An Act

To continue favorable treatment for need-based educational aid under the antitrust laws.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Need-Based Educational Aid Antitrust Protection Act of 1997".

SEC. 2. CONTINUATION OF FAVORABLE TREATMENT FOR NEED-BASED EDUCATIONAL AID UNDER THE ANTITRUST LAWS.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 568 of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (15 U.S.C. 1 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the heading, by striking "TEMPORARY"; and

(B) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

"(4) to exchange through an independent third party, before awarding need-based financial aid to any of such students who is commonly admitted to the institutions of higher education involved, data submitted by the student so admitted, the student's family, or a financial institution on behalf of the student or the student's family relating to assets, liabilities, income, expenses, the number of family members, and the number of the student's siblings in college, if each of such institutions of higher education is permitted to retrieve such data only once with respect to the student."; and

(2) in subsection (d), by striking "September 30, 1997" and inserting "September 30, 2001".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect immediately before September 30, 1997.

Approved September 17, 1997.