

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7433

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide student loan
deferment for dislocated military spouses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 30, 2020

Ms. STEFANIK (for herself and Mr. NORCROSS) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide
student loan deferment for dislocated military spouses,
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 “Military Spouse Stu-
5 dent Loan Deferment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDENT LOAN DEFERMENT FOR DISLOCATED**
7 **MILITARY SPOUSES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 455(f) of the Higher Edu-
9 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087e(f)) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as
2 paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and

3 (2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(4) DEFERMENT FOR DISLOCATED MILITARY
6 SPOUSES.—

7 “(A) DURATION AND EFFECT ON PRIN-
8 CIPAL AND INTEREST.—A borrower of a loan
9 made, insured, or guaranteed under this part or
10 part B who meets the requirements of subpara-
11 graph (B) shall be eligible for a deferment for
12 a period of 90 days, during which periodic in-
13 stallments of principal need not be paid, and in-
14 terest shall not accrue.

15 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—A borrower of a loan
16 made, insured, or guaranteed under this part or
17 part B shall be eligible for a deferment under
18 subparagraph (A) if the borrower—

19 “(i) is the spouse of a member of the
20 Armed Forces serving on active duty; and

21 “(ii) has experienced a loss of employ-
22 ment as a result of relocation to accommo-
23 date a permanent change in duty station of
24 such member.

25 “(C) DOCUMENTATION AND APPROVAL.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—A borrower may
2 establish eligibility for a deferment under
3 subparagraph (A) by providing to the Sec-
4 retary—

5 “(I) the documentation described
6 in clause (ii); or

7 “(II) such other documentation
8 as the Secretary determines appro-
9 priate.

10 “(ii) DOCUMENTATION.—The docu-
11 mentation described in this clause is—

12 “(I) evidence that the borrower is
13 the spouse of a member of the Armed
14 Forces serving on active duty;

15 “(II) evidence that a military
16 permanent change of station order
17 was issued to such member; and

18 “(III)(aa) evidence that the bor-
19 rower is eligible for unemployment
20 benefits due to a loss of employment
21 resulting from relocation to accommo-
22 date such permanent change in duty
23 station; or

24 “(bb) a written certification, or
25 an equivalent as approved by the Sec-

1 retary, that the borrower is registered
2 with a public or private employment
3 agency due to a loss of employment
4 resulting from relocation to accommo-
5 date such permanent change in duty
6 station.”.

7 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
8 subsection (a) shall take effect 90 days after the date of
9 the enactment of this Act.

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