

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 242

To restore access to year-round Federal Pell Grants.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2015

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. MOORE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. VELA, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. HONDA, Mr. SIRES, Ms. LEE, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. NOLAN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. FARR, Mr. RUSH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. WILSON of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To restore access to year-round Federal Pell Grants.

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 “Affordability for Con-
5 stant and Continual Education to Enhance Student Suc-
6 cess Act” or the “All-Year ACCESS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. YEAR-ROUND FEDERAL PELL GRANT STUDENTS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401(b) of the Higher
3 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(b)) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 “(8) YEAR-ROUND FEDERAL PELL GRANT STU-
6 DENTS.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any
8 other provision of this subsection, the Secretary
9 shall award, to an eligible student who meets
10 the requirements in subparagraph (B) who has
11 received a Federal Pell Grant for an award year
12 and is enrolled in a program of study for one
13 or more additional payment periods during the
14 same award year that are not otherwise covered
15 by the student’s Federal Pell Grant, an addi-
16 tional Federal Pell Grant for the additional
17 payment periods.

18 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to be eligible
19 to receive the additional Federal Pell Grant for
20 an award year that is described in subpara-
21 graph (A), a student shall, in addition to meet-
22 ing all eligibility requirements for the receipt of
23 a Federal Pell Grant—

24 “(i) be enrolled on at least a half-time
25 basis for a period of more than one aca-
26 demic year, or more than 2 semesters or

1 the equivalent of 2 semesters, during a sin-
2 gle award year; and

3 “(ii) be enrolled in a program of in-
4 struction at an institution of higher edu-
5 cation for which the institution awards an
6 associate or baccalaureate degree or a cer-
7 tificate.

8 “(C) AMOUNTS.—In the case of a student
9 receiving more than one Federal Pell Grant in
10 a single award year under subparagraph (A),
11 the total amount of the Federal Pell Grants
12 awarded to such student for the award year
13 shall not exceed an amount equal to 150 per-
14 cent of the total maximum Federal Pell Grant
15 for such award year calculated in accordance
16 with paragraph (7)(C)(iv)(II).

17 “(D) INCLUSION IN DURATION LIMIT.—
18 Any period of study covered by a Federal Pell
19 Grant awarded under subparagraph (A) shall
20 be included in determining a student’s duration
21 limit under subsection (c)(5).

22 “(9) CROSSOVER PERIOD.—In any case where
23 an eligible student is receiving a Federal Pell Grant
24 for a payment period that spans 2 award years, the
25 Secretary shall allow the eligible institution in which

1 the student is enrolled to determine the award year
2 to which the additional period shall be assigned.”.

3 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
4 subsection (a) shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

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