

“(c) SATISFACTORY PROGRESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of subsection (a)(3), a student is maintaining satisfactory progress if—

“(A) the institution at which the student is in attendance reviews the progress of the student at the end of each academic year, or its equivalent, as determined by the institution; and

“(B) the student has at least a cumulative C average or its equivalent, or academic standing consistent with the requirements for graduation, as determined by the institution, at the end of the second such academic year.

“(2) SPECIAL RULE.—Whenever a student fails to meet the eligibility requirements of subsection (a)(3) as a result of the application of this subsection and subsequent to that failure the student has academic standing consistent with the requirements for graduation, as determined by the institution, for any grading period, the student may, subject to this subsection, again be eligible under subsection (a)(3) for a grant under this subpart.

“(3) WAIVER.—Any institution of higher education at which the student is in attendance may waive paragraph (1) or (2) for undue hardship based on—

“(A) the death of a relative of the student;

“(B) the personal injury or illness of the student; or

“(C) special circumstances as determined by the institution.

“(d) STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATES.—In order for a student who does not have a certificate of graduation from a school providing secondary education, or the recognized equivalent of the certificate, to be eligible for any assistance under this subpart, the student shall meet either 1 of the following standards:

“(1) EXAMINATION.—The student shall take an independently administered examination and shall achieve a score, specified by the Secretary, demonstrating that the student can benefit from the education or training being offered. The examination shall be approved by the Secretary on the basis of compliance with such standards for development, administration, and scoring as the Secretary may prescribe in regulations.

“(2) DETERMINATION.—The student shall be determined as having the ability to benefit from the education or training in accordance with such process as the State shall prescribe. Any such process described or approved by a State for the purposes of this section shall be effective 6 months after the date of submission to the Secretary unless the Secretary disapproves the process. In determining whether to approve or disapprove the process, the Secretary shall take into account the effectiveness of the process in enabling students without secondary school diplomas or the recognized equivalent to benefit from the instruction offered by institutions utilizing the process, and shall also take into account the cultural diversity, economic circumstances, and educational preparation of the populations served by the institutions.

“(e) SPECIAL RULE FOR CORRESPONDENCE COURSES.—A student shall not be eligible to receive a grant under this subpart for a correspondence course unless the course is part of a program leading to an associate, bachelor, or graduate degree.

“(f) COURSES OFFERED THROUGH TELECOMMUNICATIONS.—

“(1) RELATION TO CORRESPONDENCE COURSES.—A student enrolled in a course of instruction at an eligible institution of higher education (other than an institute or school that meets the definition in section 521(4)(C) of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act (20

U.S.C. 2471(4)(C))) that is offered in whole or in part through telecommunications and leads to a recognized associate, bachelor, or graduate degree conferred by the institution shall not be considered to be enrolled in correspondence courses unless the total amount of telecommunications and correspondence courses at the institution equals or exceeds 50 percent of the courses.

“(2) RESTRICTION OR REDUCTIONS OF FINANCIAL AID.—A student's eligibility to receive a grant under this subpart may be reduced if a financial aid officer determines under the discretionary authority provided in section 479A that telecommunications instruction results in a substantially reduced cost of attendance to the student.

“(3) DEFINITION.—For the purposes of this subsection, the term ‘telecommunications’ means the use of television, audio, or computer transmission, including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, computer conferencing, or video cassettes or discs, except that the term does not include a course that is delivered using video cassette or disc recordings at the institution and that is not delivered in person to other students of that institution.

“(g) STUDY ABROAD.—Nothing in this subpart shall be construed to limit or otherwise prohibit access to study abroad programs approved by the home institution at which a student is enrolled. An otherwise eligible student who is engaged in a program of study abroad approved for academic credit by the home institution at which the student is enrolled shall be eligible to receive a grant under this subpart, without regard to whether the study abroad program is required as part of the student's degree program.

“(h) VERIFICATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Commissioner of Social Security, shall verify any social security number provided by a student to an eligible institution under subsection (a)(5)(B) and shall enforce the following conditions:

“(1) PENDING VERIFICATION.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), an institution shall not deny, reduce, delay, or terminate a student's eligibility for assistance under this subpart because social security number verification is pending.

“(2) DENIAL OR TERMINATION.—If there is a determination by the Secretary that the social security number provided to an eligible institution by a student is incorrect, the institution shall deny or terminate the student's eligibility for any grant under this subpart until such time as the student provides documented evidence of a social security number that is determined by the institution to be correct.

“(3) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to permit the Secretary to take any compliance, disallowance, penalty, or other regulatory action against—

“(A) any institution of higher education with respect to any error in a social security number, unless the error was a result of fraud on the part of the institution; or

“(B) any student with respect to any error in a social security number, unless the error was a result of fraud on the part of the student.”

Subtitle D—Immunity

**SEC. 1041. GENERAL IMMUNITY FOR TOBACCO PRODUCERS AND TOBACCO WAREHOUSE OWNERS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a participating tobacco producer, tobacco-related growers association, or tobacco warehouse owner or employee may not be subject to liability in any Federal or State court for any cause of action resulting from the failure of any tobacco product man-

ufacturer, distributor, or retailer to comply with the National Tobacco Policy and Youth Smoking Reduction Act.

Subtitle E—Resolution of Conflict with Title XV

**SEC. 1051. TITLE XV NULL AND VOID.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, title XV shall have no force or effect.

MINIDOKA PROJECT ACT OF 1998

CRAIG AMENDMENT NO. 2698

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. CRAIG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 538) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain facilities of the Minidoka project to the Burley Irrigation District, and for other purposes; as follows:

(1) Paragraph 1(b)(1) of the Committee amendment is amended by deleting “transmission lines,” and by deleting “(including the electric transmission lines used to transmit electric power for the operation of the pumping facilities of the Division and related purposes for which the allocable construction costs have been fully repaid by Burley)”.

(2) Paragraph 1(c)(1) of the Committee amendment is modified to read as follows:

“(1) TRANSFER.—(A) Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), the Secretary shall transfer to Burley, through an agreement among Burley, the Minidoka Irrigation district, and the Secretary, in accordance with and subject to the law of the State of Idaho, all natural flow, waste, seepage, return flow, and groundwater rights held in the name of the United States—

(1) for the benefit of the Minidoka Project or specifically for the Burley Irrigation District; and

(2) that are for use on lands within the Burley Irrigation District; and

(3) which are set forth in contracts between the United States and Burley or in the decree of June 20, 1913 of the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District of the State of Idaho, in and for the County of Twin Falls, in the case of *Twin Falls Canal Company v. Charles N. Foster, et al.*, and commonly referred to as the “Foster decree”.

“(B) Any rights that are presently held for the benefit of lands within both the Minidoka Irrigation District and the Burley Irrigation District shall be allotted in such manner so as to neither enlarge nor diminish the respective rights of either district in such water rights as described in contracts between Burley and the United States.

“(C) The transfer of water rights in accordance with this paragraph shall not impair the integrated operation of the Minidoka Project, affect any other adjudicated rights, or results in any adverse impact on any other project water user.”

NATIONAL TOBACCO POLICY AND YOUTH SMOKING REDUCTION ACT

KERREY AMENDMENTS NOS. 2699–2700

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. KERREY submitted two amendments intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 1415, supra; as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 2699

At the end of subtitle D of title XV, add the following: