

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2079

To provide that chapter 1 of title 9 of the United States Code, relating to the enforcement of arbitration agreements, shall not apply to enrollment agreements made between students and certain institutions of higher education; and to prohibit limitations on the ability of students to pursue claims against certain institutions of higher education.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 28, 2015

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California (for herself, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. LEE, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. TAKANO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide that chapter 1 of title 9 of the United States Code, relating to the enforcement of arbitration agreements, shall not apply to enrollment agreements made between students and certain institutions of higher education; and to prohibit limitations on the ability of students to pursue claims against certain institutions of higher education.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Court Legal Access
3 and Student Support (CLASS) Act of 2015”.

4 **SEC. 2. INAPPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER 1 OF TITLE 9,**
5 **UNITED STATES CODE, TO ENROLLMENT**
6 **AGREEMENTS MADE BETWEEN STUDENTS**
7 **AND CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER**
8 **EDUCATION.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 9 of the United
10 States Code (relating to the enforcement of arbitration
11 agreements) shall not apply to an enrollment agreement
12 made between a student and an institution of higher edu-
13 cation.

14 (b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
15 term “institution of higher education” has the meaning
16 given such term in section 102 of the Higher Education
17 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

18 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON LIMITATIONS ON ABILITY OF STU-**
19 **DENTS TO PURSUE CLAIMS AGAINST CER-**
20 **TAIN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

21 Section 487(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
22 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)) is amended by adding at the end the
23 following new paragraph:

24 “(30) The institution will not require any stu-
25 dent to agree to, and will not enforce, any limitation
26 or restriction (including a limitation or restriction on

1 any available choice of applicable law, a jury trial,
2 or venue) on the ability of a student to pursue a
3 claim, individually or with others, against an institu-
4 tion in court.”.

5 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

6 This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
7 take effect 1 year after the date of the enactment of this
8 Act.

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