

PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE SENATE REFLECTING LEVELS FOR THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT

Period of the current fiscal year, the budget year, and the four fiscal years following the budget year: \$0.

Period of the current fiscal year, the budget year, and the nine fiscal years following the budget year: \$0.

HOUSE RULE XXVIII

The adoption of this conference agreement by the two houses would result in the engrossment of a House Joint Resolution changing the statutory limit on the public debt pursuant to House Rule XXVIII, clause 3. The rule requires a joint resolution in the following form:

Resolved, by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, that subsection (b) of section 3101 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking out the dollar limitation contained in such subsection and inserting in lieu thereof \$10,615,000,000,000.

Legislative jurisdiction over the public debt remains with the Finance Committee in the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means in the House.

JOHN SPRATT,
ROSA L. DELAURO,
CHET EDWARDS,

Managers on the Part of the House.

KENT CONRAD,
PATTY MURRAY,
RON WYDEN,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

HIGHER EDUCATION EXTENSION

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 3035) to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 3035

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

(a) **EXTENSION OF PROGRAMS.**—Section 2(a) of the Higher Education Extension Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-81; 20 U.S.C. 1001 note) is amended by striking “May 31, 2008” and inserting “June 30, 2008”.

(b) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section, or in the Higher Education Extension Act of 2005 as amended by this Act, shall be construed to limit or otherwise alter the authorizations of appropriations for, or the durations of, programs contained in the amendments made by the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-171), by the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110-84), or by the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-227) to the provisions of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Taxpayer-Teacher Protection Act of 2004.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KELLER) will each control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during

which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on S. 3035 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 3035, a bill to temporarily extend programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965. At the beginning of February, the House took the next step in the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act in passing H.R. 4137, the College Opportunity and Affordability Act. Now we find ourselves in the final phase in completing the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act as we work towards a compromise bill with the Senate to ensure that the doors of college are truly open to all qualified students.

It is our goal to ensure that a final bill encompasses the major issues addressed in H.R. 4137, including skyrocketing college prices, a needlessly complicated student aid application process, and predatory tactics by student lenders.

The bill under consideration today, S. 3035, will extend the programs under the Higher Education Act until June 30, 2008, to allow sufficient time for final deliberations on the two bills reported out of the respective chambers. It has been nearly 10 years since the Higher Education Act was last reauthorized, and I believe Members on both sides of the aisle and in both chambers are anxious to complete work on a compromise bill in this Congress, and we believe it can happen.

I look forward to joining my colleagues on the committee in completing this work with the respective members on behalf of our Nation's hardworking families and students. I urge my colleagues to support this extension.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 3035, a 1-month extension of the Higher Education Act. I would like to begin by extending my thoughts and prayers to Senator KENNEDY and his family in this difficult time. We are all saddened to learn of the diagnosis of his malignant brain tumor and we are hoping and praying for a speedy and full recovery.

I was just with Senator KENNEDY a few days ago in the Oval Office with President Bush, as the President signed into law the Ensuring Continuing Access to Student Loans Act on May 7. Senator KENNEDY was in a jovial mood and was in good spirits. We look forward to seeing him in the same condition in the future.

Senator KENNEDY obviously has played a very integral role in the development of this higher education legislation, and I want to recognize him for his passion for education and his long-

standing efforts to ensure that all young people receive a quality education and have the opportunity to obtain a college degree. As we extend the Higher Education Act and allow additional time to negotiate the renewal of this landmark law, I think all of us know that this legislation will bear the indelible imprint of Senator KENNEDY's hard work and commitment.

Just last month, we were on the floor passing what we thought and hoped would be the last extension of the Higher Education Act. Unfortunately, while we have made a tremendous amount of progress on the bill, the size of the bill and our concern about producing a thoughtful product prevented us from completing our work.

The Education and Labor Committee, I am happy to report, has worked in a bipartisan fashion to produce a bill that received strong bipartisan support here on the House floor. Chairman MILLER and Ranking Member MCKEON have been leading our efforts to negotiate a final compromise with the Senate colleagues. We have a handful of issues, however, that remain outstanding, and we believe that we will be able to reach resolution on these issues over the next few weeks. Of course, there may be some complications outside of our control, not the least of which is possibly Senator KENNEDY's situation and recovery.

As we move toward finalizing this broad overhaul of Federal higher education programs, our top priority must remain college access and affordability. Bolstering our higher education and student aid programs has long been a priority of Congress. I know, for me personally, making college more affordable is a top priority. All children, rich or poor, should have the opportunity to get a first class college education.

This extension of the Higher Education Act is particularly important because it extends the significant and popular programs such as the Pell Grant program and Perkins student loan programs. This reauthorization is a long time coming. I am pleased to be here supporting what we hope and expect to be the final extension before this law is finally renewed. I urge my colleagues to also support this extension.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, let me first associate myself with the heartfelt comments of Mr. KELLER regarding Senator KENNEDY. I know that everyone in this Chamber hopes and prays for his speedy recovery.

With that, I'd like to yield 4 minutes to a fellow member of the committee, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU).

Mr. WU. I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) for his leadership in education. I rise in support of this temporary extension of the Higher Education Act and also rise to associate myself with the remarks of the gentleman from Florida. Our hearts and prayers go out to Senator

KENNEDY, his family, friends, and many supporters around the country, and look forward to his return to the other body as the lion of the Senate, with teeth and claws and roar completely intact.

