

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5568

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to direct the Secretary of Education to award interest-free student loans to certain students, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

Mr. CASTRO of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to direct the Secretary of Education to award interest-free student loans to certain students, and for other purposes.

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 “B-On-Time Student
5 Loan Relief Act of 2014”.

6 **SEC. 2. B-ON-TIME LOANS AND LOAN FORGIVENESS.**

7 Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
8 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
9 the following new part:

1 **“PART J—B-ON-TIME LOANS**

2 **“SEC. 499A. LOAN REQUIREMENTS.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a
4 program to—

5 “(1) award loans with an applicable rate of in-
6 terest of zero to eligible students for study at an in-
7 stitution of higher education; and

8 “(2) forgive the outstanding principal on such
9 loans awarded to students who meet the require-
10 ments of subsection (c).

11 “(b) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR LOANS.—To be eli-
12 gible to receive a loan under subsection (a)(1), a student
13 shall meet any requirements that the Secretary may re-
14 quire, which shall include requirements that the student—

15 “(1)(A) has graduated on or after the 2013–
16 2014 school year from a secondary school in the
17 United States or a secondary school operated by the
18 Department of Defense, or its equivalent; or

19 “(B) has earned an associate’s degree from an
20 institution of higher education on or after May 1,
21 2013;

22 “(2) has not earned a bachelor’s degree;

23 “(3) is enrolled as a full-time student in an un-
24 dergraduate degree or certificate program at an in-
25 stitution of higher education; and

1 “(4) has completed a FAFSA and meets the re-
2 quirements of section 484(a).

3 “(c) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR LOAN FORGIVE-
4 NESS.—To be eligible to receive loan forgiveness under
5 subsection (a)(2), a student shall meet any requirements
6 that the Secretary may require, which shall include re-
7 quirements that the student—

8 “(1) receives a bachelor’s degree within a set
9 timeframe, as determined by the Secretary;

10 “(2) while enrolled at the program of study at
11 an institution of higher education for which the stu-
12 dent received a loan under subsection (a)(1)—

13 “(A) has maintained a certain grade point
14 average; or

15 “(B) has majored in a science, technology,
16 engineering, or mathematics field; and

17 “(3) meets any other requirements as deter-
18 mined by the Secretary.

19 “(d) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall award loans
20 under subsection (a)(1) and grant loan forgiveness under
21 subsection (a)(2) on a first-come, first-served basis, and
22 subject to the availability of appropriations.

23 “(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
24 tion shall be construed to prohibit a student from applying
25 for other financial assistance under this title.

1 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015 and
4 each succeeding fiscal year through fiscal year 2024.”.

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