

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5372

To clarify that employees of safety net health plans are eligible for loan forgiveness under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 9, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself and Ms. SCHRIER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To clarify that employees of safety net health plans are eligible for loan forgiveness under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.

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 “Safety Net Health  
5 Plan Employee Student Loan Forgiveness Fairness Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR EM-**  
7 **PLOYEES OF SAFETY NET HEALTH PLANS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 455(m)(3) of the Higher  
9 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087e(m)(3)) is  
10 amended—

1 (1) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “at an  
2 organization that is a safety net health plan (as such  
3 term is defined in subparagraph (C)),” after  
4 “school-based services,”; and

5 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
6 paragraph:

7 “(C) SAFETY NET HEALTH PLAN.—

8 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘safety  
9 net health plan’ means any entity with net  
10 premiums written for health insurance for  
11 United States health risks that is described  
12 in clause (ii) or (iii) of section 57.2(b)(2)  
13 of title 26, Code of Federal Regulations  
14 (as such section is in effect on October 1,  
15 2019).

16 “(ii) OTHER TERMS DEFINED.—For  
17 the purposes of this subparagraph, the  
18 terms ‘net premiums written’ and ‘United  
19 States health risks’ have the meanings  
20 given such terms in section 57.2 of title  
21 26, Code of Federal Regulations (as such  
22 section is in effect on October 1, 2019).”.

23 (b) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.—In carrying  
24 out the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program under  
25 section 455(m) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20

1 U.S.C. 1087e(m)), with respect to the calculation of the  
2 employment period of a borrower who is or was employed  
3 by a safety net health plan (as defined in such section,  
4 as amended by this Act), and the number of qualifying  
5 monthly payments made by such borrower for the pur-  
6 poses of loan forgiveness under such section, the Secretary  
7 of Education shall include any such employment per-  
8 formed, and any such monthly payments made, after the  
9 date of enactment of the Higher Education Opportunity  
10 Act of 2008 (Public Law 100–15).

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