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Christopher's Law

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Aug 5, 2015

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 5, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1958>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]

Party: Democratic • State: NJ • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Aug 5, 2015
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		Aug 5, 2015
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Aug 5, 2015
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Aug 5, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 5, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Christopher Bryski Student Loan Protection Act or Christopher's Law

This bill amends the Truth in Lending Act to require a private student loan lender to disclose clearly and conspicuously in writing a cosigner's obligations regarding a private student loan. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) must publish a model form for such disclosure.

The bill prohibits a private student loan lender from taking an adverse action against a borrower (e.g., placing a loan in default or accelerating a loan balance) upon a cosigner's death, disability, or bankruptcy. It also prohibits adverse actions against a cosigner for a borrower's death, disability, or bankruptcy.

The CFPB must establish and a private student loan lender must disclose criteria for releasing a cosigner from a private student loan obligation.

A private student loan lender must also:

- provide prompt notice of a cosigner's release;
- allow a borrower to designate a legal representative to make decisions upon the death or disability of such borrower; and
- ensure a borrower and cosigner receive comprehensive counseling on the terms, conditions, and responsibilities of a private student loan.

Additionally, this bill amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand the required elements of entrance counseling for a federal student loan borrower to include:

- conditions for loan discharge upon the death or disability of a borrower,
- options for loan repayment and forgiveness upon the death or disability of a borrower or cosigner, and
- obligations of a borrower or cosigner upon the death or disability of a borrower.

It requires clear and conspicuous disclosure of a student's option to designate a legal representative to make decisions about a federal student loan upon such student's death or disability.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 5, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 5, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.