

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6281

To increase Federal Pell Grants for the children of fallen police officers,
firefighters, and other public safety officers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 2, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. KEATING,
Mr. RANGEL, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. PLATTS, Mr.
NUGENT, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. MEEHAN) introduced
the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and
the Workforce

A BILL

To increase Federal Pell Grants for the children of fallen
police officers, firefighters, and other public safety officers.

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 “Children of Fallen He-
5 roes Scholarship Act of 2012”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) 2011 was a deadly year for law enforcement
9 officers, with 163 men and women killed in the line

1 of duty, which is a 15 percent increase from the
2 number of law enforcement officers killed in the line
3 of duty in 2010. In 2011, 80 firefighters lost their
4 lives and 19 paramedics suffered fatalities in the line
5 of duty.

6 (2) Congress recognizes the sacrifice of the
7 families of fallen public safety officers.

8 (3) The financial loss for a family with children
9 could be detrimental for decades.

10 (4) Families who have given the ultimate sac-
11 rifice deserve the support of the American people as
12 their children pursue higher education.

13 **SEC. 3. CALCULATION OF FEDERAL PELL GRANT ELIGI-**
14 **BILITY.**

15 Section 401(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
16 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(f)) is amended by adding at the end
17 the following new paragraph:

18 “(4)(A) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) or any
19 other provision of this section, the expected family
20 contribution of each student described in subpara-
21 graph (B) shall be deemed to be zero for the period
22 during which each such student is eligible to receive
23 a Federal Pell Grant under subsection (c).

24 “(B) Subparagraph (A) shall apply to any stu-
25 dent at an institution of higher education—

1 “(i) whose parent or guardian—

2 “(I) was actively serving as a police
3 officer, firefighter, or other public safety
4 officer; and

5 “(II) died as a result of performing a
6 public safety service; and

7 “(ii) who was 18 years or less, or was en-
8 rolled as a full-time or part-time student at an
9 institution of higher education, as of the time
10 of the parent or guardian’s death.

11 “(C) For purposes of this paragraph—

12 “(i) the term ‘police officer, firefighter, or
13 other public safety officer’ means an individual
14 who—

15 “(I) is a law enforcement officer or
16 firefighter in a police department or fire
17 department which is organized and oper-
18 ated by a State or political subdivision to
19 provide police protection, firefighting serv-
20 ices, or emergency medical services for any
21 area within the jurisdiction of such State
22 or political subdivision;

23 “(II) is an emergency medical services
24 provider who provides out-of-hospital emer-

1 gency medical care, including an emer-
 2 gency medical technician or paramedic; or
 3 “(III) is a member of a qualified vol-
 4 unteer emergency response organization
 5 who provides firefighting services or emer-
 6 gency medical services; and

7 “(ii) the term ‘qualified volunteer emer-
 8 gency response organization’ means any volun-
 9 teer organization that—

10 “(I) is organized and operated to pro-
 11 vide firefighting or emergency medical
 12 services for persons in the State or polit-
 13 ical subdivision, as the case may be; and

14 “(II) is required (by written agree-
 15 ment) by the State or political subdivision
 16 to furnish firefighting or emergency med-
 17 ical services in such State or political sub-
 18 division.”.

19 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

20 The amendment made by section 3 of this Act shall
 21 apply with respect to Federal Pell Grants awarded for aca-
 22 demic year 2013–2014, and each succeeding academic
 23 year.

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