

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2065

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase the income protection allowances.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 22, 2015

Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. REED, and Mr. BROWN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase the income protection allowances.

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 “Working Student Act
5 of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. SUPPORT FOR WORKING STUDENTS.**

7 (a) DEPENDENT STUDENTS.—Section 475(g)(2)(D)
8 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
9 1087oo(g)(2)(D)) is amended to read as follows:

1 “(D) an income protection allowance (or a
2 successor amount prescribed by the Secretary
3 under section 478) of \$8,519 for academic year
4 2016–2017;”.

5 (b) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITHOUT DEPEND-
6 ENTS OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 476(b)(1)(A)(iv)
7 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
8 1087pp(b)(1)(A)(iv)) is amended to read as follows:

9 “(iv) an income protection allowance
10 (or a successor amount prescribed by the
11 Secretary under section 478)—

12 “(I) for single or separated stu-
13 dents, or married students where both
14 are enrolled pursuant to subsection
15 (a)(2), of \$13,244 for academic year
16 2016–2017; and

17 “(II) for married students where
18 1 is enrolled pursuant to subsection
19 (a)(2), of \$21,222 for academic year
20 2016–2017;”.

21 (c) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS
22 OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 477(b)(4) of the High-
23 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087qq(b)(4)) is
24 amended to read as follows:

1 “(4) INCOME PROTECTION ALLOWANCE.—The
 2 income protection allowance is determined by the fol-
 3 lowing table (or a successor table prescribed by the
 4 Secretary under section 478), for academic year
 5 2016–2017:

“Income Protection Allowance

Family Size (including student)	Number in College					For each additional subtract:
	1	2	3	4	5	
2	\$33,534	\$27,797				\$4,230
3	41,742	36,045	\$30,308			
4	51,543	45,833	40,122	\$34,385		
5	60,831	55,080	49,370	43,659	\$37,949	
6	71,321	65,408	59,724	53,960	48,276	
For each additional add:	5,950					”.

6 (d) UPDATED TABLES AND AMOUNTS.—Section
 7 478(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 8 1087rr(b)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraphs
 10 (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For each academic
 12 year after academic year 2016–2017, the Sec-
 13 retary shall publish in the Federal Register a
 14 revised table of income protection allowances
 15 for the purpose of sections 475(c)(4) and
 16 477(b)(4), subject to subparagraphs (B) and
 17 (C).

18 “(B) TABLE FOR INDEPENDENT STU-
 19 DENTS.—For each academic year after aca-

1 demio year 2016–2017, the Secretary shall de-
2 velop the revised table of income protection al-
3 lowances by increasing each of the dollar
4 amounts contained in the table of income pro-
5 tection allowances under section 477(b)(4) by a
6 percentage equal to the estimated percentage
7 increase in the Consumer Price Index (as deter-
8 mined by the Secretary) between December
9 2014 and the December next preceding the be-
10 ginning of such academic year, and rounding
11 the result to the nearest \$10.”; and

12 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “shall be de-
13 veloped” and all that follows through the period at
14 the end and inserting “shall be developed for each
15 academic year after academic year 2016–2017, by
16 increasing each of the dollar amounts contained in
17 such section for academic year 2016–2017 by a per-
18 centage equal to the estimated percentage increase
19 in the Consumer Price Index (as determined by the
20 Secretary) between December 2014 and the Decem-
21 ber next preceding the beginning of such academic
22 year, and rounding the result to the nearest \$10.”.

23 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
24 this section shall be effective on July 1, 2016.

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