

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2206

To provide enhanced Pell Grants for State Scholars.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 12 (legislative day, MARCH 11), 2004

Mr. BUNNING introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To provide enhanced Pell Grants for State Scholars.

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 “Pell Grants Plus Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. PELL GRANTS PLUS: ACHIEVEMENT GRANTS FOR**
6 **STATE SCHOLARS PROGRAM.**

7 (a) AMENDMENT.—Subpart 1 of part A of title IV
8 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 is amended by in-
9 serting after section 401 (20 U.S.C. 1070a) the following
10 new section:

1 **“SEC. 401A. PELL GRANTS PLUS: ACHIEVEMENT GRANTS**
2 **FOR STATE SCHOLARS.**

3 “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—From sums appro-
4 priated under subsection (e), the Secretary shall establish
5 a program to award Pell Grants Plus grants to students
6 who—

7 “(1) have successfully completed a rigorous sec-
8 ondary school program of study established by a
9 State or local educational agency in consultation
10 with a State coalition assisted with funds from the
11 Center for State Scholars;

12 “(2) are enrolled full-time in the first academic
13 year of undergraduate education, and have not been
14 previously enrolled in a program of undergraduate
15 education; and

16 “(3) are eligible to receive Federal Pell Grants
17 for the year in which the grant is awarded.

18 “(b) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
20 graph (2), the amount of the grant awarded under
21 this section shall be \$1,000.

22 “(2) ASSISTANCE NOT TO EXCEED COST OF AT-
23 TENDANCE.—A grant awarded under this section to
24 any student, in combination with the Federal Pell
25 Grant assistance and other student financial assist-

1 ance available to such student, may not exceed the
2 student's cost of attendance.

3 “(c) SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS.—

4 “(1) PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED BY REGULA-
5 TION.—The Secretary shall establish by regulation
6 procedures for the determination of eligibility of stu-
7 dents for the grants awarded under this section.
8 Such procedures shall include measures to ensure
9 that eligibility is determined in a timely and accu-
10 rate manner consistent with the requirements of sec-
11 tion 482 and the submission of the financial aid
12 form required by section 483.

13 “(2) APPLICATIONS.—Each eligible student de-
14 siring a grant under this section shall submit at
15 such time and in such manner such information as
16 the Secretary may reasonably require.

17 “(3) CONTINUATION OF GRANT REQUIRE-
18 MENTS.—In order for a student to continue to be el-
19 igible to receive a grant under this section for the
20 second year of undergraduate education, the eligible
21 student shall—

22 “(A) maintain eligibility to receive a Fed-
23 eral Pell Grant for that year;

24 “(B) obtain a grade point average of at
25 least 3.0 (or the equivalent as determined under

1 regulations prescribed by the Secretary) for the
 2 first year of undergraduate education; and

3 “(C) be enrolled full-time and fulfill the re-
 4 quirements for satisfactory progress described
 5 in section 484(c).

6 “(d) SUNSET, EVALUATION, AND REPORTS.—

7 “(1) SUNSET.—The provisions of this section
 8 shall cease to be effective on October 1, 2011, except
 9 as the Congress may hereafter provide by law if
 10 Congress determines, after analysis of the evaluation
 11 and reports provided for in paragraph (2), that ex-
 12 tension or expansion of the program is warranted.

13 “(2) EVALUATION AND REPORTS.—The Sec-
 14 retary shall monitor the progress, retention, and
 15 completion rates of the students to whom grants are
 16 awarded under this section. In doing so, the Sec-
 17 retary shall evaluate the impact of the Pell Grants
 18 Plus Program and report, not less than biennially,
 19 to the authorizing committees of the House of Rep-
 20 resentatives and the Senate.

21 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
 22 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
 23 \$33,000,000 for fiscal year 2005 and each of the 5 suc-
 24 ceeding fiscal years.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Chapter 3 of sub-
2 part 2 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act
3 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–31 et seq.) is repealed.

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