

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1233

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief to middle income families who are struggling to pay for college, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide significantly increased financial aid for needy students, provide universal access to postsecondary education, reduce student loan costs while improving student loan benefits, to streamline the Federal Family Education Loan Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 8, 1997

Mr. CLAY (for himself and Mr. RANGEL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief to middle income families who are struggling to pay for college, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide significantly increased financial aid for needy students, provide universal access to postsecondary education, reduce student loan costs while improving student loan benefits, to streamline the Federal Family Education Loan Program, 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 “Hope and Opportunity
 5 for Postsecondary Education Act of 1997”.

6 **TITLE I—TAX PROVISIONS**

7 **SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE; AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.**

8 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This title may be cited as the
 9 “Higher Education Tax Incentive Act of 1997”.

10 (b) **AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.**—Except as other-
 11 wise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amend-
 12 ment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment
 13 to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference
 14 shall be considered to be made to a section or other provi-
 15 sion of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

16 **SEC. 102. CREDIT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION EXPENSES.**

17 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subpart A of part IV of sub-
 18 chapter A of chapter 1 (relating to nonrefundable personal
 19 credits) is amended by inserting after section 23 the fol-
 20 lowing new section:

21 **“SEC. 24. HIGHER EDUCATION TUITION AND FEES.**

22 “(a) **ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.**—In the case of an in-
 23 dividual, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax
 24 imposed by this chapter for the taxable year the amount
 25 of qualified higher education expenses paid by the tax-

1 payer during such taxable year for education furnished
2 during any academic period beginning in such year.

3 “(b) LIMITATIONS.—

4 “(1) DOLLAR LIMITATION.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount allowed
6 as a credit under subsection (a) for any taxable
7 year with respect to the qualified higher edu-
8 cation expenses of any 1 individual shall not ex-
9 ceed \$1,500.

10 “(B) REDUCTION FOR OTHER NON-
11 TAXABLE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—

12 “(i) IN GENERAL.—If any nontaxable
13 Federal assistance is allocable to any aca-
14 demic period, the dollar amount applicable
15 under subparagraph (A) for the taxable
16 year in which such period begins shall be
17 reduced by the amount of such assistance.

18 “(ii) NONTAXABLE FEDERAL ASSIST-
19 ANCE.—For purposes of clause (i), the
20 term ‘nontaxable Federal assistance’
21 means any scholarship or grant provided
22 by the Federal Government which is ex-
23 empt from tax under this chapter by rea-
24 son of section 117 or any other Federal
25 law. Such term shall not include any bene-

fit described in section 480(c)(2) of the
Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
1087vv(c)(2)), as in effect on the date of
enactment of this section.

“(2) CREDIT ALLOWED FOR ONLY 2 TAXABLE
YEARS.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection
(a) for a taxable year with respect to the qualified
higher education expenses of an individual unless the
taxpayer elects to have this section apply with re-
spect to such individual for such year. An election
under this paragraph shall not take effect with re-
spect to an individual for any taxable year if an elec-
tion under this paragraph (by the taxpayer or any
other individual) is in effect with respect to such in-
dividual for any 2 prior taxable years.

“(3) CREDIT ALLOWED FOR YEAR ONLY IF IN-
DIVIDUAL IS AT LEAST $\frac{1}{2}$ TIME STUDENT FOR POR-
TION OF YEAR.—No credit shall be allowed under
subsection (a) for a taxable year with respect to the
qualified higher education expenses of an individual
unless such individual is an eligible student for at
least one academic period which begins during such
year.

“(4) CREDIT ALLOWED ONLY FOR FIRST 2
YEARS OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.—No credit

1 shall be allowed under subsection (a) for a taxable
2 year with respect to the qualified higher education
3 expenses of an individual if the individual has com-
4 pleted (before the beginning of such taxable year)
5 the first 2 years of postsecondary education at an
6 institution of higher education.

7 “(c) LIMITATION BASED ON MODIFIED ADJUSTED
8 GROSS INCOME.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount which would
10 (but for this subsection) be taken into account under
11 subsection (a) for the taxable year shall be reduced
12 (but not below zero) by the amount determined
13 under paragraph (2).

14 “(2) AMOUNT OF REDUCTION.—The amount
15 determined under this paragraph is the amount
16 which bears the same ratio to the amount which
17 would be so taken into account as—

18 “(A) the excess of—

19 “(i) the taxpayer’s modified adjusted
20 gross income for such taxable year, over

21 “(ii) \$50,000 (\$80,000 in the case of
22 a joint return), bears to

23 “(B) \$20,000.

24 “(3) MODIFIED ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—

25 The term ‘modified adjusted gross income’ means

1 the adjusted gross income of the taxpayer for the
2 taxable year—

3 “(A) determined without regard to section
4 221, and

5 “(B) increased by any amount excluded
6 from gross income under section 911, 931, or
7 933.

8 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

9 “(1) QUALIFIED HIGHER EDUCATION EX-
10 PENSES.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified
12 higher education expenses’ means tuition and
13 fees required for the enrollment or attendance
14 of—

15 “(i) the taxpayer,

16 “(ii) the taxpayer’s spouse, or

17 “(iii) any dependent of the taxpayer
18 with respect to whom the taxpayer is al-
19 lowed a deduction under section 151,
20 at an institution of higher education.

21 “(B) EXCEPTION FOR EDUCATION INVOLV-
22 ING SPORTS, ETC.—Such term does not include
23 expenses with respect to any course or other
24 education involving sports, games, or hobbies,

1 unless such course or other education is part of
2 the individual's degree program.

3 “(C) EXCEPTION FOR NONACADEMIC
4 FEES.—Such term does not include student ac-
5 tivity fees, athletic fees, insurance expenses, or
6 other expenses unrelated to an individual's aca-
7 demic course of instruction.

8 “(2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
9 The term ‘institution of higher education’ means an
10 institution—

11 “(A) which is described in section 481 of
12 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
13 1088), as in effect on the date of the enactment
14 of this section, and

15 “(B) which is eligible to participate in a
16 program under title IV of such Act.

17 “(3) ELIGIBLE STUDENT.—The term ‘eligible
18 student’ means, with respect to any academic period,
19 a student who—

20 “(A) meets the requirements of section
21 484(a)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
22 (20 U.S.C. 1091(a)(1)), as in effect on the date
23 of the enactment of this section, and

1 “(B) is carrying at least $\frac{1}{2}$ the normal
 2 full-time work load for the course of study the
 3 student is pursuing.

4 “(4) OTHER TERMS RELATING TO THE HIGHER
 5 EDUCATION ACT.—The following terms shall have
 6 the meanings prescribed in regulations under section
 7 481(g) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
 8 U.S.C. 1088(g)), as added by the Student Financial
 9 Aid Improvements Act of 1997:

10 “(A) Academic period.

11 “(B) Normal full-time workload.

12 “(C) First 2 years of postsecondary edu-
 13 cation.

14 “(D) Qualifying grade point average.

15 “(E) Job skills and new job skills.

16 “(e) TREATMENT OF EXPENSES PAID BY DEPEND-
 17 ENT.—If a deduction under section 151 with respect to
 18 an individual is allowed to another taxpayer for a taxable
 19 year beginning in the calendar year in which such individ-
 20 ual’s taxable year begins—

21 “(1) no credit shall be allowed under subsection
 22 (a) to such individual for such individual’s taxable
 23 year, and

24 “(2) qualified higher education expenses paid
 25 by such individual during such individual’s taxable

1 year shall be treated for purposes of this section as
2 paid by such other taxpayer.

3 “(f) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PREPAYMENTS.—If
4 qualified higher education expenses are paid by the tax-
5 payer during a taxable year for an academic period which
6 begins during the first 3 months following such taxable
7 year, such academic period shall be treated for purposes
8 of this section as beginning during such taxable year.

9 “(g) SPECIAL RULES.—

10 “(1) DENIAL OF CREDIT IF INDIVIDUAL CON-
11 VICTED OF DRUG OFFENSE.—No credit shall be al-
12 lowed under subsection (a) with respect to the quali-
13 fied higher education expenses of an individual for
14 any taxable year if the individual has been convicted
15 before the end of such year of a Federal or State fel-
16 ony offense consisting of the possession or distribu-
17 tion of a controlled substance.

18 “(2) DENIAL OF CREDIT IF INDIVIDUAL FAILS
19 TO SATISFY GRADE POINT AVERAGE REQUIRE-
20 MENT.—If an election was in effect under this sec-
21 tion with respect to the qualified higher education
22 expenses of an individual for any taxable year, no
23 credit shall be allowed under subsection (a) with re-
24 spect to qualified higher education expenses of such
25 individual for a succeeding taxable year if the indi-

vidual does not have a qualifying grade point average for all courses at an institution of higher education for academic periods ending before the beginning of such succeeding taxable year. Such average shall be determined without regard to—

“(A) courses taken while attending high school, and

“(B) courses referred to in subsection (d)(1)(B).

“(3) NO DOUBLE BENEFIT.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (a) for any taxable year for any expense—

“(A) with respect to an individual if a deduction is allowed under section 221 for the taxable year for any expense with respect to such individual, or

“(B) for which a deduction is allowed under any other provision of this chapter.

“(4) IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (a) to a taxpayer with respect to the qualified higher education expenses of an individual unless the taxpayer includes the name and taxpayer identification number of such individual on the return of tax for the taxable year.

1 “(5) ADJUSTMENT FOR CERTAIN SCHOLAR-
2 SHIPS.—The amount of qualified higher education
3 expenses otherwise taken into account under sub-
4 section (a) with respect to an individual for an aca-
5 demic period shall be reduced (before the application
6 of subsections (b) and (c)) by the sum of—

7 “(A) any amounts paid for the benefit of
8 such individual which are allocable to such pe-
9 riod as—

10 “(i) a qualified scholarship which is
11 excludable from gross income under section
12 117,

13 “(ii) an educational assistance allow-
14 ance under chapter 30, 31, 32, 34, or 35
15 of title 38, United States Code, or under
16 chapter 1606 of title 10, United States
17 Code,

18 “(iii) a payment which is excludable
19 from gross income under section 127, or

20 “(iv) a payment (other than a gift, be-
21 quest, devise, or inheritance within the
22 meaning of section 102(a)) for such indi-
23 vidual’s educational expenses, or attrib-
24 utable to such individual’s enrollment at an
25 institution of higher education, which is ex-

1 cludable from gross income under any law
2 of the United States, and

3 “(B) the amount excludable from gross in-
4 come under section 135 which is allocable to
5 such expenses with respect to such individual
6 for such period.

7 “(6) NO CREDIT FOR MARRIED INDIVIDUALS
8 FILING SEPARATE RETURNS.—If the taxpayer is a
9 married individual (within the meaning of section
10 7703), this section shall apply only if the taxpayer
11 and the taxpayer’s spouse file a joint return for the
12 taxable year.

13 “(7) NONRESIDENT ALIENS.—If the taxpayer is
14 a nonresident alien individual for any portion of the
15 taxable year, this section shall apply only if such in-
16 dividual is treated as a resident alien of the United
17 States for purposes of this chapter by reason of an
18 election under subsection (g) or (h) of section 6013.

19 “(h) INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS.—

20 “(1) DOLLAR LIMITATION ON AMOUNT OF
21 CREDIT.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a tax-
23 able year beginning after 1997, the \$1,500
24 amount in subsection (b)(1)(A) shall be in-
25 creased by an amount equal to—

1 “(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

2 “(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment de-
3 termined under section 1(f)(3) for the cal-
4 endar year in which the taxable year be-
5 gins, determined by substituting ‘calendar
6 year 1996’ for ‘calendar year 1992’ in sub-
7 paragraph (B) thereof.

8 “(B) ROUNDING.—If any amount as ad-
9 justed under subparagraph (A) is not a multiple
10 of \$50, such amount shall be rounded to the
11 next lowest multiple of \$50.

