

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2374

To improve college affordability.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2014

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Ms. HIRONO) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Edu-
cation, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To improve college affordability.

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 “Creating Higher Edu-
5 cation Affordability Necessary to Compete Economically
6 Act” or the “Middle Class CHANCE Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF A FED-**
8 **ERAL PELL GRANT.**

9 Section 401(b)(7)(C) of the Higher Education Act of
10 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(b)(7)(C)) is amended by striking
11 clauses (ii) and (iii) and inserting the following:

“(ii) AWARD YEAR 2014–2015.—For award year 2014–2015, the amount determined under this subparagraph for purposes of subparagraph (B)(iii) shall be increased to \$4,040.

“(iii) SUBSEQUENT AWARD YEARS.—For award year 2015-2016 and each subsequent award year, the amount determined under this subparagraph for purposes of subparagraph (B)(iii) shall be equal to—

“(I) the amount determined under this subparagraph for the preceding award year; increased by

“(II) a percentage equal to the annual adjustment percentage for the award year for which the amount under this subparagraph is being determined; and

“(III) rounded to the nearest \$5.”.

SEC. 3. YEAR-ROUND FEDERAL PELL GRANT STUDENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(8) YEAR-ROUND FEDERAL PELL GRANT STU-
2 DENTS.—

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
4 provision of this subsection, the Secretary shall
5 award, to an eligible student who meets the require-
6 ments in subparagraph (B) who has received a Fed-
7 eral Pell Grant for an award year and is enrolled in
8 a program of study for 1 or more additional pay-
9 ment periods during the same award year that are
10 not otherwise covered by the student’s Federal Pell
11 Grant, an additional Federal Pell Grant for the ad-
12 ditional payment periods.

13 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to be eligible to
14 receive the additional Federal Pell Grant for an
15 award year that is described in subparagraph (A), a
16 student shall, in addition to meeting all eligibility re-
17 quirements for the receipt of a Federal Pell Grant—

18 “(i) be enrolled full-time in an institution
19 of higher education; and

20 “(ii) have successfully completed at least a
21 full-time course load (as determined by the in-
22 stitution) prior to receiving an additional Fed-
23 eral Pell Grant award as described in subpara-
24 graph (A).

1 “(C) AMOUNTS.—In the case of a student re-
 2 ceiving more than one Federal Pell Grant in a single
 3 award year under subparagraph (A), the total
 4 amount of the Federal Pell Grants awarded to such
 5 student for the award year shall not exceed an
 6 amount equal to 150 percent of the total maximum
 7 Federal Pell Grant for such award year calculated in
 8 accordance with paragraph (7)(C)(iv)(II).

9 “(D) INCLUSION IN DURATION LIMIT.—Any pe-
 10 riod of study covered by a Federal Pell Grant
 11 awarded under subparagraph (A) shall be included
 12 in determining a student’s duration limit under sub-
 13 section (c)(5).

14 “(9) CROSSOVER PERIOD.—In any case where an eli-
 15 gible student is receiving a Federal Pell Grant for a pay-
 16 ment period that spans 2 award years, the Secretary shall
 17 allow the eligible institution in which the student is en-
 18 rolled to determine the award year to which the additional
 19 period shall be assigned.”.

20 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 21 subsection (a) shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

22 **SEC. 4. PELL GRANT DURATION LIMIT.**

23 Section 401(c)(5) of the Higher Education Act of
 24 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(c)(5)) is amended by striking “12

- 1 semesters” and inserting “15 semesters” each place the
- 2 term appears.

