

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 209

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 2009

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

A BILL

To expand the teacher loan forgiveness provisions of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include speech-language 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 2009”.

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 or location that quali-
7 fies under section 465(a)(2)(A) for loan
8 cancellation for Perkins loan recipients
9 who teach in such schools or locations; and

10 “(ii) if employed as an elementary
11 school or secondary school teacher, is high-
12 ly qualified as defined in section 9101 of
13 the Elementary Secondary Education Act
14 of 1965, or meets the requirements of sub-
15 section (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) of
18 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
19 1087j(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

20 “(1) has been employed for 5 consecutive com-
21 plete school years—

22 “(A) as a full-time teacher—

23 “(i) in a school or location that quali-
24 fies under section 465(a)(2)(A) for loan

cancellation for Perkins loan recipients
who teach in such schools or locations; and

“(ii) if employed as an elementary
school or secondary school teacher, is highly
qualified as defined in section 9101 of
the Elementary Secondary Education Act
of 1965, or meets the requirements of sub-
section (g)(3); or

“(B) as a full-time speech-language pathol-
ogist—

“(i) to perform services principally in
a school described in subparagraph (A)(i);
and

“(ii) who has, at a minimum, a grad-
uate degree in speech-language pathology,
or communication sciences and disorders;
and”.

(2) ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS FOR SPEECH-LAN-
GUAGE PATHOLOGISTS.—Section 460(c)(3) of such
Act (20 U.S.C. 1087j(c)(3)) is amended—

(A) in the header, by inserting before the
period “, AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLO-
GISTS”;

(B) by striking “and” at the end of sub-
paragraph (A);

1 (C) by striking the period at the end of
2 subparagraph (B) and inserting “; and”; and

3 (D) by adding at the end the following new
4 subparagraph:

5 “(C) a speech-language pathologist who
6 meets the requirements of subsection (b).”.

7 (c) NEW BORROWER ELIGIBILITY.—An individual
8 who is a speech-language pathologist shall not qualify
9 under the amendments made by this section unless such
10 individual is a new borrower (as such term is defined in
11 section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
12 U.S.C. 1003)) on or after the date that is 90 days after
13 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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