12 “(2) INCOME LIMITS.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a tax-
14 able year beginning after 2000, the \$50,000
15 and \$80,000 amounts in subsection (c)(2) and
16 section 221(b)(2)(B)(i)(II) shall each be in-
17 creased by an amount equal to—

18 “(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

19 “(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment de-
20 termined under section 1(f)(3) for the cal-
21 endar year in which the taxable year be-
22 gins, determined by substituting ‘calendar
23 year 1999’ for ‘calendar year 1992’ in sub-
24 paragraph (B) thereof.

1 “(B) ROUNDING.—If any amount as ad-
2 justed under subparagraph (A) is not a multiple
3 of \$5,000, such amount shall be rounded to the
4 next lowest multiple of \$5,000.

5 “(i) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe
6 such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to
7 carry out this section, including regulations providing for
8 a recapture of credit allowed under this section in cases
9 where there is a refund in a subsequent taxable year of
10 any amount which was taken into account in determining
11 the amount of such credit.”

12 (b) EXTENSION OF PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO
13 MATHEMATICAL OR CLERICAL ERRORS.—Paragraph (2)
14 of section 6213(g) (relating to the definition of mathe-
15 matical or clerical errors) is amended by striking “and”
16 at the end of subparagraph (G), by striking the period
17 at the end of subparagraph (H) and inserting “, and”,
18 and by inserting after subparagraph (H) the following new
19 subparagraph:

20 “(I) an omission of a correct TIN required
21 under section 24(g)(4) or under section
22 221(d)(2)(A) (relating to higher education tui-
23 tion and fees) to be included on a return.”

24 (c) RETURNS RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION
25 EXPENSES.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part III of
 2 subchapter A of chapter 61 (relating to information
 3 concerning transactions with other persons) is
 4 amended by inserting after section 6050R the fol-
 5 lowing new section:

6 **“SEC. 6050S. RETURNS RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION**
 7 **EXPENSES.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Any person—

9 “(1) which is an institution of higher education
 10 which receives payments for qualified higher edu-
 11 cation expenses with respect to any individual for
 12 any calendar year, or

13 “(2) which is engaged in a trade or business
 14 which, in the course of such trade or business makes
 15 payments during any calendar year to any individual
 16 which constitute reimbursements or refunds (or
 17 similar amounts) of qualified higher education ex-
 18 penses of such individual,

19 shall make the return described in subsection (b) with re-
 20 spect to the individual at such time as the Secretary may
 21 by regulations prescribe.

22 “(b) FORM AND MANNER OF RETURNS.—A return
 23 is described in this subsection if such return—

24 “(1) is in such form as the Secretary may pre-
 25 scribe,

1 “(2) contains—

2 “(A) the name, address, and TIN of the
3 individual with respect to whom payments de-
4 scribed in subsection (a) were received from (or
5 were paid to),

6 “(B) the name, address, and TIN of any
7 individual certified by the individual described
8 in subparagraph (A) as the taxpayer who will
9 claim the individual as a dependent for pur-
10 poses of the deduction allowable under section
11 151 for any taxable year ending with or within
12 the calendar year,

13 “(C) the—

14 “(i) aggregate amount of payments
15 for qualified higher education expenses re-
16 ceived with respect to the individual de-
17 scribed in subparagraph (A) during the
18 calendar year, and

19 “(ii) aggregate amount of reimburse-
20 ments or refunds (or similar amounts)
21 paid to such individual during the calendar
22 year,

23 “(D) the aggregate amount of nontaxable
24 Federal assistance received with respect to the

1 individual described in subparagraph (A) during
2 the calendar year, and

3 “(E) such other information as the Sec-
4 retary may prescribe.

5 “(c) APPLICATION TO GOVERNMENTAL UNITS.—For
6 purposes of this section—

7 “(1) a governmental unit or any agency or in-
8 strumentality thereof shall be treated as a person,
9 and

10 “(2) any return required under subsection (a)
11 by such governmental entity shall be made by the of-
12 ficer or employee appropriately designated for the
13 purpose of making such return.

14 “(d) STATEMENTS TO BE FURNISHED TO INDIVID-
15 UALS WITH RESPECT TO WHOM INFORMATION IS RE-
16 QUIRED.—Every person required to make a return under
17 subsection (a) shall furnish to each individual whose name
18 is required to be set forth in such return under subpara-
19 graph (A) or (B) of subsection (b)(2) a written statement
20 showing—

21 “(1) the name, address, and phone number of
22 the information contact of the person required to
23 make such return, and

24 “(2) the aggregate amounts described in sub-
25 paragraphs (C) and (D) of subsection (b)(2).

1 The written statement required under the preceding sen-
2 tence shall be furnished on or before January 31 of the
3 year following the calendar year for which the return
4 under subsection (a) was required to be made.

5 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the
6 terms ‘institution of higher education’, ‘qualified higher
7 education expenses’, and ‘nontaxable Federal assistance’
8 have the meanings given such terms by section 24.

9 “(f) RETURNS WHICH WOULD BE REQUIRED TO BE
10 MADE BY 2 OR MORE PERSONS.—Except to the extent
11 provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary, in the
12 case of any amount received by any person on behalf of
13 another person, only the person first receiving such
14 amount shall be required to make the return under sub-
15 section (a).

16 “(g) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe
17 such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the pro-
18 visions of this section. No penalties shall be imposed under
19 section 6724 with respect to any return or statement re-
20 quired under this section until such time as such regula-
21 tions are issued.”

22 (2) ASSESSABLE PENALTIES.—Section 6724(d)
23 (relating to definitions) is amended—

24 (A) by redesignating clauses (x) through
25 (xv) as clauses (xi) through (xvi), respectively,

1 in paragraph (1)(B) and by inserting after
 2 clause (ix) of such paragraph the following new
 3 clause:

4 “(x) section 6050S (relating to re-
 5 turns relating to payments for qualified
 6 higher education expenses),”, and

7 (B) by striking “or” at the end of the next
 8 to last subparagraph, by striking the period at
 9 the end of the last subparagraph and inserting
 10 “, or”, and by adding at the end the following
 11 new subparagraph:

12 “(Z) section 6050S(d) (relating to returns
 13 relating to qualified higher education ex-
 14 penses).”

15 (3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
 16 tions for subpart B of part III of subchapter A of
 17 chapter 61 is amended by inserting after the item
 18 relating to section 6050R the following new item:

“Sec. 6050S. Returns relating to higher education expenses.”

19 (d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
 20 for subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1
 21 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section
 22 23 the following new item:

“Sec. 24. Higher education tuition and fees.”

23 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE; SUNSET.—

1 (1) PURPOSE.—The President’s budget pro-
2 duces balance in fiscal year 2002 under Office of
3 Management and Budget assumptions, including the
4 permanent changes in law providing the tax reduc-
5 tion set forth in the preceding portions of this sec-
6 tion. The President’s budget also includes a mecha-
7 nism to guarantee balance under Congressional
8 Budget Office assumptions. As a part of that mech-
9 anism, the following provision sunseting the tax re-
10 duction is included, as well as specific expedited pro-
11 cedures for reinstatement of the reduction to the ex-
12 tent that Office of Management and Budget as-
13 sumptions prove correct.

14 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
15 by this section shall apply to expenses paid after De-
16 cember 31, 1996 (in taxable years ending after such
17 date), for education furnished in academic periods
18 beginning after June 30, 1997, except that no credit
19 shall be allowed under section 24 of the Internal
20 Revenue Code of 1986 for taxable years beginning
21 after December 31, 2000.

22 **SEC. 103. DEDUCTION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION EXPENSES.**

23 (a) DEDUCTION ALLOWED.—Part VII of subchapter
24 B of chapter 1 (relating to additional itemized deductions
25 for individuals) is amended by redesignating section 221

1 as section 222 and by inserting after section 220 the fol-
2 lowing new section:

3 **“SEC. 221. HIGHER EDUCATION TUITION AND FEES.**

4 “(a) ALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.—In the case of an
5 individual, there shall be allowed as a deduction the
6 amount of qualified higher education expenses paid by the
7 taxpayer during the taxable year for education furnished
8 to the taxpayer, the taxpayer’s spouse, or any dependent
9 of the taxpayer with respect to whom the taxpayer is al-
10 lowed a deduction under section 151, as an eligible student
11 at an institution of higher education during any academic
12 period beginning in such year.

13 “(b) LIMITATIONS.—

14 “(1) DOLLAR LIMITATION.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount allowed
16 as a deduction under subsection (a) for any tax-
17 able year shall not exceed \$10,000.

18 “(B) PHASE-IN.—In the case of taxable
19 years beginning in 1997 or 1998, subparagraph
20 (A) shall be applied by substituting ‘\$5,000’ for
21 ‘\$10,000’.

22 “(2) LIMITATION BASED ON MODIFIED AD-
23 JUSTED GROSS INCOME.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount which
25 would (but for this paragraph) be allowed as a

1 deduction under subsection (a) shall be reduced
2 (but not below zero) by the amount determined
3 under subparagraph (B).

4 “(B) AMOUNT OF REDUCTION.—The
5 amount determined under this subparagraph
6 equals the amount which bears the same ratio
7 to the deduction (determined without regard to
8 this paragraph) as—

9 “(i) the excess of—

10 “(I) the taxpayer’s modified ad-
11 justed gross income for the taxable
12 year, over

13 “(II) \$50,000 (\$80,000 in the
14 case of a joint return), bears to

15 “(ii) \$20,000.

16 “(C) MODIFIED ADJUSTED GROSS IN-
17 COME.—For purposes of subparagraph (B), the
18 term ‘modified adjusted gross income’ means
19 the adjusted gross income of the taxpayer for
20 the taxable year determined—

21 “(i) without regard to this section and
22 sections 911, 931, and 933, and

23 “(ii) after the application of sections
24 86, 135, 219, and 469.

1 For purposes of sections 86, 135, 219, and
 2 469, adjusted gross income shall be determined
 3 without regard to the deduction allowed under
 4 this section.

5 “(D) CROSS REFERENCE.—

**“For inflation adjustment of \$50,000 and \$80,000
 amounts, see section 24(h).**

6 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
 8 graph (2), terms used in this section which are also
 9 used in section 24 have the respective meanings
 10 given such terms in section 24.

11 “(2) DEDUCTION AVAILABLE FOR EDUCATION
 12 TO ACQUIRE OR IMPROVE JOB SKILLS.—For pur-
 13 poses of applying this section, the requirement of
 14 section 24(d)(3) shall be treated as met if—

15 “(A) the individual is enrolled in a course
 16 which enables the individual to improve the in-
 17 dividual’s job skills or to acquire new job skills,
 18 and

19 “(B) the individual is not enrolled in an el-
 20 ementary or secondary school.

21 “(d) SPECIAL RULES.—

22 “(1) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—No deduc-
 23 tion shall be allowed under subsection (a) for any ex-

1 pense for which a deduction is allowed to the tax-
 2 payer under any other provision of this chapter.

3 “(2) CERTAIN RULES TO APPLY.—Rules similar
 4 to the rules of subsections (e) and (f) of section 24,
 5 and the following rules of section 24(g), shall apply
 6 for purposes of this section:

7 “(A) Paragraph (4) (relating to identifica-
 8 tion requirement).

9 “(B) Paragraph (5) (relating to adjust-
 10 ment for certain scholarships).

11 “(C) Paragraph (6) (relating to no benefit
 12 for married individuals filing separate returns).

13 “(D) Paragraph (7) (relating to non-
 14 resident aliens).

15 “(3) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may pre-
 16 scribe such regulations as may be necessary or ap-
 17 propriate to carry out this section.”

18 (b) DEDUCTION ALLOWED IN COMPUTING AD-
 19 JUSTED GROSS INCOME.—Section 62(a) is amended by in-
 20 serting after paragraph (16) the following new paragraph:

21 “(17) HIGHER EDUCATION TUITION AND
 22 FEES.—The deduction allowed by section 221.”

23 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
 24 tions for part VII of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended
 25 by striking the item relating to section 221 and inserting:

“Sec. 221. Higher education tuition and fees.

“Sec. 222. Cross reference.”

