

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4269

To repeal certain student loan provisions, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 26, 2026

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, and Mr. KAINE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To repeal certain student loan provisions, 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 “Restoring College Ac-
5 cess and Affordability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. LOAN LIMITS.**

7 Section 81001 of the Act titled “An Act to provide
8 for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14”
9 (Public Law 119–21; 139 Stat. 72) is repealed and any
10 law or regulation referred to in such section shall be ap-

1 plied as if such section and the amendments made by such
2 section had not been enacted.

3 **SEC. 3. LOAN REPAYMENT.**

4 (a) LOAN REPAYMENT.—Section 82001 of the Act ti-
5 tled “An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title
6 II of H. Con. Res. 14” (Public Law 119–21; 139 Stat.
7 72) is repealed and any law or regulation referred to in
8 such section shall be applied as if such section and the
9 amendments made by such section had not been enacted.

10 (b) DEFERMENT; FORBEARANCE.—Section 82002 of
11 the Act titled “An Act to provide for reconciliation pursu-
12 ant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14” (Public Law 119–21;
13 139 Stat. 72) is repealed and any law or regulation re-
14 ferred to in such section shall be applied as if such section
15 and the amendments made by such section had not been
16 enacted.

17 (c) PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS.—Section
18 82004 of the Act titled “An Act to provide for reconcili-
19 ation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14” (Public Law
20 119–21; 139 Stat. 72) is repealed and any law or regula-
21 tion referred to in such section shall be applied as if such
22 section and the amendments made by such section had
23 not been enacted.

1 **SEC. 4. PELL GRANTS.**

2 (a) **ELIGIBILITY.**—Section 83001 of the Act titled
 3 “An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II
 4 of H. Con. Res. 14” (Public Law 119–21; 139 Stat. 72)
 5 is repealed and any law or regulation referred to in such
 6 section shall be applied as if such section and the amend-
 7 ments made by such section had not been enacted.

8 (b) **FEDERAL PELL GRANT EXCLUSION RELATING**
 9 **TO OTHER GRANT AID.**—Section 83004 of the Act titled
 10 “An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II
 11 of H. Con. Res. 14” (Public Law 119–21; 139 Stat. 72)
 12 is repealed and any law or regulation referred to in such
 13 section shall be applied as if such section and the amend-
 14 ments made by such section had not been enacted.

15 **SEC. 5. INELIGIBILITY BASED ON LOW EARNING OUT-**
 16 **COMES.**

17 Section 454(c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
 18 (20 U.S.C. 1087d(c)) is amended—

19 (1) in paragraph (1)—

20 (A) by striking “Notwithstanding section
 21 481(b),” and inserting the following:

22 “(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding sec-
 23 tion 481(b),”;

24 (B) by striking “an educational program”
 25 and inserting “a covered educational program”;
 26 and

1 (C) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(B) COVERED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.—

3 In this subsection, the term ‘covered edu-
4 cational program’ means an eligible program
5 under this title that is—

6 “(i) a program of training to prepare
7 students for gainful employment in a rec-
8 ognized occupation (such as a program
9 that awards a certificate or credential), or
10 a program that awards an associate’s de-
11 gree;

12 “(ii) a program that awards an associ-
13 ate’s degree or a baccalaureate degree; or

14 “(iii) a program that awards a grad-
15 uate or professional degree, or graduate
16 certificate.”;

17 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “An edu-
18 cational program at an institution is described in
19 this paragraph if the program awards an under-
20 graduate degree, graduate or professional degree, or
21 graduate certificate, for which” and inserting “A
22 covered educational program at an institution is de-
23 scribed in this paragraph if the program is a pro-
24 gram for which”;

25 (3) in paragraph (3)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),
3 by striking “an educational program” and
4 inserting “a covered educational program”;

5 (ii) in clause (iii)(I), by striking “an
6 educational program that awards a bacca-
7 laurate or lesser degree,” and inserting “a
8 covered educational program described in
9 clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (1)(B),”;
10 and

11 (iii) in clause (iii)(II), by striking “a
12 graduate or professional program,” and in-
13 serting “a covered educational program de-
14 scribed in clause (iii) of paragraph
15 (1)(B),”; and

16 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

17 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),
18 by striking “an educational program” and
19 inserting “a covered educational program”;

20 (ii) in clause (i), in the matter pre-
21 ceding subclause (I), by striking “that
22 awards a baccalaureate or lesser degree”
23 and inserting “that is a covered edu-
24 cational program described in clause (i) or
25 (ii) of paragraph (1)(B),”; and

1 (iii) in clause (ii), in the matter pre-
 2 ceding subclause (I), by striking “that is a
 3 graduate or professional program” and in-
 4 serting “that is a covered educational pro-
 5 gram described in clause (iii) of paragraph
 6 (1)(B),”;

7 (4) in paragraph (4)—

8 (A) by striking “an educational program”
 9 and inserting “a covered educational program”;
 10 and

11 (B) by inserting “covered” before “edu-
 12 cational programs”;

13 (5) in paragraph (5)—

14 (A) by striking “An educational program”
 15 and inserting “A covered educational program”;
 16 and

17 (B) by striking “the educational program”
 18 and inserting “the covered educational pro-
 19 gram”;

20 (6) in paragraph (6)(A)—

21 (A) by striking “an educational program”
 22 and inserting “a covered educational program”;
 23 and

1 (B) by striking “the educational program”
 2 and inserting “the covered educational pro-
 3 gram”, each place the term appears; and
 4 (7) in paragraph (7), by striking “an edu-
 5 cational program” and inserting “a covered edu-
 6 cational program”.

7 **SEC. 6. REGULATORY RELIEF.**

8 (a) DELAY OF RULE RELATING TO BORROWER DE-
 9 FENSE TO REPAYMENT.—Section 85001 of the Act titled
 10 “An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II
 11 of H. Con. Res. 14” (Public Law 119–21; 139 Stat. 72)
 12 is repealed and any law or regulation referred to in such
 13 section shall be applied as if such section and the amend-
 14 ments made by such section had not been enacted.

15 (b) DELAY OF RULE RELATING TO CLOSED SCHOOL
 16 DISCHARGES.—Section 85002 of the Act titled “An Act
 17 to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con.
 18 Res. 14” (Public Law 119–21; 139 Stat. 72) is repealed
 19 and any law or regulation referred to in such section shall
 20 be applied as if such section and the amendments made
 21 by such section had not been enacted.

1 **SEC. 7. MODIFICATION OF EXCISE TAX ON ENDOWMENT IN-**
 2 **COME OF PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVER-**
 3 **SITIES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 4968 of
 5 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking
 6 “the applicable percentage” and inserting “1.4 percent”.

7 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

8 (1) Section 4968 of the Internal Revenue Code
 9 of 1986 is amended by striking subsection (b) and
 10 by redesignating subsections (c), (d), (e), (f), (g),
 11 and (h) as subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g),
 12 respectively.

13 (2) Subsection (e) of section 4968 of such Code
 14 is amended by striking “(c) and (d)” and inserting
 15 “(b) and (c)”.

16 (3) Paragraph (1) of section 4968(g) of such
 17 Code is amended by striking “(d) and (f)” and in-
 18 serting “(c) and (e)”.

19 (4) Subsection (o) of section 6033 of such Code
 20 is amended—

21 (A) by striking “4968(c)” both places it
 22 appears and inserting “4968(b)”, and

23 (B) by striking “4968(e)” in paragraph
 24 (2) thereof and inserting “4968(d)”.

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
3 December 31, 2025.

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