

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2490

To amend title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to increase the amount of financial support available for working students.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 2017

Mr. BERA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

---

## A BILL

To amend title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to increase the amount of financial support available for working students.

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 Students  
5 Act”.

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

7 **BY 35 PERCENT.**

8 (a) DEPENDENT STUDENTS.—Section 475(g)(2)(D)  
9 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
10 108700(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 \$9,010 for academic year  
4           2018–2019;”.

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 \$14,010 for academic year  
16                              2018–2019; and

17                               “(II) for married students where  
18                              1 is enrolled pursuant to subsection  
19                              (a)(2), of \$22,460 for academic year  
20                              2018–2019;”.

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           2018–2019:

“Income Protection Allowance

| Family<br>Size<br><br>(including<br>student) | Number in College |          |          |          |          | For each<br>additional<br>subtract: |
|--|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------------------------|
|  | 1                 | 2        | 3        | 4        | 5        |                                     |
| 2  | \$35,470          | \$29,410 |          |          |          | \$6,030                             |
| 3  | 44,170            | 38,130   | \$32,070 |          |          |                                     |
| 4  | 54,540            | 45,490   | 42,450   | \$36,370 |          |                                     |
| 5  | 64,360            | 58,280   | 52,240   | 46,190   | \$40,160 |                                     |
| 6  | 75,260            | 69,210   | 63,190   | 57,090   | 51,070   |                                     |
| For each<br>additional<br>add:               | 8,500             |          |          |          |          | ”.                                  |

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 2018–2019, 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 2018–2019, 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 for the most recent cal-  
9           endar year ending prior to the beginning of the  
10          academic year for which the determination is  
11          being made), and rounding the result to the  
12          nearest \$10.”; and

13          (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “shall be de-  
14          veloped” and all that follows through the period at  
15          the end and inserting “shall be developed for each  
16          academic year after academic year 2018–2019, by  
17          increasing each of the dollar amounts contained in  
18          such section for academic year 2018–2019 by a per-  
19          centage equal to the estimated percentage increase  
20          in the Consumer Price Index (as determined by the  
21          Secretary for the most recent calendar year ending  
22          prior to the beginning of the academic year for  
23          which the determination is being made), and round-  
24          ing the result to the nearest \$10.”.

1       (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 this section shall take effect beginning on July 1, 2018,  
3 and shall apply to grant and award determinations made  
4 under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
5 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) beginning with the 2018–2019 award  
6 year.

○