1 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE; SUNSET.—

2 (1) PURPOSE.—The President’s budget pro-
3 duces balance in fiscal year 2002 under Office of
4 Management and Budget assumptions, including the
5 permanent changes in law providing the tax reduc-
6 tion set forth in the preceding portions of this sec-
7 tion. The President’s budget also includes a mecha-
8 nism to guarantee balance under Congressional
9 Budget Office assumptions. As a part of that mech-
10 anism, the following provision sunseting the tax re-
11 duction is included, as well as specific expedited pro-
12 cedures for reinstatement of the reduction to the ex-
13 tent that Office of Management and Budget as-
14 sumptions prove correct.

15 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
16 by this section shall apply to expenses paid after De-
17 cember 31, 1996 (in taxable years ending after such
18 date), for education furnished in academic periods
19 beginning after June 30, 1997, except that no de-
20 duction shall be allowed under section 221 of the In-
21 ternal Revenue Code of 1986 for taxable years be-
22 ginning after December 31, 2000.

1 **SEC. 104. TREATMENT OF CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN STU-**
2 **DENT LOANS.**

3 (a) CERTAIN DIRECT STUDENT LOANS THE REPAY-
4 MENT OF WHICH IS INCOME CONTINGENT.—Paragraph
5 (1) of section 108(f) is amended by striking “any student
6 loan if” and all that follows and inserting “any student
7 loan if—

8 “(A) such discharge was pursuant to a
9 provision of such loan under which all or part
10 of the indebtedness of the individual would be
11 discharged if the individual worked for a certain
12 period of time in certain professions for any of
13 a broad class of employers, or

14 “(B) in the case of a loan made under part
15 D of title IV of the Higher Education Act of
16 1965 which has a repayment schedule estab-
17 lished under section 455(e)(4) of such Act (re-
18 lating to income contingent repayments), such
19 discharge is after the maximum repayment pe-
20 riod under such loan (as prescribed under such
21 part).”

22 (b) CERTAIN LOANS BY EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section
24 108(f) (defining student loan) is amended by strik-
25 ing “or” at the end of subparagraphs (B) and (C)

1 and by striking subparagraph (D) and inserting the
2 following:

3 “(D) any organization described in section
4 501(c)(3) and exempt from tax under section
5 501(a), or

6 “(E) any educational organization de-
7 scribed in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) pursuant to
8 an agreement with any entity described in sub-
9 paragraph (A), (B), (C), or (D) under which
10 the funds from which the loan was made were
11 provided to such educational organization.

12 The term ‘student loan’ includes any loan made by
13 an organization described in subparagraph (D) to
14 refinance a loan meeting the requirements of the
15 preceding sentence.”

16 (2) EXCEPTION FOR DISCHARGES ON ACCOUNT
17 OF SERVICES PERFORMED FOR CERTAIN LEND-
18 ERS.—Subsection (f) of section 108 is amended by
19 adding at the end the following new paragraph:

20 “(3) EXCEPTION FOR DISCHARGES ON AC-
21 COUNT OF SERVICES PERFORMED FOR CERTAIN
22 LENDERS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the
23 discharge of a loan made by an organization de-
24 scribed in paragraph (2)(D) (or by an organization
25 described in paragraph (2)(E) from funds provided

1 by an organization described in paragraph (2)(D)) if
 2 the discharge is on account of services performed for
 3 either such organization.”

4 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 5 this section shall apply to discharges of indebtedness after
 6 the date of the enactment of this Act.

7 **SEC. 105. EMPLOYER-PROVIDED EDUCATIONAL ASSIST-**
 8 **ANCE PROGRAMS.**

9 (a) EXTENSION.—Subsection (d) of section 127 (re-
 10 lating to exclusion for educational assistance programs)
 11 is amended to read as follows:

12 “(d) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to
 13 taxable years beginning after December 31, 2000.”

14 (b) REPEAL OF LIMITATION ON GRADUATE EDU-
 15 CATION.—The last sentence of section 127(c)(1) is amend-
 16 ed by striking “, and such term also does not include any
 17 payment for, or the provision of any benefits with respect
 18 to, any graduate level course of a kind normally taken by
 19 an individual pursuing a program leading to a law, busi-
 20 ness, medical, or other advanced academic or professional
 21 degree”.

22 (c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

23 (1) EXTENSION.—The amendments made by
 24 subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning
 25 after December 31, 1996.

1 (2) GRADUATE EDUCATION.—The amendment
2 made by subsection (b) shall apply with respect to
3 expenses relating to courses beginning after June
4 30, 1996.

5 (3) EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.—The Secretary
6 of the Treasury shall establish expedited procedures
7 for the refund of any overpayment of taxes imposed
8 by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which is at-
9 tributable to amounts excluded from gross income
10 during 1996 or 1997 under section 127 of such
11 Code, including procedures waiving the requirement
12 that an employer obtain an employee's signature
13 where the employer demonstrates to the satisfaction
14 of the Secretary that any refund collected by the em-
15 ployer on behalf of the employee will be paid to the
16 employee.

17 **SEC. 106. SMALL BUSINESS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**
18 **CREDIT.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of sub-
20 chapter A of chapter 1 (relating to business related cred-
21 its) is amended by adding at the end the following new
22 section:

1 **“SEC. 45D. SMALL BUSINESS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**
2 **CREDIT.**

3 “(a) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of section 38,
4 the small business educational assistance credit for any
5 taxable year is an amount equal to 10 percent of the quali-
6 fied educational assistance expenses of the taxpayer for
7 the taxable year.

8 “(b) QUALIFIED EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE EX-
9 PENSES.—For purposes of this section—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified edu-
11 cational assistance expenses’ means any amount
12 paid or incurred by an eligible small employer for
13 educational assistance furnished to an employee of
14 the employer by a person other than such employer
15 (or an employee of such employer) under an edu-
16 cational assistance program described in section
17 127(b).

18 “(2) EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—The term
19 ‘educational assistance’ has the meaning given such
20 term by section 127(c)(1) (determined without re-
21 gard to subparagraph (B) thereof).

22 “(3) LIMITATIONS.—

23 “(A) DOLLAR LIMITATION PER EM-
24 PLOYEE.—The aggregate amount which may be
25 taken into account under paragraph (1) with

1 respect to any employee for any taxable year
2 shall not exceed \$5,250.

3 “(B) PAYMENTS TO RELATED PERSONS.—

4 “(i) IN GENERAL.—No amount shall
5 be taken into account under paragraph (1)
6 if such amount is to be paid to a related
7 person with respect to the employer.

8 “(ii) RELATED PERSON.—For pur-
9 poses of this subparagraph, a person shall
10 be related to the employer if—

11 “(I) such person is a 5-percent
12 owner (within the meaning of section
13 416(i)(1)(B)(i)) of the employer, or

14 “(II) such person bears a rela-
15 tionship to the employer or such a 5-
16 percent owner which is described in
17 section 267(b) or 707(b)(1).

18 “(C) TRADE OR BUSINESS.—No amount
19 shall be taken into account under paragraph (1)
20 unless it is incurred in the active conduct of a
21 trade or business by the taxpayer.

22 “(c) ELIGIBLE SMALL EMPLOYER.—For purposes of
23 this section—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A taxpayer shall be treated
25 as an eligible small employer for any taxable year if

1 the average annual gross receipts of the taxpayer for
 2 the 3-taxable year period ending with the preceding
 3 taxable year are \$10,000,000 or less.

4 “(2) SPECIAL RULES.—Section 448(c)(3) shall
 5 apply for purposes of this subsection.

6 “(d) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For pur-
 7 poses of this section—

8 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—The terms ‘employee’ and
 9 ‘employer’ have the meanings given such terms by
 10 paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 127(c), respec-
 11 tively.

12 “(2) AGGREGATION.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—All persons treated as
 14 a single employer under subsection (a) or (b) of
 15 section 52 or subsection (m) or (o) of section
 16 414 shall be treated as a single employer.

17 “(B) ALLOCATION OF CREDIT.—The credit
 18 (if any) determined under this section with re-
 19 spect to each person described in subparagraph
 20 (A) shall be its proportionate share of the quali-
 21 fied educational assistance expenses giving rise
 22 to such credit.

23 “(3) SHORT TAXABLE YEARS.—For any taxable
 24 year having less than 12 months, the credit deter-
 25 mined under this section shall be multiplied by a

1 fraction, the numerator of which is the number of
 2 days in the taxable year and the denominator of
 3 which is 365.

4 “(4) DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.—

“For disallowance of deduction for expenses for
 which credit allowable, see section 280C(d).

5 “(e) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to
 6 qualified educational assistance expenses incurred in tax-
 7 able years beginning after December 31, 2000.”

8 (b) DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTIONS.—Section 280C
 9 (relating to certain expenses for which credits are allow-
 10 able) is amended by adding at the end the following new
 11 subsection:

12 “(d) CREDIT FOR SMALL BUSINESS EDUCATIONAL
 13 ASSISTANCE EXPENSES.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—No deduction shall be al-
 15 lowed for that portion of the qualified educational
 16 assistance expenses (as defined in section 45D(b))
 17 otherwise allowable as a deduction for the taxable
 18 year which is equal to the amount of the credit de-
 19 termined for such taxable year under section 45D.

20 “(2) ELECTION OF REDUCED CREDIT.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any
 22 taxable year for which an election is made
 23 under this paragraph—

1 “(i) paragraph (1) shall not apply,
2 and

3 “(ii) the amount of the credit under
4 section 45D(a) shall be the amount deter-
5 mined under subparagraph (B).

6 “(B) AMOUNT OF REDUCED CREDIT.—The
7 amount of the credit determined under this sub-
8 paragraph for any taxable year shall be the
9 amount equal to the excess of—

10 “(i) the amount of credit determined
11 under section 45D(a) without regard to
12 this paragraph, over

13 “(ii) the product of—

14 “(I) the amount described in
15 clause (i), and

16 “(II) the maximum rate of tax
17 under section 11(b)(1).

18 “(C) ELECTION.—An election under this
19 paragraph for any taxable year shall be made
20 not later than the time for filing the return of
21 tax for such year (including extensions), shall
22 be made on such return, and shall be made in
23 such manner as the Secretary may prescribe.
24 Such an election, once made, shall be irrev-
25 ocable.

1 “(3) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—Paragraph (3) of
2 subsection (b) shall apply for purposes of this sub-
3 section.”

4 (c) GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Subsection (b) of
5 section 38 (relating to general business credit) is amended
6 by striking “plus” at the end of paragraph (11), by strik-
7 ing the period at the end of paragraph (12) and inserting
8 “, plus”, and by adding at the end the following new para-
9 graph:

10 “(13) the small business educational assistance
11 credit determined under section 45D(a).”

12 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

13 (1) NO CARRYBACK.—Subsection (d) of section
14 39 (relating to carryback and carryforward of un-
15 used credits) is amended by adding at the end the
16 following new paragraph:

17 “(8) NO CARRYBACK OF SECTION 45D CREDIT
18 BEFORE ENACTMENT.—No portion of the unused
19 business credit for any taxable year which is attrib-
20 utable to the credit determined under section 45D
21 may be carried back to a taxable year ending before
22 the date of the enactment of section 45D.”

23 (2) The table of sections for subpart D of such
24 part IV is amended by adding at the end the follow-
25 ing new item:

 “Sec. 45D. Small business educational assistance credit.”

1 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 2 this section shall apply to education and training fur-
 3 nished in taxable years beginning after December 31,
 4 1997.

5 **TITLE II—STUDENT FINANCIAL** 6 **AID PROVISIONS**

7 **SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.**

8 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the
 9 “Student Financial Aid Improvements Act of 1997”.

10 (b) REFERENCES.—References in this title to “the
 11 Act” shall refer to the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
 12 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.).

13 **PART A—PELL GRANTS**

14 **SEC. 211. PELL GRANT MAXIMUM AWARD.**

15 Section 401(b)(2)(A) of the Act is amended by add-
 16 ing at the end thereof the following: “Except as otherwise
 17 provided in this section, in no case shall the maximum
 18 basic grant be less than \$3,000.”.

