

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2462

To provide additional assistance to recipients of Federal Pell Grants who are pursuing programs of study in engineering, mathematics, science, or foreign languages.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 20, 2004

Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. ALLEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To provide additional assistance to recipients of Federal Pell Grants who are pursuing programs of study in engineering, mathematics, science, or foreign languages.

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 “21st Century Federal
5 Pell Grant Plus Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL PELL GRANTS WHO ARE**
2 **PURSUING PROGRAMS OF STUDY IN ENGI-**
3 **NEERING, MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, OR FOR-**
4 **EIGN LANGUAGES.**

5 Section 401(b)(2) of the Higher Education Act of
6 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(b)(2)) is amended by adding at
7 the end the following:

8 “(C)(i) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A) and sub-
9 ject to clause (iii), in the case of a student who is eligible
10 under this part and who is pursuing a degree with a major
11 in, or a certificate or program of study relating to, engi-
12 neering, mathematics, science (such as physics, chemistry,
13 or computer science), or a foreign language, described in
14 a list developed or updated under clause (ii), the amount
15 of the Federal Pell Grant shall be the amount calculated
16 for the student under subparagraph (A) for the academic
17 year involved, multiplied by 2.

18 “(ii)(I) The Secretary, in consultation with the Sec-
19 retary of Defense, the Secretary of the Department of
20 Homeland Security, and the Director of the National
21 Science Foundation, shall develop, update not less than
22 once every 2 years, and publish in the Federal Register,
23 a list of engineering, mathematics, and science degrees,
24 majors, certificates, or programs that if pursued by a stu-
25 dent, may enable the student to receive the increased Fed-
26 eral Pell Grant amount under clause (i). In developing and

1 updating the list the Secretaries and Director shall con-
2 sider the following:

3 “(aa) The current engineering, mathematics,
4 and science needs of the United States with respect
5 to national security, homeland security, and eco-
6 nomic security.

7 “(bb) Whether institutions of higher education
8 in the United States are currently producing enough
9 graduates with degrees to meet the national security,
10 homeland security, and economic security needs of
11 the United States.

12 “(cc) The future expected workforce needs of
13 the United States required to help ensure the Na-
14 tion’s national security, homeland security, and eco-
15 nomic security.

16 “(dd) Whether institutions of higher education
17 in the United States are expected to produce enough
18 graduates with degrees to meet the future national
19 security, homeland security, and economic security
20 needs of the United States.

21 “(II) The Secretary, in consultation with the Sec-
22 retary of Defense, the Secretary of the Department of
23 Homeland Security, and the Secretary of State, shall de-
24 velop, update not less than once every 2 years, and publish
25 in the Federal Register, a list of foreign language degrees,

1 majors, certificates, or programs that if pursued by a stu-
2 dent, may enable the student to receive the increased Fed-
3 eral Pell Grant amount under clause (i). In developing and
4 updating the list the Secretaries shall consider the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(aa) The foreign language needs of the United
7 States with respect to national security, homeland
8 security, and economic security.

9 “(bb) Whether institutions of higher education
10 in the United States are currently producing enough
11 graduates with degrees to meet the national security,
12 homeland security, and economic security needs of
13 the United States.

14 “(cc) The future expected workforce needs of
15 the United States required to help ensure the Na-
16 tion’s national security, homeland security, and eco-
17 nomic security.

18 “(dd) Whether institutions of higher education
19 in the United States are expected to produce enough
20 graduates with degrees to meet the future national
21 security, homeland security, and economic security
22 needs of the United States.

23 “(iii) Each student who received an increased Federal
24 Pell Grant amount under clause (i) to pursue a degree,
25 major, certificate, or program described in a list published

1 under subclause (I) or (II) of clause (ii) shall continue
2 to be eligible for the increased Federal Pell Grant amount
3 in subsequent academic years if the degree, major, certifi-
4 cate, or program, respectively, is subsequently removed
5 from the list.

6 “(iv)(I) If a student who received an increased Fed-
7 eral Pell Grant amount under clause (i) changes the stu-
8 dent’s course of study to a degree, major, certificate, or
9 program that is not included in a list described in clause
10 (ii), then the Secretary shall reduce the amount of Federal
11 Pell Grant assistance the student is eligible to receive
12 under this section for subsequent academic years by an
13 amount equal to the difference between the total amount
14 the student received under this subparagraph and the
15 total amount the student would have received under this
16 section if this subparagraph had not been applied.

17 “(II) The Secretary shall reduce the amount of Fed-
18 eral Pell Grant assistance the student is eligible to receive
19 in subsequent academic years by dividing the total amount
20 to be reduced under subclause (I) for the student by the
21 number of years the student received an increased Federal
22 Pell Grant amount under clause (i), and deducting the re-
23 sult from the amount of Federal Pell Grant assistance the
24 student is eligible to receive under this section for a num-
25 ber of subsequent academic years equal to the number of

- 1 academic years the student received an increased Federal
- 2 Pell Grant amount under clause (i).”.

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