	\$30,160				\$6,180
3	45,290	39,100	\$32,890			
4	55,920	49,720	43,540	\$37,300		
5	65,990	59,750	53,570	47,360	\$41,180	
6	77,170	70,960	64,790	58,540	52,350	
For each additional add:	8,710					”.

(d) UPDATED TABLES AND AMOUNTS.—Section 478  
of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1087rr) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking subpara-  
graphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For each award year  
after award year 2020–2021, the Secretary

1 shall publish in the Federal Register a revised  
2 table of income protection allowances for the  
3 purpose of sections 475(c)(4) and 477(b)(4),  
4 subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C).

5 “(B) TABLE FOR INDEPENDENT STU-  
6 DENTS.—For each award year after award year  
7 2020–2021, the Secretary shall develop the re-  
8 vised table of income protection allowances by  
9 increasing each of the dollar amounts contained  
10 in the table of income protection allowances  
11 under section 477(b)(4) by a percentage equal  
12 to the estimated percentage increase in the  
13 Consumer Price Index (as determined by the  
14 Secretary for the most recent calendar year  
15 ending prior to the beginning of the award year  
16 for which the determination is being made), and  
17 rounding the result up to the nearest \$10.”;  
18 and

19 (B) in paragraph (2)—

20 (i) in the first sentence, by striking  
21 “academic year after academic year 2007–  
22 2008” and inserting “award year after  
23 award year 2020–2021”; and

24 (ii) in the second sentence, by striking  
25 “shall be developed” and all that follows

1 through the period at the end and insert-  
2 ing “shall be developed for each award  
3 year after award year 2020–2021, by in-  
4 creasing each of the dollar amounts con-  
5 tained in such section for award year  
6 2020–2021 by a percentage equal to the  
7 estimated percentage increase in the Con-  
8 sumer Price Index (as determined by the  
9 Secretary for the most recent calendar  
10 year ending prior to the beginning of the  
11 award year for which the determination is  
12 being made), and rounding the result up to  
13 the nearest \$10.”; and

14 (2) in subsection (e)(1), by striking “academic  
15 year” and inserting “award year”.

16 **SEC. 3. RAISING THE TOTAL SEMESTERS OF FEDERAL PELL**  
17 **GRANT ELIGIBILITY.**

18 Section 401(c)(5)(A) of the Higher Education Act of  
19 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(c)(5)) is amended by striking  
20 “12” each place the term appears and inserting “14”.

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