

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1872

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary to provide for the use of data from the second preceding tax year to carry out the simplification of applications for the estimation and determination of financial aid eligibility, to increase the income threshold to qualify for zero expected family contribution, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 27, 2015

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KAINE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. TESTER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. MERKLEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary to provide for the use of data from the second preceding tax year to carry out the simplification of applications for the estimation and determination of financial aid eligibility, to increase the income threshold to qualify for zero expected family contribution, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Simplifying Financial
3 Aid for Students Act of 2015”.

4 **SEC. 2. USING DATA FOR SECOND PRECEDING YEAR.**

5 Section 480(a)(1)(B) of the Higher Education Act of
6 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(a)(1)(B)) is amended to read as
7 follows:

8 “(B) Notwithstanding section 478(a) and
9 beginning not later than 180 days after the
10 date of enactment of the Simplifying Financial
11 Aid for Students Act of 2015, the Secretary
12 shall provide for the use of data from the sec-
13 ond preceding tax year when and to the extent
14 necessary to carry out the simplification of ap-
15 plications (including simplification for a subset
16 of applications) used for the estimation and de-
17 termination of financial aid eligibility. Such
18 simplification shall include the sharing of data
19 between the Internal Revenue Service and the
20 Department, pursuant to the consent of the
21 taxpayer.”.

22 **SEC. 3. ZERO EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION.**

23 Section 479(c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
24 (20 U.S.C. 1087ss(c)) is amended—

25 (1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “\$23,000”
26 and inserting “\$30,000”; and

- 1 (2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “\$23,000”
- 2 and inserting “\$30,000”.