19 **PART B—STUDENT LOAN PROVISIONS**

20 **SEC. 221. MANAGEMENT AND RECOVERY OF RESERVES.**

21 Section 422 of the Act is amended—

22 (1) by amending subsection (g)(1) to read as
 23 follows:

24 “(1) AUTHORITY TO RECOVER FUNDS.—(A)

25 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the re-

1 serve funds of the guaranty agencies, and any assets
2 purchased or developed with such reserve funds, re-
3 gardless of who holds or controls the reserves or as-
4 sets, shall remain the property of the United States.

5 “(B) The Secretary may direct the guaranty
6 agency to require the return, to the guaranty agency
7 or to the Secretary, of any reserve funds or assets
8 held by, or under the control of, any other entity,
9 that the Secretary determines are required—

10 “(i) to pay the program expenses and con-
11 tingent liabilities of the guaranty agency;

12 “(ii) to satisfy the guaranty agency’s re-
13 quirements under subsection (h); or

14 “(iii) for the orderly termination of the
15 guaranty agency’s operations and the liquida-
16 tion of its assets.

17 “(C) The Secretary may direct a guaranty
18 agency, or such agency’s officers or directors, to
19 cease any activity involving expenditure, use, or
20 transfer of the guaranty agency’s reserve funds or
21 assets that the Secretary determines is a
22 misapplication, misuse, or improper expenditure of
23 such funds or assets.”; and

24 (2) by adding after subsection (g) the following
25 new subsections:

1 “(h) RECALL OF RESERVES IN FISCAL YEARS 1997
 2 THROUGH 2002; LIMITATIONS ON USE OF RESERVE
 3 FUNDS AND ASSETS.—(1)(A) Notwithstanding any other
 4 provision of law, the Secretary shall, except as otherwise
 5 provided in this subsection, recall from the reserve funds
 6 held by guaranty agencies (which for purposes of this sub-
 7 section shall include any reserve funds held by, or under
 8 the control of, any other entity) not less than—

9 “(i) \$731,000,000 in fiscal year 1998;

10 “(ii) \$127,000,000 in fiscal year 1999;

11 “(iii) \$186,000,000 in each of the fiscal years
 12 2000 and 2001; and

13 “(iv) \$1,271,000,000 in fiscal year 2002.

14 “(B) Funds returned to the Secretary under this sub-
 15 section shall be deposited in the Treasury.

16 “(C) The Secretary shall require each guaranty agen-
 17 cy to return reserve funds under subparagraph (A) based
 18 on its proportionate share, as determined by the Sec-
 19 retary, of all reserve funds held by guaranty agencies as
 20 of September 30, 1996.

21 “(2)(A) Within 45 days of enactment of this sub-
 22 section, all reserve funds held by a guaranty agency that
 23 have not yet been recalled by the Secretary under para-
 24 graph (1) shall be transferred by the guaranty agency to
 25 a restricted account (of a type specified by the Secretary)

1 established by the guaranty agency, and be invested in
2 United States Government securities specified by the Sec-
3 retary. The manner and timeframe in which reserve funds
4 so invested are recalled shall be specified by the Secretary,
5 consistent with the requirements of this subsection. Ex-
6 cept as described in subparagraph (B), the guaranty agen-
7 cy shall not use the reserve funds in such account, which
8 shall include the earnings thereon, for any purpose with-
9 out the express permission of the Secretary.

10 “(B)(i) In order to assist guaranty agencies in meet-
11 ing program expenses, the Secretary shall permit the use
12 of not more than an aggregate of \$350,000,000 of the
13 reserve funds held in the restricted accounts described in
14 subparagraph (A) by guaranty agencies with agreements
15 under section 428(c), as working capital to be used for
16 such purposes as the Secretary may specify. The Secretary
17 shall specify the amount of reserve funds in each guaranty
18 agency’s restricted account that may be used as working
19 capital, based on the guaranty agency’s proportionate
20 share of all borrower accounts outstanding on September
21 30, 1996. The guaranty agency shall repay such amount
22 to its restricted account (or returned to the Treasury, if
23 so directed by the Secretary) by no later than September
24 30, 2002, or the date on which such agency’s agreement

1 under section 428(c) ends (through resignation, expira-
 2 tion, or termination), whichever is earlier.

3 “(ii) The guaranty agency may use the earnings from
 4 its restricted account for fiscal year 1998 to assist in
 5 meeting its operational expenses for such year.

6 “(C) Nonliquid reserve fund assets, such as buildings
 7 and equipment purchased or developed by the guaranty
 8 agency with reserve funds, and any liquid assets remaining
 9 in a guaranty agency’s restricted account after the recalls
 10 in paragraph (1)(A), shall—

11 “(i) remain the property of the United States;

12 “(ii) be used only for such purposes as the Sec-
 13 retary determines are appropriate; and

14 “(iii) be subject to recall by the Secretary no
 15 later than the date on which such agency’s agree-
 16 ment under section 428(c) ends (through resigna-
 17 tion, expiration, or termination, as the case may
 18 be).”.

19 **SEC. 222. REPAYMENT TERMS.**

20 (a) Section 427 of the Act is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (a)(2)—

22 (A) in subparagraph (B), in the matter
 23 preceding clause (i), by striking “over a period”
 24 through “nor more than 10 years” and insert-

1 ing “in accordance with the repayment plan se-
2 lected under subsection (d),”;

3 (B) in subparagraph (C), at the end of the
4 subparagraph, by striking out “the 10-year pe-
5 riod described in subparagraph (B);” and in-
6 serting the following: “the length of the repay-
7 ment period under a repayment plan described
8 in subsection (d),”;

9 (C) by striking subparagraph (F);

10 (D) by redesignating subparagraphs (G),
11 (H), and (I) as subparagraphs (F), (G), and
12 (H), respectively; and

13 (E) in subparagraph (G) (as redesignated
14 by subparagraph (D)), by striking “the option”
15 through the end of the subparagraph and in-
16 serting “the repayment options described in
17 subsection (d); and”;

18 (2) in subsection (c), by striking “in subsection
19 (a)(2)(H),” and inserting the following: “by a repay-
20 ment plan selected by the borrower under subpara-
21 graph (C) or (D) of subsection (d)(1),”; and

22 (3) by adding after subsection (c) the following
23 new subsection:

24 “(d) REPAYMENT PLANS.—

1 “(1) DESIGN AND SELECTION.—In accordance
2 with regulations of the Secretary, the lender shall
3 offer a borrower of a loan made under this part the
4 plans described in this subsection for repayment of
5 such loan, including principal and interest thereon.
6 No plan may require a borrower to repay a loan in
7 less than 5 years. The borrower may choose from—

8 “(A) a standard repayment plan, with a
9 fixed annual repayment amount paid over a
10 fixed period of time, not to exceed 10 years;

11 “(B) an extended repayment plan, with a
12 fixed annual repayment amount paid over an
13 extended period of time, not to exceed 30 years,
14 except that the borrower shall repay annually a
15 minimum amount determined in accordance
16 with subsection (c);

17 “(C) a graduated repayment plan, with an-
18 nual repayment amounts established at 2 or
19 more graduated levels and paid over an ex-
20 tended period of time, not to exceed 30 years,
21 except that the borrower’s scheduled payments
22 shall not be less than 50 percent, nor more
23 than 150 percent, of what the amortized pay-
24 ment on the amount owed would be if the loan

1 were repaid under the standard repayment
2 plan; and

3 “(D) an income-sensitive repayment plan,
4 with income-sensitive repayment amounts paid
5 over a fixed period of time, not to exceed 10
6 years.

7 “(2) LENDER SELECTION OF OPTION IF BOR-
8 ROWER DOES NOT SELECT.—If a borrower of a loan
9 made under this part does not select a repayment
10 plan described in paragraph (1), the lender shall
11 provide the borrower with a repayment plan de-
12 scribed in paragraph (1)(A).

13 “(3) CHANGES IN SELECTIONS.—The borrower
14 of a loan made under this part may change the bor-
15 rower’s selection of a repayment plan under para-
16 graph (1), or the lender’s selection of a plan for the
17 borrower under paragraph (2), as the case may be,
18 under such conditions as may be prescribed by the
19 Secretary in regulation.

20 “(4) ACCELERATION PERMITTED.—Under any
21 of the plans described in this subsection, the bor-
22 rower shall be entitled to accelerate, without penalty,
23 repayment on the borrower’s loans under this part.”.

24 (b) Section 428(b) of the Act is amended—

25 (1) in paragraph (1)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (D), by striking
2 clauses (i) and (ii) and the clause designation
3 “(iii)”;

4 (B) in subparagraph (E)—

5 (i) in clause (i)—

6 (I) by striking “or section
7 428A,” and inserting “or section
8 428H,”; and

9 (II) by striking “the option”
10 through the end of the clause and in-
11 serting “the repayment options de-
12 scribed in paragraph (9); and”; and

13 (ii) in clause (ii)—

14 (I) by striking “over a period”
15 through “nor more than 10 years”
16 and inserting “in accordance with the
17 repayment plan selected under para-
18 graph (9), and”; and

19 (II) by striking “of this sub-
20 section;” at the end of clause (ii) and
21 inserting a semicolon; and

22 (C) in subparagraph (L)(i), by inserting
23 after the clause designation the following: “ex-
24 cept as otherwise provided by a repayment plan

1 selected by the borrower under paragraph
2 (9)(A) (iii) or (iv),”; and
3 (2) by adding after paragraph (8) the following
4 new paragraph:

5 “(9) REPAYMENT PLANS.—

6 “(A) DESIGN AND SELECTION.—In accord-
7 ance with regulations of the Secretary, the lend-
8 er shall offer a borrower of a loan made under
9 this part the plans described in this subpara-
10 graph for repayment of such loan, including
11 principal and interest thereon. No plan may re-
12 quire a borrower to repay a loan in less than
13 5 years. The borrower may choose from—

14 “(i) a standard repayment plan, with
15 a fixed annual repayment amount paid
16 over a fixed period of time, not to exceed
17 10 years;

18 “(ii) an extended repayment plan,
19 with a fixed annual repayment amount
20 paid over an extended period of time, not
21 to exceed 30 years, except that the bor-
22 rower shall repay annually a minimum
23 amount determined in accordance with
24 paragraph (2)(L);

1 “(iii) a graduated repayment plan,
2 with annual repayment amounts estab-
3 lished at 2 or more graduated levels and
4 paid over an extended period of time, not
5 to exceed 30 years, except that the borrow-
6 er’s scheduled payments shall not be less
7 than 50 percent, nor more than 150 per-
8 cent, of what the amortized payment on
9 the amount owed would be if the loan were
10 repaid under the standard repayment plan;
11 and

12 “(iv) an income-sensitive repayment
13 plan, with income-sensitive repayment
14 amounts paid over a fixed period of time,
15 not to exceed 10 years.

16 “(B) LENDER SELECTION OF OPTION IF
17 BORROWER DOES NOT SELECT.—If a borrower
18 of a loan made under this part does not select
19 a repayment plan described in subparagraph
20 (A), the lender shall provide the borrower with
21 a repayment plan described in subparagraph
22 (A)(i).

23 “(C) CHANGES IN SELECTIONS.—The bor-
24 rower of a loan made under this part may
25 change the borrower’s selection of a repayment

plan under subparagraph (A), or the lender's selection of a plan for the borrower under subparagraph (B), as the case may be, under such conditions as may be prescribed by the Secretary in regulation.

“(D) ACCELERATION PERMITTED.—Under any of the plans described in this paragraph, the borrower shall be entitled to accelerate, without penalty, repayment on the borrower's loans under this part.

“(E) COMPARABLE FFEL AND DIRECT LOAN REPAYMENT PLANS.—The Secretary shall ensure that the repayment plans offered to borrowers under this part are comparable, to the extent practicable and not otherwise provided in statute, to the repayment plans offered under part D.”.

