

S 3550

Advancing College Choice and Ethics to Protect Taxpayers Act of 2012

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Sep 13, 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. (Sep 13, 2012)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/3550>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Sep 13, 2012
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Nov 13, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 13, 2012

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Advancing College Choice and Ethics to Protect Taxpayers Act of 2012 - Amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to bar the Secretary of Education from issuing new regulations related to the prohibition against provision of incentive compensation by institutions of higher education (IHEs) to certain school employees based on their success in securing student enrollments or financial aid.

Prohibits IHEs from engaging in deceptive practices likely to mislead consumers or affect their decisions.

Requires IHEs with a Student Default Risk Index for a year of 0.1 or greater to: (1) give individuals whose enrollment has been accepted at least two weeks to confirm their enrollment decision without the school's making benefit decisions contingent on an earlier decision; and (2) notify those individuals of financial aid determinations at least one week before the enrollment confirmation deadline, if they have submitted the requested application forms.

Penalizes IHEs that substantially misrepresent: (1) the space available in a program for which an individual is considering enrollment, (2) admission requirements, (3) the transferability of credits, (4) whether a program qualifies students to sit for licensing examinations or obtain employment certifications, and (5) the success of their students in obtaining those licenses or certifications. (This is in addition to prohibiting a school from misrepresenting its educational program, financial charges, or graduates' employability.)

Increases, and alters the formula for determining, the penalties imposed on IHEs that violate title IV provisions.

Directs the Secretary annually to produce and make available to IHEs and the public standardized disclosure sheets with IHE data, and state, IHE category, and national averages.

Requires IHEs to provide their students and individuals accepted for enrollment with that disclosure sheet which includes specified information regarding student costs, financial aid, debt and default rates, transfer and dropout rates, and the school's obligations under title IV.

Requires IHEs to provide students and prospective students with the process for registering a complaint with the school's accreditor.

Requires IHEs to provide individuals that have been accepted for enrollment with certain information about financial aid, the school, its procedures, and its graduates in a manner that allows them to take that information into account before making a final enrollment decision.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 13, 2012:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 13, 2012:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.