

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1581

To remove college cost as a barrier to every student having access to a well-prepared and diverse educator workforce, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 11, 2023

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KAINE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. WARREN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. MURPHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To remove college cost as a barrier to every student having access to a well-prepared and diverse educator workforce, 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 “Diversifying by Invest-  
5 ing in Educators and Students To Improve Outcomes For  
6 Youth Act” or the “Diversify Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE TEACH GRANTS PROGRAM**  
 2 **UNDER THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF**  
 3 **1965.**

4 Subpart 9 of part A of title IV of the Higher Edu-  
 5 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g et seq.) is amend-  
 6 ed—

7 (1) in section 420L(1), by inserting “(except  
 8 that such term does not include an institution de-  
 9 scribed in subsection (a)(1)(A) of section 102)” after  
 10 “102”;

11 (2) in section 420M—

12 (A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking  
 13 “\$4,000” and inserting “\$8,000”;

14 (B) in subsection (b)(3), by striking the  
 15 second and third sentences and inserting the  
 16 following: “Any disbursement allowed to be  
 17 made by crediting the teacher candidate’s ac-  
 18 count shall be used for the full cost of attend-  
 19 ance (as defined in section 472).”; and

20 (C) in subsection (d)—

21 (i) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking  
 22 “\$16,000” and inserting “\$32,000”; and

23 (ii) in paragraph (2), by striking  
 24 “\$8,000” and inserting “\$16,000”; and

25 (3) in section 420N—

26 (A) in subsection (b)—

1 (i) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3);

2 (ii) by striking “an agreement” and  
3 all that follows through “the applicant  
4 will” and inserting “an agreement by the  
5 applicant that the applicant will”;

6 (iii) by redesignating subparagraphs  
7 (A) through (E) as paragraphs (1) through  
8 (5), respectively, and moving the margins  
9 of such paragraphs (as so redesignated) 2  
10 ems to the left;

11 (iv) by redesignating clauses (i)  
12 through (vii) as subparagraphs (A)  
13 through (G), respectively, and moving the  
14 margins of such subparagraphs (as so re-  
15 designated) 2 ems to the left;

16 (v) in paragraph (2), as redesignated  
17 by clause (iii), by striking “teach in a  
18 school described in section 465(a)(2)(A)”  
19 and inserting “teach in a school described  
20 in section 465(a)(2)(A) or teach in a high-  
21 need early education program”; and

22 (vi) in paragraph (3), as redesignated  
23 by clause (iii)—

1 (I) in subparagraph (F), as re-  
2 designated by clause (iv), by striking  
3 “or” after the semicolon;

4 (II) in subparagraph (G), as re-  
5 designated by clause (iv), by inserting  
6 “or” after the semicolon; and

7 (III) by adding at the end the  
8 following:

9 “(H) early childhood education;”; and

10 (B) by striking subsection (c) and insert-  
11 ing the following:

12 “(c) CERTIFICATE.—Upon the completion of the  
13 service requirement in subsection (b), the Secretary shall  
14 send to the recipient of a grant under this subpart an elec-  
15 tronic certificate documenting the completion of such serv-  
16 ice.”;

17 (C) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-  
18 section (e);

19 (D) by inserting after subsection (c) the  
20 following:

21 “(d) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary may not institute  
22 or create a monetary penalty for failure or refusal to com-  
23 plete the service requirement under subsection (b).”; and

24 (E) in subsection (e), as redesignated by  
25 subparagraph (C)—

1 (i) by striking “subsection  
2 (b)(1)(C)(vii)” and inserting “subsection  
3 (b)(3)(G)”; and

4 (ii) by striking “subsection (b)(1)”  
5 and inserting “subsection (b)”.

6 **SEC. 3. AMENDMENT TO THE BALANCED BUDGET AND DEF-**  
7 **ICIT CONTROL ACT.**

8 (a) EXEMPTION OF PROGRAM FROM SEQUESTRA-  
9 TION.—Section 255(h) of the Balanced Budget and Emer-  
10 gency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 905(h)) is  
11 amended by inserting after the item relating to “Tem-  
12 porary Assistance for Needy Families (75–1552–0–1–  
13 609).” the following new item:

14 “TEACH Grants under subpart 9 of part A of  
15 title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.”.

16 (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by this  
17 section shall apply to any sequestration order issued under  
18 the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act  
19 of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.) on or after the date of  
20 enactment of this Act.

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