

HR 3721

Affordable College Textbook Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Oct 8, 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/3721>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Hinojosa, Ruben [D-TX-15]

Party: Democratic • State: TX • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Oct 8, 2015
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Oct 8, 2015
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Nov 2, 2015
Rep. O'Rourke, Beto [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Nov 2, 2015
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Dec 3, 2015
Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52]	D · CA		Sep 9, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 23, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 2176	Identical bill	Oct 8, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7276-7277)

## **Affordable College Textbook Act**

This bill directs the Department of Education (ED) to make competitive grants to institutions of higher education (IHEs) to support pilot programs that expand the use of open textbooks in order to achieve savings for students.

It requires the full and complete digital content of the educational resources created or adopted using grant funds to be made available free of charge to the public: (1) on an easily accessible and interoperable website; and (2) in a machine readable, digital format that anyone can directly download, edit with attribution, and redistribute.

ED must give special consideration to grant applicants that demonstrate the greatest potential to:

- achieve the highest level of savings for students;
- expand the use of open textbooks at other IHEs; and
- produce open textbooks that are of the highest quality, that can be most easily utilized and adapted by faculty members, that correspond to the highest enrollment courses, and that are created or adopted in partnership with entities that will assist in their marketing and distribution.

The bill amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include any educational material developed to accompany a college textbook as supplemental material that is subject to college textbook information disclosure requirements.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 23, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.
- **Oct 8, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 8, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.