

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3096

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for a percentage of student loan forgiveness for public service employment, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 4, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California (for himself, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. WELCH, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. RUSH, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. SOTO, Mr. RYAN, Ms. HAALAND, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. DELBENE, and Ms. PINGREE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for a percentage of student loan forgiveness for public service employment, 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 “Strengthening Loan
5 Forgiveness for Public Servants Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM.**

2 Section 455(m) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
3 (20 U.S.C. 1087e(m)) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding
5 subparagraph (A), by inserting “, except as provided
6 in paragraph (5),” after “on any eligible Federal Di-
7 rect Loan not in default”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(5) LOAN CANCELLATION FOR NEW LOANS.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning after the
11 date of enactment of the Strengthening Loan
12 Forgiveness for Public Servants Act, after the
13 conclusion of each employment period in a pub-
14 lic service job, as described in subparagraph
15 (B), the Secretary shall cancel the percent spec-
16 ified in such subparagraph of the total amount
17 due on any eligible Federal Direct Loan made
18 after the date of enactment of the Strengthen-
19 ing Loan Forgiveness for Public Servants Act
20 for a borrower who is employed in such public
21 service job and submits an employment certifi-
22 cation form described in subparagraph (C).

23 “(B) PERCENT AMOUNT.—The percent of
24 a loan that shall be canceled under subpara-
25 graph (A) is as follows:

1 “(i) In the case of a borrower who
2 completes 2 years of employment in a pub-
3 lic service job, 15 percent of the total
4 amount due on the eligible Federal Direct
5 Loan on the date the borrower commenced
6 employment in such public service job.

7 “(ii) In the case of a borrower who
8 completes 4 years of employment in a pub-
9 lic service job, 15 percent of the total
10 amount due on the eligible Federal Direct
11 Loan on the date the borrower commenced
12 employment in such public service job.

13 “(iii) In the case of a borrower who
14 completes 6 years of employment in a pub-
15 lic service job, 20 percent of the total
16 amount due on the eligible Federal Direct
17 Loan on the date the borrower commenced
18 employment in such public service job.

19 “(iv) In the case of a borrower who
20 completes 8 years of employment in a pub-
21 lic service job, 20 percent of the total
22 amount due on the eligible Federal Direct
23 Loan on the date the borrower commenced
24 employment in such public service job.

1 “(v) In the case of a borrower who
2 completes 10 years of employment in a
3 public service job, 30 percent of the total
4 amount due on the eligible Federal Direct
5 Loan on the date the borrower commenced
6 employment in such public service job.

7 “(C) EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATION
8 FORM.—

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In order to receive
10 loan cancellation under this paragraph, a
11 borrower shall submit to the Secretary an
12 employment certification form that is de-
13 veloped by the Secretary and includes self-
14 certification of employment and a separate
15 part for employer certification that indi-
16 cates the dates of employment.

17 “(ii) DEFERMENT.—If a borrower
18 submits to the Secretary the employment
19 certification form described in clause (i),
20 during the period in which the borrower is
21 employed in a public service job for which
22 loan cancellation is eligible under this
23 paragraph, the borrower’s eligible Federal
24 Direct Loan shall be placed in deferment.

1 “(D) INTEREST CANCELED.—If a portion
2 of a loan is canceled under this paragraph for
3 any year, the entire amount of interest on such
4 loan that accrues for such year shall be can-
5 celed.”.

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