

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6156

To prohibit States from suspending, revoking, or denying State-issued professional licenses or issuing penalties due to student default.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 2018

Mr. FERGUSON (for himself and Mr. CICILLINE) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To prohibit States from suspending, revoking, or denying State-issued professional licenses or issuing penalties due to student default.

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 “Protecting Job Oppor-
5 tunities for Borrowers Act” or the “Protecting JOBS
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST SUSPENSION, REVOCATION,**
 2 **OR DENIAL OF STATE-ISSUED PROFESSIONAL**
 3 **LICENSES OR PENALTIES DUE TO STUDENT**
 4 **DEFAULT.**

5 (a) HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965 LOANS.—Part
 6 B of title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
 7 U.S.C. 1011 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
 8 the following:

9 **“SEC. 124. PROHIBITION AGAINST SUSPENSION, REVOCATION,**
 10 **OR DENIAL OF STATE-ISSUED PROFESSIONAL**
 11 **LICENSES OR PENALTIES DUE TO**
 12 **STUDENT DEFAULT.**

13 “(a) PROHIBITION.—Beginning 2 years after the
 14 date of enactment of the Protecting Job Opportunities for
 15 Borrowers Act, a State that receives assistance under this
 16 Act may not suspend, revoke, or deny the approval or re-
 17 newal of a State-issued license described in subsection (b)
 18 or issue a fine or other penalty with respect to an indi-
 19 vidual based solely on such individual’s default or delin-
 20 quency on a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under title
 21 IV.

22 “(b) TYPES OF LICENSES.—A State-issued license
 23 described in this subsection means any of the following:

24 “(1) A State-issued driver’s license (including
 25 any State-issued document permitting a specific in-
 26 dividual to operate one or more types of motorized

1 vehicles, such as a motorcycle, car, truck, or bus on
2 a public road).

3 “(2) A State-issued teaching license.

4 “(3) A State-issued professional license involved
5 in or affecting interstate commerce (including any li-
6 cense, permit, certificate, registration, charter, au-
7 thority or similar form of permission required for
8 lawful employment in a particular career field).

9 “(c) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—Any individual aggrieved
10 as a result of a violation of subsection (a) may bring a
11 civil action in an appropriate district court of the United
12 States to obtain prospective injunctive relief against an in-
13 dividual State officer in the officer’s official capacity.”.

14 (b) HEALTH EDUCATION LOANS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—A State may not suspend,
16 revoke, or deny the approval or renewal of a State-
17 issued license described in section 124(b) of the
18 Higher Education Act of 1965 or issue a fine or
19 other penalty with respect to an individual based
20 solely on such individual’s default or delinquency on
21 a Health Education Assistance Loan or Primary
22 Care Loan made under part A of title VII of the
23 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 292 et seq.).

24 (2) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—Any individual ag-
25 grieved as a result of a violation of paragraph (1)

1 may bring a civil action in an appropriate district
2 court of the United States to obtain prospective in-
3 junctive relief against an individual State officer in
4 the officer's official capacity.

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