

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1628

To provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for students who are eligible for Federal Pell Grants and are adversely affected by a natural disaster.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2005

Mr. MARTINEZ (for himself and Mr. VITTER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for students who are eligible for Federal Pell Grants and are adversely affected by a natural disaster.

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 “Federal Pell Grant
5 Hurricane and Disaster Relief Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. WAIVERS OF FEDERAL PELL GRANT REPAYMENT**
2 **BY STUDENTS AFFECTED BY DISASTERS.**

3 Section 484B(b)(2) of the Higher Education Act of
4 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1091b(b)(2)) is amended by adding at
5 the end the following new subparagraph:

6 “(D) WAIVERS OF FEDERAL PELL GRANT
7 REPAYMENT BY STUDENTS AFFECTED BY DIS-
8 ASTERS.—The Secretary may waive the
9 amounts that students are required to return
10 under this section with respect to Federal Pell
11 Grants if the withdrawals on which the returns
12 are based are withdrawals—

13 “(i) by students—

14 “(I) who were residing in, em-
15 ployed in, or attending an institution
16 of higher education that is located in
17 an area that is designated by the
18 President to warrant major disaster
19 assistance under section 401 of the
20 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
21 and Emergency Assistance Act (42
22 U.S.C. 5170); and

23 “(II) whose attendance was inter-
24 rupted because of the impact of the
25 disaster on the student or the institu-
26 tion; and

1 “(ii) that end within the academic
2 year during which the designation occurred
3 or during the next succeeding academic
4 year.”.

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