

## S 3474

### Protecting Students from Worthless Degrees Act

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Education

**Introduced:** Aug 1, 2012

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Aug 1, 2012)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/3474>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** OR • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Aug 1, 2012
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Aug 1, 2012
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Aug 2, 2012

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 1, 2012

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Education

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 6717	Identical bill	<b>Jan 2, 2013:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

Protecting Students from Worthless Degrees Act - Makes any institution of higher education (IHE) postsecondary program designed to prepare students for a recognized occupation or profession requiring licensing or other entry pre-conditions ineligible to participate in a federal financial assistance program, unless it meets specified student consumer protection requirements.

Requires each program to: (1) fully prepare students to satisfy those entry pre-conditions in the state in which the program is operated and in any state the program claims a successful program graduate will be prepared to work in the particular occupation or profession involved; (2) provide timely placement of students in required pre-licensure positions, such as internships or apprenticeships; and (3) meet specialized state accreditation requirements, or notify students if the program has not yet been fully accredited.

Requires an IHE to notify out-of-state applicants as to whether or not its program satisfies the requirements of the applicant's state.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Aug 1, 2012:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 1, 2012:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.