(c) Section 428C of the Act is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(3)(F), by striking “alternative”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) REPAYMENT PLANS.—

1 “(A) DESIGN AND SELECTION.—In accord-
2 ance with regulations of the Secretary, the lend-
3 er shall offer a borrower of a loan made under
4 this section the plans described in this para-
5 graph for repayment of such loan, including
6 principal and interest thereon. No plan may re-
7 quire a borrower to repay a loan in less than
8 5 years. The borrower may choose from—

9 “(i) a standard repayment plan, with
10 a fixed annual repayment amount paid
11 over a fixed period of time, not to exceed
12 10 years;

13 “(ii) an extended repayment plan,
14 with a fixed annual repayment amount
15 paid over an extended period of time, not
16 to exceed 30 years, except that the bor-
17 rower shall repay annually a minimum
18 amount determined in accordance with
19 paragraph (3);

20 “(iii) a graduated repayment plan,
21 with annual repayment amounts estab-
22 lished at 2 or more graduated levels and
23 paid over an extended period of time, not
24 to exceed 30 years, except that the borrow-
25 er’s scheduled payments shall not be less

1 than 50 percent, nor more than 150 per-
2 cent, of what the amortized payment on
3 the amount owed would be if the loan were
4 repaid under the standard repayment plan;
5 and

6 “(iv) an income-sensitive repayment
7 plan, with income-sensitive repayment
8 amounts paid over a fixed period of time,
9 not to exceed 10 years.

10 “(B) LENDER SELECTION OF OPTION IF
11 BORROWER DOES NOT SELECT.—If a borrower
12 of a loan made under this section does not se-
13 lect a repayment plan described in subpara-
14 graph (A), the lender shall provide the borrower
15 with a repayment plan described in subpara-
16 graph (A)(i).

17 “(C) CHANGES IN SELECTIONS.—The bor-
18 rower of a loan made under this section may
19 change the borrower’s selection of a repayment
20 plan under subparagraph (A), or the lender’s
21 selection of a plan for the borrower under sub-
22 paragraph (B), as the case may be, under such
23 conditions as may be prescribed by the Sec-
24 retary in regulation.”.

25 (d) Section 455(d) of the Act is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1)—

2 (A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting after
3 “an extended period of time,” the following:
4 “not to exceed 30 years,”; and

5 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “a
6 fixed or extended period of time,” and inserting
7 the following: “an extended period of time, not
8 to exceed 30 years,”; and

9 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “subpara-
10 graph (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (1).” and in-
11 serting “paragraph (1)(A).”.

12 **SEC. 223. INTEREST RATES.**

13 (a) Section 427A of the Act is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (g)(2)—

15 (A) by inserting after the paragraph head-
16 ing the subparagraph designation “(A)”;

17 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
18 and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

19 (C) by striking “paragraph (1),” and in-
20 serting “paragraph (1), and except as provided
21 in subparagraph (B),”; and

22 (D) by adding after subparagraph (A) (as
23 redesignated by subparagraph (A)) the follow-
24 ing new subparagraph:

1 “(B) In the case of loans made or insured
2 under section 428 or 428H for which the first dis-
3 bursement is made on or after October 1, 1997, for
4 purposes of paragraph (1), the rate determined
5 under this paragraph shall, during any 12-month pe-
6 riod beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30, be
7 determined on the preceding June 1 and be equal to
8 the bond equivalent rate of the securities with a
9 comparable maturity, as established by the Sec-
10 retary, except that such rate shall not exceed 8.25
11 percent.”;

12 (2) in subsection (h)—

13 (A) in the heading thereof, by striking
14 “JULY 1, 1998.—” and inserting “OCTOBER 1,
15 1997.—”;

16 (B) in paragraph (1)—

17 (i) by striking “(f), and (g)” and in-
18 serting “and (f),”; and

19 (ii) by striking “July 1, 1998,” and
20 inserting “October 1, 1997,”; and

21 (C) in paragraph (2)—

22 (i) in the heading, by striking “JULY
23 1, 1998.—” and inserting “OCTOBER 1,
24 1997.—”; and

1 (ii) by striking “July 1, 1998,” and
2 inserting “October 1, 1997,”; and

3 (3) in subsection (i)(7)(B), by adding at the
4 end the following: “Notwithstanding any other provi-
5 sion of law, the interest rate determined under this
6 subparagraph shall be used solely to determine the
7 rebate of excess interest required by this paragraph
8 and shall not be used to calculate or pay special al-
9 lowances under section 438.”.

10 (b) Section 455(b) of the Act is amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (2)(B)—

12 (A) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as
13 subclauses (I) and (II), respectively;

14 (B) by inserting after the subparagraph
15 heading the clause designation “(i)”;

16 (C) by striking “subparagraph (A),” and
17 inserting “subparagraph (A) and except as pro-
18 vided in clause (ii),”; and

19 (D) by adding after clause (i) (as redesign-
20 nated by subparagraph (B)) the following new
21 clause:

22 “(ii) In the case of Federal Direct Stafford/
23 Ford Loans or Federal Direct Unsubsidized Staf-
24 ford/Ford Loans for which the first disbursement is
25 made on or after October 1, 1997, for purposes of

1 subparagraph (A), the rate determined under this
 2 subparagraph shall, during any 12-month period be-
 3 ginning on July 1 and ending on June 30, be deter-
 4 mined on the preceding June 1 and be equal to the
 5 bond equivalent rate of the securities with a com-
 6 parable maturity, as established by the Secretary,
 7 except that such rate shall not exceed 8.25 per-
 8 cent.”;

9 (2) in paragraph (3)—

10 (A) by striking “and (2),” and inserting “,
 11 and except as provided in paragraph (2),”; and

12 (B) by striking “made on or after July 1,
 13 1998,” and inserting “for which the first dis-
 14 bursement is made on or after October 1,
 15 1997,”; and

16 (3) in paragraph (4)(B), by striking “July 1,
 17 1998,” and inserting “October 1, 1997.”.

18 **SEC. 224. LENDER AND HOLDER RISK SHARING.**

19 Section 428(b)(1)(G) of the Act is amended by strik-
 20 ing “not less than 98 percent” and inserting “95 percent”.

21 **SEC. 225. FEES AND INSURANCE PREMIUMS.**

22 (a) Section 428(b)(1)(H) of the Act is amended—

23 (1) by inserting the clause designation “(i)” fol-
 24 lowing the subparagraph designation;

1 (2) by striking “the loan,” and inserting “any
2 loan made under section 428 or 428B before July 1,
3 1998,”; and

4 (3) after clause (i) (as redesignated by para-
5 graph (1)), by adding “and” and the following new
6 clause:

7 “(ii) provides that no insurance premiums
8 shall be charged to the borrower of any loan
9 made under section 428 or 428B on or after
10 July 1, 1998;”.

11 (b) Section 428H(h) of the Act is amended—

12 (1) by inserting the paragraph designation
13 “(1)” following the subsection heading;

14 (2) by striking “under this section” and insert-
15 ing “of a loan made under this section made before
16 July 1, 1998”; and

17 (3) by adding at the end of paragraph (1) (as
18 redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following new
19 paragraph:

20 “(2) No insurance premium may be charged to
21 the borrower on any loan made under this section
22 made on or after July 1, 1998.”.

23 (c) Section 438(c) of the Act is amended—

24 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “paragraph
25 (6)” and inserting “paragraphs (6) and (8)”; and

1 (2) by adding after paragraph (7) the following
2 new paragraph:

3 “(8) ORIGINATION FEE ON SUBSIDIZED LOANS
4 ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1998.—In the case of any loan
5 made or insured under section 428 on or after July
6 1, 1998, paragraph (2) shall be applied by substitut-
7 ing ‘2.0 percent’ for ‘3.0 percent’.”.

8 (d) Section 455(c) of the Act is amended—

9 (1) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting
10 “(1) For loans made under this part before July 1,
11 1998, the Secretary”;

12 (2) by striking “of a loan made under this
13 part”; and

14 (3) by adding at the end thereof the following
15 new paragraph:

16 “(2) For loans made under this part on or after July
17 1, 1998, the Secretary shall charge the borrower an origi-
18 nation fee of—

19 “(A) 2.0 percent of the principal amount of the
20 loan, in the case of Federal Direct Stafford/Ford
21 Loans; or

22 “(B) 3.0 percent of the principal amount of the
23 loan, in the case of Federal Direct Unsubsidized
24 Stafford/Ford Loans or Federal Direct PLUS
25 Loans.”.

1 **SEC. 226. FUNCTIONS OF GUARANTY AGENCIES.**

2 (a) Section 428 of the Act is further amended—

3 (1) in subsection (a)—

4 (A) in paragraph (1)(B)—

5 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),
6 by striking “which is insured” and insert-
7 ing “which, before October 1, 1997, is”;
8 and

9 (ii) in clause (ii), by inserting “as in
10 effect the day before the day of enactment
11 of this section,” after “subsection (b),”;
12 and

13 (B) in paragraph (3)—

14 (i) by striking subparagraph (B); and

15 (ii) in subparagraph (A)—

16 (I) in clause (ii), by striking
17 “under any” through the end of the
18 clause and inserting a period;

19 (II) by striking the subparagraph
20 designation “(A)”;

21 (III) by redesignating clauses (i)
22 and (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and
23 (B), respectively; and

24 (IV) by redesignating subclauses
25 (I) and (II) as clauses (i) and (ii), re-
26 spectively;

1 (2) in subsection (b)—

2 (A) by amending the heading to read as
3 follows: “REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY LOANS
4 FOR INSURANCE AND INTEREST SUBSIDIES.—
5 ”;

6 (B) in paragraph (1)—

7 (i) by amending the heading to read
8 as follows: “REQUIREMENTS.—”;

9 (ii) by amending the matter preceding
10 subparagraph (A) to read as follows: “A
11 loan by an eligible lender shall be insurable
12 by the Secretary, and students who receive
13 such loans shall be entitled to have made
14 on their behalf the payments provided for
15 in subsection (a), under a program of stu-
16 dent loan insurance that—”;

17 (iii) by amending subparagraph (K) to
18 read as follows:

19 “(K) provides that the holder of any such
20 loan will be required to submit to the Secretary,
21 at such time or times and in such manner as
22 the Secretary may prescribe, statements con-
23 taining such information as may be required by
24 regulation for the purpose of enabling the Sec-

retary to determine the amount of the payment
which must be made with respect to that loan;”;

(iv) by amending subparagraph (O) to
read as follows:

“(O) provides that, if the sale, assignment,
or other transfer of a loan made under this part
to another holder will result in a change in the
identity of the party to whom the borrower
must send subsequent payments or direct any
communications concerning the loans, then—

“(i) the transferor and the transferee
shall be required, not later than 45 days
from the date the transferee acquires a le-
gally enforceable right to receive payment
from the borrower on such loan, either
jointly or separately to provide a notice to
the borrower of—

“(I) the sale, assignment, or
other transfer;

“(II) the identity of the trans-
feree;

“(III) the name and address of
the party to whom subsequent pay-
ments or communications must be
sent; and

1 “(IV) the telephone numbers of
2 both the transferor and the trans-
3 feree; and

4 “(ii) the transferee shall be required
5 to notify the Secretary, and, upon the re-
6 quest of an institution of higher education,
7 the Secretary shall notify the last such in-
8 stitution the student attended prior to the
9 beginning of the repayment period of any
10 loan made under this part, of—

11 “(I) any sale, assignment, or
12 other transfer of the loan; and

13 “(II) the address and telephone
14 number by which contact may be
15 made with the new holder concerning
16 repayment of the loan;

17 except that this subparagraph shall apply
18 only if the borrower is in the grace period
19 described in section 427(a)(2)(B) or
20 428(b)(7) or is in repayment status.”;

21 (v) in subparagraph (Q), by striking
22 “guarantee” and “428A” and inserting
23 “insurance” and “428H”, respectively;

24 (vi) by amending subparagraph (R) to
25 read as follows:

1 “(R) provides for the making of such re-
2 ports, in such form and containing such infor-
3 mation, including financial information, as the
4 Secretary may reasonably require to carry out
5 the Secretary’s functions under this part and
6 protect the financial interest of the United
7 States, and for keeping such records and for af-
8 fording such access thereto as the Secretary
9 may find necessary to ensure the correctness
10 and verification of such reports;”;

