

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4787

To amend title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to increase the amount of financial support available for working students.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 22, 2019

Mr. BERA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to increase the amount of financial support available for working 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Working Students
5 Act”.

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 108700(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 \$9,010 for academic year
4 2020–2021;”.

5 (b) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITHOUT DEPEND-
6 ENTS OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 476(b)(1)(A)(iv)
7 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
8 1087pp(b)(1)(A)(iv)) is amended to read as follows:

9 “(iv) an income protection allowance
10 (or a successor amount prescribed by the
11 Secretary under section 478)—

12 “(I) for single or separated stu-
13 dents, or married students where both
14 are enrolled pursuant to subsection
15 (a)(2), of \$14,010 for academic year
16 2020–2021; and

17 “(II) for married students where
18 1 is enrolled pursuant to subsection
19 (a)(2), of \$22,460 for academic year
20 2020–2021;”.

21 (c) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS
22 OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 477(b)(4) of the High-
23 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087qq(b)(4)) is
24 amended to read as follows:

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), for academic year
 5 2020–2021:

“Income Protection Allowance

Family Size (including student)	Number in College					For each additional subtract:
	1	2	3	4	5	
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	52,370	
For each additional add:	8,710					”.

6 (d) UPDATED TABLES AND AMOUNTS.—Section
 7 478(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 8 1087rr(b)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraphs
 10 (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For each academic
 12 year after academic year 2020–2021, the Sec-
 13 retary shall publish in the Federal Register a
 14 revised table of income protection allowances
 15 for the purpose of sections 475(c)(4) and
 16 477(b)(4), subject to subparagraphs (B) and
 17 (C).

18 “(B) TABLE FOR INDEPENDENT STU-
 19 DENTS.—For each academic year after aca-

1 demio year 2020–2021, the Secretary shall de-
2 velop the revised table of income protection al-
3 lowances by increasing each of the dollar
4 amounts contained in the table of income pro-
5 tection allowances under section 477(b)(4) by a
6 percentage equal to the estimated percentage
7 increase in the Consumer Price Index (as deter-
8 mined by the Secretary for the most recent cal-
9 endar year ending prior to the beginning of the
10 academic year for which the determination is
11 being made), and rounding the result to the
12 nearest \$10.”; and

13 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “shall be de-
14 veloped” and all that follows through the period at
15 the end and inserting “shall be developed for each
16 academic year after academic year 2020–2021, by
17 increasing each of the dollar amounts contained in
18 such section for academic year 2020–2021 by a per-
19 centage equal to the estimated percentage increase
20 in the Consumer Price Index (as determined by the
21 Secretary for the most recent calendar year ending
22 prior to the beginning of the academic year for
23 which the determination is being made), and round-
24 ing the result to the nearest \$10.”.

1 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section shall take effect beginning on July 1, 2020
3 and shall apply to grant and award determinations made
4 under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
5 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) beginning with the 2020–2021 award
6 year.

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