

## HR 129

Higher Education Affordability and Fairness Act

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Taxation

**Introduced:** Jan 7, 2003

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness. (Feb 21, 2003)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/129>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NJ • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Rothman, Steven R. [D-NJ-9]	D · NJ		Oct 21, 2003
Rep. Lowey, Nita M. [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Sep 30, 2004

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 21, 2003
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 7, 2003

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Taxation

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## Summary (as of Jan 7, 2003)

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Higher Education Affordability and Fairness Act - Amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow a limited tax deduction for qualified higher education tuition and related expenses.

Provides that the increase in the Lifetime Learning Credit to 20 percent of \$10,000 of tuition from \$5,000 of tuition shall be effective starting in 2002 rather than 2003.

Directs the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an annual study to examine whether the Federal income tax incentives to provide education assistance affect higher education tuition rates in order to identify if institutions of higher education are absorbing the intended savings by raising tuition rates.

Expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that the maximum Pell Grant should be increased to \$4,700 to pay approximately: (1) 20 percent of the tuition, fees, room and board, and other expenses of the average college; or (2) the tuition and fees of the average public college.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Feb 21, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness.
- **Jan 7, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 7, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 7, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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.
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