11 (vii) by amending subparagraph (S) to
12 read as follows:

13 “(S) provides that a lender shall pay a de-
14 fault prevention fee in accordance with sub-
15 section (g);”;

16 (viii) in subparagraph (T)—

17 (I) in clause (i), by inserting “,
18 by the guaranty agency, in accordance
19 with regulations prescribed by the
20 Secretary,” after “limitation”; and

21 (II) in clause (ii)—

22 (aa) in the matter preceding
23 subclause (I), by inserting “, in
24 accordance with regulations pre-

1 scribed by the Secretary,” after
2 “institution”;

3 (bb) by striking subclauses
4 (I) and (II); and

5 (cc) by redesignating sub-
6 clauses (III), (IV), and (V) as
7 subclauses (I), (II), and (III), re-
8 spectively;

9 (ix) by amending subparagraph (U) to
10 read as follows:

11 “(U) provides—

12 “(i) for such additional criteria con-
13 cerning the eligibility of lenders described
14 in section 435(d)(1) as may be permitted
15 by the Secretary; and

16 “(ii) an assurance that the guaranty
17 agency will report to the Secretary con-
18 cerning changes in criteria under clause
19 (i), including any procedures in effect
20 under such program to take emergency ac-
21 tion, limit, suspend, or terminate lenders;
22 and”;

23 (x) by striking subparagraphs (V),
24 (W), and (X);

1 (C) by amending paragraph (2) to read as
2 follows:

3 “(2) SKIP-TRACING REQUIREMENT.—In the
4 case of a default claim based on an inability to lo-
5 cate the borrower, a lender shall certify to the Sec-
6 retary, at the time of submission of the default
7 claim, that diligent attempts have been made to lo-
8 cate the borrower through the use of reasonable
9 skip-tracing techniques in accordance with regula-
10 tions prescribed by the Secretary.”;

11 (D) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking the
12 parenthetical through the end of the subpara-
13 graph and inserting a period; and

14 (E) by striking out paragraph (5) and in-
15 serting in lieu thereof the following new para-
16 graph:

17 “(5) COMPLIANCE AUDITS.—(A) Except as pro-
18 vided in subparagraph (B) or by the Single Audit
19 Act Amendments of 1996, an eligible lender that
20 originates or holds more than \$5,000,000 in loans
21 made under this title during an annual audit period
22 shall submit to the Secretary a compliance audit for
23 that audit period which is conducted by a qualified,
24 independent organization or person in accordance
25 with the Government Auditing Standards issued by

1 the Comptroller General, and the regulations of the
2 Secretary.

3 “(B) The Secretary may permit a lender to sub-
4 mit the results of an audit conducted for other pur-
5 poses if the Secretary determines that such other
6 audit results provide the same information as re-
7 quired under subparagraph (A).”;

8 (3) in subsection (c)—

9 (A) by amending the heading to read as
10 follows: “AGREEMENTS WITH GUARANTY
11 AGENCIES.—”

12 (B) in paragraph (3)—

13 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
14 graph (A), by striking “A guaranty agree-
15 ment” and inserting “An agreement be-
16 tween the Secretary and a guaranty agen-
17 cy”;

18 (ii) in the flush left language at the
19 end of the paragraph, by striking “Guar-
20 anty agencies” and inserting “The Sec-
21 retary”; and

22 (iii) by redesignating paragraph (3) as
23 paragraph (11);

24 (C) by striking paragraphs (1), (2), (4),
25 and (5);

1 (D) by inserting after the subsection head-
2 ing the following new paragraphs:

3 “(1) AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO AGREE-
4 MENTS.—(A)(i) The Secretary may enter into an
5 agreement with a guaranty agency, under which the
6 Secretary shall insure loans made under this section
7 through the guaranty agency as the agent of the
8 Secretary.

9 “(ii) Any guaranty agency that had an agree-
10 ment with the Secretary under section 428(b) as of
11 the day before the date of enactment of the Student
12 Financial Aid Improvements Act of 1997 may enter
13 into an initial agreement with the Secretary under
14 this subsection.

15 “(iii) An agreement under this subsection shall
16 be 5 years in duration, and may be renewed by the
17 Secretary for successive 5-year periods.

18 “(iv) The Secretary may terminate the agree-
19 ment prior to its expiration in accordance with para-
20 graph (9).

21 “(2) EFFECT ON PRIOR GUARANTY AGREE-
22 MENTS AND LOAN INSURANCE BY GUARANTY AGEN-
23 CIES.—(A) All guaranty agreements made under
24 this subsection as it was in effect on the day before
25 the date of enactment of the Student Financial Aid

1 Improvements Act of 1997 shall terminate not later
2 than 180 days after the date of enactment of that
3 Act.

4 “(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of
5 law—

6 “(i) to the extent that a guaranty agency
7 had insured loans under this part, loan insur-
8 ance by such guaranty agency that is outstand-
9 ing as of the date of the termination under sub-
10 paragraph (A) shall be replaced on such date by
11 loan insurance issued by the Secretary, and the
12 guaranty agency shall be relieved of any further
13 liability thereon;

14 “(ii) the Secretary’s liability for any out-
15 standing liabilities of a guaranty agency (other
16 than outstanding loan insurance under this
17 part), shall not exceed the fair market value of
18 the unrestricted funds of the guaranty agency,
19 which shall consist of—

20 “(I) all accumulated earnings not oth-
21 erwise placed in a restricted account in ac-
22 cordance with section 422(h)(2)(A); and

23 “(II) any working capital that may be
24 provided under section 422(h)(2)(B); and

1 “(iii) for the first year after the date of en-
2 actment of the Student Financial Aid Improve-
3 ments Act of 1997, the Secretary may specify
4 such interim administrative measures as the
5 Secretary determines to be necessary for the ef-
6 ficient transfer of the loan insurance function,
7 and to carry out the purposes of this part.

8 “(3) TERMS OF AGREEMENT.—The agreement
9 between the Secretary and a guaranty agency shall
10 include, but not be limited to—

11 “(A) provisions regarding the responsibil-
12 ities of the guaranty agency for—

13 “(i) administering the issuance of in-
14 surance on loans made under this section
15 on behalf of the Secretary;

16 “(ii) monitoring insurance commit-
17 ments made under this section;

18 “(iii) default prevention activities;

19 “(iv) review of default claims made by
20 lenders;

21 “(v) payment of default claims;

22 “(vi) collection of defaulted loans;

23 “(vii) adoption of internal systems of
24 accounting and auditing that are accept-
25 able to the Secretary, and reporting the re-

1 sult thereof to the Secretary on a timely,
2 accurate, and auditable basis;

3 “(viii) timely and accurate collection
4 and reporting of such other data as the
5 Secretary may require to carry out the
6 purposes of the programs under this title;

7 “(ix) monitoring of institutions and
8 lenders participating in the program under
9 this part; and

10 “(x) such other program functions as
11 the Secretary may require of the guaranty
12 agency;

13 “(B) provisions regarding the fees the Sec-
14 retary shall pay to the guaranty agency under
15 the agreement, and other revenues that the
16 guaranty agency may receive thereunder, as de-
17 scribed in paragraphs (4) and (6);

18 “(C) provisions requiring the guaranty
19 agency to carry out its responsibilities under
20 the agreement in accordance with paragraph
21 (5);

22 “(D) provisions regarding the use, in ac-
23 cordance with paragraph (10), of net revenues
24 in excess of the guaranty agency’s need for
25 working capital, as determined after compliance

1 with section 422(h), for such other activities in
2 support of postsecondary education as may be
3 agreed to by the Secretary and the guaranty
4 agency;

5 “(E) provisions regarding such other busi-
6 nesses, previously purchased or developed with
7 reserve funds, that relate to the program under
8 this part and in which the Secretary permits
9 the guaranty agency to engage (as determined
10 on a case-by-case basis);

11 “(F) provisions setting forth such adminis-
12 trative and fiscal procedures as may be nec-
13 essary to protect the United States from the
14 risk of unreasonable loss thereunder, and to en-
15 sure proper and efficient administration of the
16 loan insurance program;

17 “(G) provisions regarding the submission
18 of the results of audits of the guaranty agency
19 that are conducted—

20 “(i) at least annually;

21 “(ii) by a qualified, independent orga-
22 nization or person in accordance with the
23 standards established by the Comptroller
24 General for the audit of governmental or-
25 ganizations, programs, and functions; and

1 “(iii) in accordance with the regula-
2 tions of the Secretary;

3 “(H) provisions requiring the making of
4 such reports, in such form and containing such
5 information, including financial information, as
6 the Secretary may reasonably require to carry
7 out the Secretary’s functions under this part
8 and to protect the Federal fiscal interest, and
9 for keeping such records and for affording such
10 access thereto as the Secretary may find nec-
11 essary or appropriate to ensure the correctness
12 and verification of such reports;

13 “(I) adequate assurances that the guar-
14 anty agency will not engage in any pattern or
15 practice which may result in a denial of a bor-
16 rower’s access to loans under this part because
17 of the borrower’s race, sex, color, religion, na-
18 tional origin, age, handicapped status, income,
19 attendance at a particular eligible institution,
20 length of the borrower’s educational program,
21 or the borrower’s academic year in school;

22 “(J) assurances that—

23 “(i) upon the request of an eligible in-
24 stitution, the guaranty agency shall, sub-
25 ject to clauses (ii) and (iii), furnish to the

1 institution information with respect to stu-
2 dents (including the names and addresses
3 of such students) who received loans made
4 or insured under this part for attendance
5 at the eligible institution and for whom
6 preclaims assistance activities have been
7 requested under subsection (l);

8 “(ii) the guaranty agency shall require
9 the payment by the institution of a reason-
10 able fee (as determined in accordance with
11 regulations prescribed by the Secretary)
12 for such information; and

13 “(iii) the institution may use such in-
14 formation only to remind students of their
15 obligation to repay student loans and may
16 not disseminate the information for any
17 other purpose; and

18 “(K) such other provisions as the Sec-
19 retary may determine to be necessary to protect
20 the United States from the risk of unreasonable
21 loss and to promote the purposes of this part.

22 “(4) FEES AND OTHER REVENUES.—(A)(i) The
23 Secretary shall pay to a guaranty agency with an
24 agreement under this subsection the following uni-
25 form fees:

1 “(I) a 1-time issuance fee for each new
2 loan made under this part that is insured by
3 the Secretary through the guaranty agency; and

4 “(II) an annual maintenance fee for each
5 active borrower account.

6 “(ii) The fees described in clause (i) shall be
7 paid on a quarterly basis, from the funds available
8 under section 458(a), in such amount as the Sec-
9 retary determines, for all guaranty agencies with
10 agreements under this subsection.

11 “(B) A guaranty agency with an agreement
12 under this subsection also may receive revenues de-
13 rived from—

14 “(i) a default prevention fee paid by lend-
15 ers in accordance with subsection (g);

16 “(ii) the collection retention allowance
17 under paragraph (6);

18 “(iii) the interest earned on working cap-
19 ital provided under section 422(h);

20 “(iv) such other businesses, previously pur-
21 chased or developed with reserve funds, that re-
22 late to the program under this part and in
23 which the Secretary permits the guaranty agen-
24 cy to engage (as determined on a case-by-case
25 basis); and

1 “(v) such other fees as may be authorized
2 under this part.

3 “(5) PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS.—(A) A
4 guaranty agency with an agreement under this sub-
5 section shall carry out its responsibilities thereunder
6 in accordance with such measurable performance-
7 based standards as the Secretary may specify, and
8 shall submit timely and accurate data to the Sec-
9 retary in support of its performance.

10 “(B) The Secretary shall apply the performance
11 standards uniformly to guaranty agencies with
12 agreements under this subsection.

13 “(C) The Secretary shall assess the perform-
14 ance of each guaranty agency on the basis of the au-
15 dits required under paragraph (3)(G), and shall
16 compare such guaranty agency’s performance
17 against the performance of other such guaranty
18 agencies and publicly disseminate such comparison.

