

HR 3474

Christopher's Law

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Sep 10, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training. (Mar 23, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3474>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-9]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Jul 18, 2016
Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]	D · NJ		Nov 29, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 23, 2016
Financial Services Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 10, 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

- **Mar 23, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.
- **Sep 10, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 10, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Financial Services, 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.