

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6282

To amend title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide program eligibility for distance education programs offered by foreign institutions of higher education.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 21, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER (for himself and Mr. SCHNEIDER) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide program eligibility for distance education programs offered by foreign institutions of higher education.

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 “Providing Distance
5 Education for Foreign Institutions Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS**
2 **OFFERED BY FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS OF**
3 **HIGHER EDUCATION.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 481(b) of the Higher
5 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1088(b)) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraph (4) as para-
7 graph (5); and

8 (2) by inserting after paragraph (3), the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(4)(A) An otherwise eligible program that is offered
11 by a foreign institution and is offered in part through dis-
12 tance education is eligible for the purposes of this title
13 if—

14 “(i) not more than 12.5 percent of such pro-
15 gram consists of courses offered principally through
16 distance education;

17 “(ii) the foreign institution has been evaluated
18 and determined by an outside oversight entity, such
19 as an accrediting agency or association or govern-
20 ment entity, to have the capability to effectively de-
21 liver distance education programs; and

22 “(iii) the students receiving aid under this title
23 are physically present in the country where the for-
24 eign institution is located during the distance edu-
25 cation instruction.

1 “(B) In calculating the percentage of a program of-
2 fered through distance education for purposes of clause
3 (i) of subparagraph (A), any course that is part of such
4 a program that requires a student’s regular in-person at-
5 tendance for more than 50 percent of the instruction, but
6 also includes one or more distance education components
7 as part of the course, shall not be considered to be offered
8 principally through distance education.”.

9 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION.—The
10 amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on
11 the date of enactment of this Act, and shall apply with
12 respect to the first semester (or the equivalent) that begins
13 after such date, but not earlier than 3 months after such
14 date.

15 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 83002(b)
16 of Public Law 119–21 is amended by amending paragraph
17 (1) to read as follows:

18 “(1) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), and
19 (5) as paragraphs (4), (5), and (6), respectively;
20 and”.

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