19 “(D) The Secretary may impose a fine, in ac-
20 cordance with the terms of the agreement, on a
21 guaranty agency that fails to achieve a specified
22 level of performance on 1 or more performance
23 standards. If the guaranty agency’s failure to
24 achieve such performance level results in a financial

1 loss to the United States, the guaranty agency shall
2 indemnify the Secretary for such loss.”;

3 (E) by amending paragraph (6) to read as
4 follows:

5 “(6) COLLECTION RETENTION ALLOWANCE.—

6 “(A) If, after the Secretary has paid a
7 claim on a loan made under this title, any pay-
8 ments are made in discharge of the obligation
9 incurred by the borrower with respect to such
10 loan (including any payments of interest accru-
11 ing on such loan after the payment of the de-
12 fault claim by the Secretary), there shall be
13 paid over to the Secretary that portion of the
14 payments remaining after the guaranty agency
15 with which the Secretary has an agreement
16 under this subsection has deducted from such
17 payments an amount for costs related to the
18 student loan insurance program that—

19 “(i) shall be specified by the Secretary
20 on the basis of the Secretary’s review of
21 payments for similar services in a competi-
22 tive environment; and

23 “(ii) in no case shall exceed 18.5 per-
24 cent of such payments (subject to subpara-
25 graph (B)).

1 “(B) If, after the Secretary has paid a
2 claim on a loan made under this title, and the
3 liability on such loan is discharged by payment
4 of the proceeds of a consolidation loan under
5 this part or under part D, the guaranty agency
6 may not deduct the amount specified in sub-
7 paragraph (A), but may charge the borrower an
8 amount specified by the Secretary and not to
9 exceed 18.5 percent of the principal amount of
10 the defaulted loan at the time of consolidation,
11 to defray the guaranty agency’s collection costs
12 on the defaulted loan to be consolidated.”;

13 (F) by amending paragraph (7) to read as
14 follows:

15 “(7) SECRETARY AUTHORIZED TO RENEW OR
16 MAKE ALTERNATE AGREEMENTS.—Notwithstanding
17 any other provision of law, once the initial agree-
18 ment with a guaranty agency entered into after the
19 date of enactment of the Student Financial Aid Im-
20 provements Act of 1997 has ended (through its expi-
21 ration, the termination of the guaranty agency
22 agreement by the Secretary in accordance with para-
23 graph (9), or the resignation of the guaranty agency,
24 as the case may be), the Secretary, in his discretion,
25 may enter into—

1 “(A) another agreement with the guaranty
2 agency;

3 “(B) an alternate agreement under which
4 the functions previously performed by the guar-
5 anty agency shall be performed by another
6 State or private nonprofit agency with which
7 the Secretary has an agreement under this sub-
8 section; or

9 “(C) a contract under section 428E.”;

10 (G) by amending paragraph (9) to read as
11 follows:

12 “(9) TERMINATION OF GUARANTY AGENCY
13 AGREEMENTS.—(A) A guaranty agency’s agreement
14 under this subsection may be ended in advance of its
15 expiration date in accordance with subparagraph (B)
16 or (C). If its agreement is so ended, the guaranty
17 agency shall immediately—

18 “(i) cease to be an agent of the Secretary
19 for purposes of the program under this part;
20 and

21 “(ii) surrender all remaining liquid and
22 nonliquid reserve funds, and assets purchased
23 or developed with reserve funds, still held by
24 the guaranty agency (including reserves held
25 by, or under the control of, any other entity) to

1 the Secretary or the Secretary's designated
2 agent.

3 “(B) A guaranty agency's agreement under this
4 subsection shall be void, and the Secretary shall im-
5 mediately so notify such guaranty agency, if—

6 “(i) the guaranty agency fails to comply in
7 a timely manner with the recall of reserve re-
8 quirements of section 422(h);

9 “(ii) the guaranty agency fails to increase
10 the amount of funds in its unrestricted account
11 (as measured by comparing the amount of
12 funds in such account at the beginning and end
13 of a year) for each of 2 years (that may or may
14 not be consecutive) in the 5-year period of the
15 agreement under this subsection;

16 “(iii) any other agreement that the guar-
17 anty agency has with the Secretary is termi-
18 nated;

19 “(iv) the guaranty agency becomes insol-
20 vent or declares bankruptcy; or

21 “(v) there is any legal impediment to the
22 guaranty agency substantially performing its re-
23 sponsibilities under the agreement.

24 “(C) The Secretary shall, after notice and op-
25 portunity for a hearing, terminate a guaranty agen-

1 cy that has substantially failed to achieve an accept-
2 able level of performance under its agreement with
3 the Secretary. A substantial performance failure
4 under this subparagraph may include the existence
5 of material internal control weaknesses relating to
6 data quality in the guaranty agency's audits for each
7 of 2 years (that may or may not be consecutive) in
8 the 5-year period of the agreement under this sub-
9 section.

10 “(D) Notwithstanding any other provision of
11 Federal or State law, if the Secretary has termi-
12 nated or is seeking to terminate a guaranty agency's
13 agreement in advance of its expiration date—

14 “(i) no State court may issue any order af-
15 fecting the Secretary's actions with respect to
16 such guaranty agency;

17 “(ii) any contract with respect to the ad-
18 ministration of reserve funds held by a guar-
19 anty agency, or the administration of any assets
20 purchased or developed with the reserve funds
21 of the guaranty agency, that is entered into or
22 extended by the guaranty agency, or any other
23 party on behalf of or with the concurrence of
24 the guaranty agency, after the date of enact-
25 ment of the Student Financial Aid Improve-

1 ments Act of 1997 shall provide that the con-
2 tract is terminable by the Secretary upon 30
3 days notice to the contracting parties if the
4 Secretary determines that such contract in-
5 cludes an impermissible transfer of the reserve
6 funds or assets, or is otherwise inconsistent
7 with the terms or purposes of this section; and

8 “(iii) no provision of State law shall apply
9 to the actions of the Secretary in terminating
10 the operations of a guaranty agency.”; and

11 (H) by adding after paragraph (9) the fol-
12 lowing new paragraph:

13 “(10) USE OF SURPLUS FUNDS.—(A) A guar-
14 anty agency with an agreement under this sub-
15 section may retain the amount determined in accord-
16 ance with subparagraph (B) for activities in support
17 of postsecondary education that are approved by the
18 Secretary.

19 “(B)(i) A guaranty agency may retain 50 per-
20 cent of its net revenues for fiscal year 1998 in ex-
21 cess of the guaranty agency’s need for working cap-
22 ital for such year, as determined after compliance
23 with section 422(h), for approved activities.

1 “(ii) A guaranty agency may retain for ap-
2 proved activities for fiscal year 1999 and succeeding
3 fiscal years the lesser of—

4 “(I) 50 percent of its net revenues for such
5 year in excess of its need for working capital,
6 as determined after compliance with section
7 422(h); or

8 “(II) the amount of its net revenues for
9 such year in excess of its need for working cap-
10 ital, as determined after compliance with sec-
11 tion 422(h), that is equal to a uniform percent-
12 age, established annually by the Secretary, of
13 Federal revenues received by the guaranty
14 agency for the preceding year. In determining
15 such percentage, the Secretary shall take into
16 account all guaranty agencies’ revenues and
17 costs for the preceding year to determine an
18 adequate level of economic incentive for guar-
19 anty agencies to maximize their efficiency.”;

20 (4) by amending subsection (g) to read as fol-
21 lows:

22 “(g) DEFAULT PREVENTION FEE PAID BY LEND-
23 ERS.—(1) An eligible lender shall pay a guaranty agency,
24 to which such lender referred a delinquent loan, a default
25 prevention fee of not to exceed \$100 per borrower account

1 if the guaranty agency succeeds in bringing such loan into
2 current repayment status.

3 “(2) The Secretary shall prescribe in regulations the
4 circumstances in which a lender may obtain a refund of
5 a default prevention fee if the borrower of a loan on which
6 such fee was paid subsequently defaults on such loan.”;
7 and

8 (5) in subsection (l)—

9 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking the para-
10 graph designation and the paragraph heading;
11 and

12 (B) by striking paragraph (2).

13 (b) Section 435(j) of the Act is amended by striking
14 “section 428(b).” and inserting “section 428(c).”

15 **SEC. 227. REPEAL OF STATE SHARE OF DEFAULT COSTS.**

16 Section 428 of the Act is further amended by striking
17 subsection (n).

18 **SEC. 228. CONSOLIDATION LOANS.**

19 (a) Section 428C of the Act is further amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a)(3)—

21 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “in
22 an in-school period,” after “for a consolidation
23 loan is”; and

24 (B) in subparagraph (B), by amending
25 clause (i) to read as follows:

1 “(i) Eligible student loans received by
2 the eligible borrower may be added to a
3 consolidation loan during the 180-day pe-
4 riod following the making of such consoli-
5 dation loan.”;

6 (2) in subsection (b)(4)(C), by amending clause
7 (ii) to read as follows:

8 “(ii) provides that interest shall accrue and
9 be paid—

10 “(I) by the Secretary, in the case of
11 a consolidation loan made before October
12 1, 1997, that consolidated only Federal
13 Stafford Loans for which the student bor-
14 rower received an interest subsidy under
15 section 428;

16 “(II) by the Secretary, in the case of
17 a consolidation loan made on or after Oc-
18 tober 1, 1997, except that the Secretary
19 shall pay such interest only on that portion
20 of the loan that repays Federal Stafford
21 Loans for which the student borrower re-
22 ceived an interest subsidy under section
23 428; and

24 “(III) by the borrower, or capitalized,
25 in the case of a consolidation loan, or por-

1 tion thereof, other than one described in
2 subclause (I) or (II);” and

3 (3) in subsection (c)—

4 (A) in paragraph (1)—

5 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
6 “subparagraph (B) or (C).” and inserting
7 “subparagraph (B), (C), (D), or (E), and
8 subject to subparagraph (F).”;

9 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
10 “after July 1, 1994,” and inserting “after
11 July 1, 1994 and before October 1,
12 1997,”; and

13 (iii) by adding after subparagraph (C)
14 the following new subparagraphs:

15 “(D) A consolidation loan made on or after Oc-
16 tober 1, 1997, that repays loans made under section
17 428 of 428H, or a combination thereof, shall bear
18 interest at an annual rate on the unpaid principal
19 balance of the loan that is equal to—

20 “(i) the rate specified in section 427A(g),
21 in the case of a borrower in an in-school or
22 grace period; or

23 “(ii) the rate specified in section
24 427A(h)(1) in all other cases.

1 “(E) A consolidation loan made on or after Oc-
2 tober 1, 1997, that repays loans made under section
3 428B shall bear interest at an annual rate on the
4 unpaid principal balance of the loan that is equal to
5 the rate specified in section 427A(h)(2).

6 “(F) Notwithstanding any other provision of
7 this section, the Secretary may prescribe in regula-
8 tion such procedures as may be necessary to ensure
9 that—

10 “(i) a borrower of a consolidation loan that
11 repays a combination of loans eligible to be con-
12 solidated under this section, shall continue to
13 receive, after consolidation, any interest subsidy
14 benefits associated with a loan, without extend-
15 ing such benefits to any other loans consoli-
16 dated that do not have interest subsidy benefits;

17 “(ii) in the case of a consolidation loan
18 that repays a combination of loans described in
19 subparagraphs (D) and (E), the interest rate
20 on such consolidation loan shall be calculated in
21 a manner that reflects the interest rate applica-
22 ble to loans made under each such subpara-
23 graph; and

24 “(iii) in the case of a consolidation loan
25 that repays a loan eligible to be consolidated

under this section other than those described in subparagraphs (D) and (E), the interest rate applicable to such other loan shall be the interest rate described in subparagraph (D) if such other loan is considered by the Secretary to be subsidized, and the interest rate described in subparagraph (E) if such other loan is considered by the Secretary to be unsubsidized.”; and

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking “Repayment” and inserting “(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), repayment”; and

(ii) by adding after subparagraph (A) (as redesignated by clause (i)) the following new subparagraph:

“(B) In the case of a consolidation loan that repays a loan made under this part for which the borrower is in an in-school period at the time the consolidation application is received, the repayment period for such consolidation loan shall commence after the completion of a grace period, as described in section 428(b)(7)(i).”.

