

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3151

To amend part B of title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand the eligibility requirement to include Predominantly Black Institutions of higher education.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2003

Mr. OWENS (for himself, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. WYNN, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. MEEKS of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend part B of title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand the eligibility requirement to include Predominantly Black Institutions of higher education.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “HBCU Expansion Act
5 of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Over the last several years post-secondary
2 institutions have faced a dramatic increase in the
3 number of non-traditional students. Predominantly
4 Black Institutions, following the pattern of histori-
5 cally Black colleges and universities (referred to as
6 “HBCU’s”), have helped ease the influx by offering
7 an affordable quality education.

8 (2) Currently, more than 100,000 students at-
9 tend Predominantly Black Institutions. Similar to
10 HBCU’s the majority of these students depend heav-
11 ily on Federal financial aid to graduate from college.

12 (3) Predominantly Black Institutions, like
13 HBCU’s, provide opportunities for minority students
14 to pursue post-secondary degrees.

15 (4) Predominantly Black Institutions, like
16 HBCU’s, have produced a cadre of leaders who
17 make up a significant number of the Nation’s minor-
18 ity doctors, lawyers and other professionals.

19 (5) Predominantly Black Institutions, like
20 HBCU’s, provide students from under-served com-
21 munities with academic and emotional support which
22 translates to high retention and graduation rates.

1 **SEC. 3. QUALIFYING PREDOMINANTLY BLACK INSTITU-**
2 **TIONS.**

3 Section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
4 U.S.C. 1061) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (2)—

6 (A) by striking “means any” and inserting
7 “means (A) any”; and

8 (B) by inserting before the period at the
9 end the following: “or (B) any Predominantly
10 Black Institution”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following new
12 paragraph:

13 “(6) The term ‘Predominantly Black Institu-
14 tion’ means any institution of higher education
15 that—

16 “(A) is an eligible institution under section
17 312(b) that complies with paragraph (1)(C)(i)
18 of such section; and

19 “(B) at the time of application, has a stu-
20 dent enrollment of at least 500 full-time stu-
21 dents, at least 51 percent of whom are African
22 Americans.”.

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