

S 396

Proprietary Education Oversight Coordination Improvement Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Feb 5, 2015

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S834-836) (Feb 5, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/396>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|----------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI] | D · RI | | Feb 26, 2015 |
| Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI] | D · HI | | Feb 26, 2015 |
| Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH] | D · OH | | Mar 9, 2015 |
| Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA] | D · CA | | Mar 18, 2015 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee | Senate | Referred To | Feb 5, 2015 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|------------|----------------|---|
| 114 HR 747 | Identical bill | Apr 29, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training. |

Proprietary Education Oversight Coordination Improvement Act

Establishes the Proprietary Education Oversight Coordination Committee to:

- coordinate federal oversight of proprietary institutions of higher education (IHEs);
- coordinate federal activities to protect students from unfair, deceptive, abusive, unethical, fraudulent, or predatory practices, policies, or procedures of proprietary IHEs;
- encourage information sharing among federal agencies regarding federal investigations, audits, or inquiries of such IHEs;
- increase coordination and cooperation between federal and state agencies to improve oversight and accountability of proprietary IHEs; and
- develop best practices and consistency among federal and state agencies in the dissemination of consumer information regarding such IHEs.

Requires the Committee to: (1) meet at least once each quarter of each fiscal year; and (2) meet at least once each fiscal year, and otherwise interact regularly, with state attorneys general, state approval agencies, veterans service organizations, and consumer advocates.

Directs the Committee to submit, and make publicly available, an annual report to Congress that includes: (1) recommendations for legislative and administrative actions the Committees deems necessary to improve the enforcement of applicable federal laws, increase the accountability of proprietary IHEs to students and taxpayers, and ensure the promotion of quality education programs; and (2) specified financial and consumer information regarding such IHEs.

Requires the Committee, each academic year, to publish the For-Profit College Warning List for Parents and Students, which is to be comprised of proprietary IHEs:

- that have engaged in illegal activity during the previous academic year as determined by a federal or state court;
- that have entered into a settlement resulting in a monetary payment;
- that have had any higher education program withdrawn or suspended; or
- for which the Committee has sufficient evidence of widespread or systemic unfair, deceptive, abusive, unethical, fraudulent, or predatory practices, policies, or procedures that threaten the academic success, financial security, or general best interest of students.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 5, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 5, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S834-836)