SEC. 229. CONTRACTS WITH OTHER ENTITIES.

Part B of title IV of the Act is amended by inserting after section 428D the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 428E. CONTRACT AUTHORITY.**

2 “The Secretary may enter into 1 or more contracts
3 to carry out any of the functions that otherwise would be
4 carried out by a guaranty agency with an agreement under
5 section 428(c).”.

6 **SEC. 230. ELIGIBLE LENDER.**

7 Section 435(d) of the Act is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “(6),” and in-
9 serting “(7),”; and

10 (2) by adding after paragraph (6) the following
11 new paragraph:

12 “(7) UNIFORM TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Sub-
13 ject to such exceptions as the Secretary may pre-
14 scribe in regulations, the term ‘eligible lender’ shall
15 not include any lender that offers different terms
16 and conditions to different borrowers of the same
17 type of loan made or insured under this part.”.

18 **SEC. 231. SPECIAL ALLOWANCE.**

19 Section 438 of the Act is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking “quarterly
21 rate” each place it appears and inserting “rate”;
22 and

23 (2) in subsection (b)—

24 (A) in paragraph (2)—

25 (i) by striking “subparagraphs (B),
26 (C), (D), (E), and (F)” and inserting

1 “subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), (E), (F),
2 and (G)”; and

3 (ii) by adding after subparagraph (F)
4 the following new subparagraph:

5 “(G)(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of
6 this section, in the case of loans made or insured
7 under this part for which the first disbursement is
8 made on or after October 1, 1997, the special allow-
9 ance paid pursuant to this subsection shall be com-
10 puted for any 12-month period beginning on July 1
11 and ending on June 30 by—

12 “(I) determining the bond equivalent rate
13 on the preceding June 1 of the securities with
14 a comparable maturity, as established by the
15 Secretary; and

16 “(II) subtracting the applicable interest
17 rate on such loans from such amount.

18 “(ii) The amount of special allowance computed
19 under clause (i) shall be paid in quarterly incre-
20 ments for the 3-month periods described in para-
21 graph (1).”; and

22 (B) in paragraph (3), in the second sen-
23 tence, by striking “determined for any such 3-
24 month period shall be paid promptly after the
25 close of such period,” and inserting “calculated

1 under this subsection shall be paid promptly
 2 after the close of the 3-month period for which
 3 such special allowance payment is due,”.

4 **SEC. 232. STUDENT LOAN MARKETING ASSOCIATION OFF-**
 5 **SET FEE.**

6 Section 439(h)(7) of the Act is amended by adding
 7 after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:
 8 “(D) The calculation of the fee required under
 9 subparagraph (A) or (B), as the case may be, shall
 10 be determined on the basis of the principal amount
 11 of all loans (except for loans made under sections
 12 428C, 439(o) or 439(q))—

13 “(i) owned, in whole or in part, by the As-
 14 sociation, any subsidiary of the Association, or
 15 any company, trust or other entity owned by, or
 16 controlled by, the Association; or

17 “(ii) held by a trust (including by a trustee
 18 on behalf of a trust), or by any other entity in
 19 which the Association, or any subsidiary, holds
 20 more than a minimal beneficial interest (as de-
 21 termined by the Secretary).”.

22 **SEC. 233. DIRECT LOAN TRANSITION FEE.**

23 Section 452(b) of the Act is amended to read as fol-
 24 lows:

Section 458(a) of the Act is amended, in the first sentence, by striking “\$260,000,000” through the end of the sentence and inserting the following: “\$532,000,000 in fiscal year 1998, \$610,000,000 in fiscal year 1999, \$705,000,000 in fiscal year 2000, \$806,000,000 in fiscal year 2001, and \$904,000,000 in fiscal year 2002.”.

18 SEC. 241. HOPE SCHOLARSHIP NEED ANALYSIS AMEND-
19 MENTS.

21 (1) Section 475 of the Act is amended—

22 (A) by amending subsection (c)(1)(A) to
23 read as follows:

24 “(A) the sum of—

25 “(i) Federal income taxes;

1 “(ii) the amount of any tax credit
 2 taken under section 24 of the Internal
 3 Revenue Code of 1986; and

4 “(iii) the amount by which tax liabil-
 5 ity determined without regard to the de-
 6 duction provided under section 221 of the
 7 Internal Revenue Code exceeds the amount
 8 of tax liability determined after taking
 9 such deduction into account;”; and

10 (B) by amending subsection (g)(2)(A) to
 11 read as follows:

12 “(A) the sum of—

13 “(i) Federal income taxes;

14 “(ii) the amount of any tax credit
 15 taken by the student under section 24 of
 16 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

17 “(iii) the amount by which tax liabil-
 18 ity determined without regard to the de-
 19 duction provided under section 221 of the
 20 Internal Revenue Code exceeds the amount
 21 of tax liability determined after taking
 22 such deduction into account;”.

23 (2) Section 476(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Act is
 24 amended to read as follows:

25 “(A) the sum of—

1 “(i) Federal income taxes;

2 “(ii) the amount of any tax credit
3 taken under section 24 of the Internal
4 Revenue Code of 1986; and

5 “(iii) the amount by which tax liabil-
6 ity determined without regard to the de-
7 duction provided under section 221 of the
8 Internal Revenue Code exceeds the amount
9 of tax liability determined after taking
10 such deduction into account;”.

11 (3) Section 477(b)(1)(A) of the Act is amended
12 to read as follows:

13 “(A) the sum of—

14 “(i) Federal income taxes;

15 “(ii) the amount of any tax credit
16 taken under section 24 of the Internal
17 Revenue Code of 1986; and

18 “(iii) the amount by which tax liabil-
19 ity determined without regard to the de-
20 duction provided under section 221 of the
21 Internal Revenue Code exceeds the amount
22 of tax liability determined after taking
23 such deduction into account;”.

24 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 480 of the Act is amend-
25 ed—

1 (1) in subsection (a)(2)—

2 (A) by striking “and no portion” and in-
3 serting “no portion”; and

4 (B) by inserting after “(42 U.S.C. 12571
5 et seq.),” the following: “and no portion of any
6 tax credit taken under section 24 of the Inter-
7 nal Revenue Code of 1986,”;

8 (2) in subsection (b)—

9 (A) in paragraph (13), by striking “and”
10 at the end of the paragraph;

11 (B) by redesignating paragraph (14) as
12 paragraph (15); and

13 (C) by inserting after paragraph (13) the
14 following new paragraph:

15 “(14) any tax deduction taken under section
16 221 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and”;

17 (3) in subsection (e)—

18 (A) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at
19 the end of the paragraph;

20 (B) in paragraph (4), by striking the pe-
21 riod at the end of the paragraph and inserting
22 “; and”; and

23 (C) by adding after paragraph (4) the fol-
24 lowing new paragraph:

1 “(5) any tax credit taken under section 24 of
2 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and”;

3 (4) in subsection (j), by adding after paragraph
4 (3) the following new paragraph:

5 “(4) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a tax credit
6 taken under section 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of
7 1986 shall not be treated as estimated financial assistance
8 for purposes of section 471(3).”.

9 **242. INCOME PROTECTION ALLOWANCE FOR INDEPEND-**
10 **ENT STUDENTS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS.**

11 (a) Section 476(b) of the Act is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (1)—

13 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

14 (i) by amending clause (iv) to read as
15 follows:

16 “(iv) an income protection allowance,
17 determined in accordance with paragraph
18 (4);”; and

19 (ii) in clause (v), by striking “para-
20 graph (4);” and inserting “paragraph
21 (5);”; and

22 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking
23 “paragraph (5).” and inserting “paragraph
24 (6).”;

1 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as
 2 paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and

3 (3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the follow-
 4 ing new paragraph:

5 “(4) INCOME PROTECTION ALLOWANCE.—The
 6 income protection allowance is determined by the fol-
 7 lowing table (or a successor table prescribed by the
 8 Secretary under section 478):

“INCOME PROTECTIVE ALLOWANCE		
Family Size (including student)	Number in College	
	1	2
1	8,000	
2	10,520	8,720”.

9 (b) Section 478(b) of the Act is amended by striking
 10 “sections 475(c)(4) and 477(b)(4).” and inserting “sec-
 11 tions 475(c)(4), 476(b)(4), and 477(b)(4).”.

12 **SEC. 243. HOPE SCHOLARSHIP DEFINITIONS.**

13 Section 481 of the Act is amended by adding after
 14 subsection (f) the following new subsection:

15 “(g) HOPE SCHOLARSHIP DEFINITIONS.—

16 “(1) As necessary for purposes of the tax credit
 17 provided under section 24 of the Internal Revenue
 18 Code of 1986, and the deduction provided under sec-
 19 tion 221 of such Code, the Secretary of Education
 20 shall define in regulation the following terms:

21 “(A) Academic period.

22 “(B) Normal full-time workload.

1 “(C) First 2 years of postsecondary edu-
2 cation.

3 “(D) Qualifying grade point average.

4 “(E) Job skills.

5 “(F) New job skills.

6 “(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of
7 law, the regulations described in paragraph (1) shall
8 not be subject to section 482(e).”.

9 **SEC. 244. EXTENSION OF STUDENT AID PROGRAMS.**

10 Title IV of the Act is amended—

11 (1) in section 401(a)(1), by striking “Septem-
12 ber 30, 1998,” and inserting “September 30,
13 1999,”;

14 (2) in section 424(a), by striking “1998.” and
15 “2002.” and inserting “2002.” and “2006.”, respec-
16 tively;

17 (3) in section 428(a)(5), by striking “1998,”
18 and “2002.” and inserting “2002,” and “2006.”, re-
19 spectively;

20 (4) in section 428C(e), by striking “1998.” and
21 inserting “2002.”; and

22 (5) in section 466—

23 (A) in subsection (a)—

24 (i) in the matter preceding paragraph

25 (1), by striking “September 30, 1996,”

1 and “March 31, 1997,” and inserting
 2 “September 30, 1998,” and “March 31,
 3 1999”, respectively; and

4 (ii) in paragraph (1), by striking
 5 “September 30, 1996,” and inserting
 6 “September 30, 1998,”;

7 (B) in subsection (b), by striking “Septem-
 8 ber 30, 1996,” and inserting “September 30,
 9 1998,”; and

10 (C) in subsection (c), by striking out “Oc-
 11 tober 1, 1997,” and inserting “October 1,
 12 1998,”.

13 **PART D—EFFECTIVE DATES**

14 **SEC. 251. EFFECTIVE DATES.**

15 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the
 16 amendments made by this title shall take effect on the
 17 date of enactment of this Act.

18 (b) Section 211 is effective for the calculation of Pell
 19 Grant awards for award years beginning on or after July
 20 1, 1998.

21 (c) Section 222 is effective for a loan made under
 22 part B or part D of title IV of the Act for which the first
 23 disbursement is made on or after October 1, 1997.

1 (d) Section 223(a)(3) and section 428(b)(5)(C) of the
2 Act (as added by section 226(a)(2)(E)) are effective as
3 if they were enacted on July 23, 1992.

4 (e) Sections 224, 229, and 230 take effect on October
5 1, 1997.

6 (f) Section 231 is effective for a loan made or insured
7 under part B of title IV of the Act for which the first
8 disbursement is made on or after October 1, 1997.

9 (g) Section 232 is effective as if it were enacted on
10 August 10, 1993, but does not apply to the privatized en-
11 tity that may be created as a result of the Student Loan
12 Marketing Association Reorganization Act of 1996 (title
13 VI of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Serv-
14 ices, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act,
15 1997, as enacted by section 101(e) of division A of Public
16 Law 104–208).

17 (h) Section 242 is effective for determinations of need
18 for academic years beginning on or after July 1, 1998.

○