110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1394

To expand the teacher loan forgiveness provisions of the Higher Education
Act of 1965 to include speech-language pathologists.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina introduced the following bill; which was
referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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A BILL

To expand the teacher loan forgiveness provisions of the
Higher Education Act of 1965 to include speech-lan-
guage pathologists.

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 "Helping Our Students

5 Communicate Act of 2007".

6 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF LOAN FORGIVENESS TO SPEECH-**

7   **LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS.**

8   (a) FFEL LOANS.—

9   (1) FORGIVENESS FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PA-

10   THOLOGISTS AUTHORIZED.—Section 428J(b)(1) of

1 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078–

2 10(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

3   "(1) has been employed for 5 consecutive com-

4 plete school years—

5   "(A) as a full-time teacher—

6   "(i) in a school that qualifies under

7   section 465(a)(2)(A) for loan cancellation

8   for Perkins loan recipients who teach in

9   such schools; and

10   "(ii) if employed as an elementary

11   school or secondary school teacher, who is

12   highly qualified as defined in section 9101

13   of the Elementary Secondary Education

14   Act of 1965, or meets the requirements of

15   subsection (g)(3); or

16   "(B) as a full-time speech-language pathol-

17   ogist—

18   "(i) to perform services principally in

19   a school described in subparagraph (A)(i);

20   and

21   "(ii) who has, at a minimum, a grad-

22   uate degree in speech-language pathology,

23   or communication sciences and disorders;

24   and".

1   (2) ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS FOR SPEECH-LAN-
2   GUAGE PATHOLOGISTS.—Section 428J(c)(3) of such
3   Act (20 U.S.C. 1078–10(c)(3)) is amended—

4   (A) in the header, by inserting before the
5   period ", AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLO-
6   GISTS";

7   (B) by striking "and" at the end of sub-
8   paragraph (A);

9   (C) by striking the period at the end of
10   subparagraph (B) and inserting "; and"; and

11   (D) by adding at the end the following new
12   subparagraph:

13   "(C) a speech-language pathologist who
14   meets the requirements of subsection (b).".

15   (b) DIRECT LOANS.—

16   (1) FORGIVENESS FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PA-
17   THOLOGISTS AUTHORIZED.—Section 460(b)(1)(A) of
18   the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
19   1087j(b)(1)(A)) is amended to read as follows:

20   "(A) has been employed for 5 consecutive
21   complete school years—

22   "(i) as a full-time teacher—

23   "(I) in a school that qualifies
24   under section 465(a)(2)(A) for loan

1 cancellation for Perkins loan recipi-
2 ents who teach in such schools; and
3   ''(II) if employed as an elemen-
4 tary school or secondary school teach-
5 er, who is highly qualified as defined
6 in section 9101 of the Elementary
7 Secondary Education Act of 1965, or
8 meets the requirements of subsection
9 (g)(3); or
10   ''(ii) as a full-time speech-language
11 pathologist—
12   ''(I) to perform services prin-
13 cipally in a school described in clause
14 (i)(I); and
15   ''(II) who has, at a minimum, a
16 graduate degree in speech-language
17 pathology, or communication sciences
18 and disorders; and''.
19 (2) ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS FOR SPEECH-LAN-
20 GUAGE PATHOLOGISTS.—Section 460(c)(3) of such
21 Act (20 U.S.C. 1087j(c)(3)) is amended—
22   (A) in the header, by inserting before the
23 period '', AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLO-
24 GISTS'';

1   (B) by striking "and" at the end of sub-

2   paragraph (A);

3   (C) by striking the period at the end of

4   subparagraph (B) and inserting "; and"; and

5   (D) by adding at the end the following new

6   subparagraph:

7   "(C) a speech-language pathologist who

8   meets the requirements of subsection (b).".

9   (c) NEW BORROWER ELIGIBILITY.—An individual

10 who is a speech-language pathologist shall not qualify

11 under the amendments made by this section unless such

12 individual is a new borrower (as such term is defined in

13 section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20

14 U.S.C. 1003)) on or after October 1, 2007.

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