I also look forward to the new Higher Education Act, which we are close to completing in conference with the other body, and the many provisions that my colleague from New York referred to. I just wanted to point out three. One is a substantial expansion of financial aid, especially to the neediest students in America. Second, a late but very appropriate recognition of the role of community colleges in higher education, and in particular the encouragement of articulation agreements between community colleges and their peers and 4-year colleges.

What articulation agreements would basically permit would be students to seamlessly go between community colleges, and between community colleges and 4-year colleges, because what we have found in Oregon is that students study and learn in a different way today, so that someone may take a class at a community college in the morning, work, and then take a class at a 4-year college at night. We want that system to work for the students and want the institutions to work together so that students do not need to fill out two financial aid forms, two entrance forms, and multiple other forms. These articulation agreements are very, very important. It's a little bit technical. But it will serve the modern education need very, very well.

Finally, I want to point out one area addressed by this higher education bill, and this is a topic on which my office has received the most mail of any topic that we have worked on in my decade in Congress, this is mail from all around the country, from college students, and that is the textbook fairness pricing issue.

Sometimes you will find a book in the college book store here selling for \$150. If you go on Amazon U.K., you will find the same textbook being sold, in English, the same textbook in the U.K. for \$50. In this Internet era, with a highly motivated, highly educated consumer group, namely college students, this kind of pricing unfairness just can't stand the test of either fairness or propriety anymore.

We have some minimal provisions in the House version of the higher education bill to bring some fairness, some openness to college textbook pricing. Currently, students are cooperating, professors are cooperating, bookstores are cooperating, but the textbook industry is fighting this particular provision very, very hard. I just want to say that we will not give up on this issue. We will insist on the House language because college students who can make a difference, who will make a difference, will insist upon this.

We look forward to the new version of the higher education bill and support this temporary extension.

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time. I would urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote "yes" on S. 3035, to extend the Higher Education Act, and thereby extend the Pell Grant program and the Perkins student loan program. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 3035.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON TO- MORROW

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURN- MENT OR RECESS OF THE TWO HOUSES

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged concurrent resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 355

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, May 22, 2008, or Friday, May 23, 2008, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3, 2008, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Thursday, May 22, 2008, through Friday, May 30, 2008, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, June 2, 2008, or such other time on that day as may be specified in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble

at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the concurrent resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MACK. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

Pursuant to clause 8 and clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on House Concurrent Resolution 355 will be followed by 5-minute votes on motions to suspend the rules on H.R. 1464, H.R. 2649, and H.R. 2744.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 239, nays 175, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 334]

YEAS—239

Abercrombie	Engel	Mahoney (FL)
Ackerman	Eshoo	Maloney (NY)
Allen	Etheridge	Markey
Altmire	Everett	Marshall
Arcuri	Farr	Matheson
Baca	Fattah	Matsui
Baird	Feeney	McCarthy (NY)
Baldwin	Filner	McCollum (MN)
Barrow	Fortenberry	McDermott
Bean	Foster	McGovern
Becerra	Fox	McIntyre
Berkley	Frank (MA)	McNerney
Berman	Gerlach	McNulty
Berry	Gonzalez	Meek (FL)
Bishop (GA)	Granger	Meeks (NY)
Bishop (NY)	Green, Al	Melancon
Boren	Green, Gene	Michaud
Boswell	Grijalva	Miller (NC)
Boucher	Gutierrez	Miller, Gary
Boyd (FL)	Hall (NY)	Miller, George
Boyd (KS)	Hare	Mollohan
Brady (PA)	Harman	Moore (KS)
Braley (IA)	Hastings (FL)	Moore (WI)
Brown, Corrine	Herseth Sandlin	Moran (VA)
Butterfield	Higgins	Murphy (CT)
Capps	Hill	Murtha
Capuano	Hinchey	Nadler
Cardoza	Hinojosa	Napolitano
Carnahan	Hirono	Neal (MA)
Carney	Hodes	Oberstar
Carson	Holden	Obey
Castor	Holt	Olver
Cazayoux	Honda	Ortiz
Chandler	Hookey	Pallone
Childers	Hoyer	Pascarelli
Clarke	Inslee	Pastor
Clay	Jackson (IL)	Paul
Cleaver	Jackson-Lee	Payne
Clyburn	(TX)	Perlmutter
Cohen	Jefferson	Peterson (MN)
Conyers	Johnson (GA)	Pitts
Costa	Johnson (IL)	Pomeroy
Costello	Johnson, E. B.	Price (NC)
Courtney	Jones (NC)	Rahall
Cramer	Jones (OH)	Rangel
Crowley	Kagen	Rehberg
Cubin	Kanjorski	Reyes
Cuellar	Kaptur	Richardson
Cummings	Kildee	Rodriguez
Davis (AL)	Kilpatrick	Rogers (AL)
Davis (CA)	Kind	Rohrabacher
Davis (IL)	Klein (FL)	Ros-Lehtinen
Davis, Lincoln	Kucinich	Ross
DeFazio	Lampson	Rothman
DeGette	Langevin	Roybal-Allard
DeLauro	Larsen (WA)	Ruppersberger
Dicks	Larson (CT)	Ryan (OH)
Dingell	Lee	Salazar
Doggett	Levin	Sanchez, Linda
Doyle	Lewis (GA)	T.
Edwards	Lipinski	Sanchez, Loretta
Ehlers	Loeb	Sarbanes
Ellison	Lofgren, Zoe	Schakowsky
Emanuel	Lowey	Schiff
	Lynch	Schwartz