

HR 5528

Simplifying the Application for Student Aid Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Jun 20, 2016

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jul 12, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/5528>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Heck, Joseph J. [R-NV-3]

Party: Republican • **State:** NV • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (16 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Jun 20, 2016
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Jun 20, 2016
Rep. Roe, David P. [R-TN-1]	R · TN		Jun 20, 2016
Rep. Curbelo, Carlos [R-FL-26]	R · FL		Jun 21, 2016
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Jul 5, 2016
Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12]	D · NC		Jul 8, 2016
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Jul 8, 2016
Rep. Carter, Earl L. "Buddy" [R-GA-1]	R · GA		Jul 8, 2016
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Jul 8, 2016
Rep. Fudge, Marcia L. [D-OH-11]	D · OH		Jul 8, 2016
Rep. Hinojosa, Ruben [D-TX-15]	D · TX		Jul 8, 2016
Rep. Kline, John [R-MN-2]	R · MN		Jul 8, 2016
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Jul 8, 2016
Rep. Thompson, Glenn [R-PA-5]	R · PA		Jul 8, 2016
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Jul 8, 2016
Rep. Davis, Susan A. [D-CA-53]	D · CA		Jul 11, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Reported By	Jul 11, 2016
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 12, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jul 11, 2016)

Simplifying the Application for Student Aid Act

(Sec. 2) This bill amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the Department of Education (ED) to use tax information from the second preceding tax year (the "prior, prior year") to determine a student's financial aid eligibility. It requires data sharing between ED and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), pursuant to taxpayer consent.

(Sec. 3) The bill revises the annual adjustment percentage calculation used to determine the total maximum Federal Pell Grant award by measuring inflation over the most recent fiscal year instead of calendar year.

(Sec. 4) ED must develop and maintain a consumer-tested technology tool to allow a federal financial aid applicant to complete, save, and submit electronic forms (e.g., the Free Application for Federal Student Aid) using a mobile device.

Additionally, ED must make every effort to allow applicants to utilize the existing IRS data tool to automatically populate the electronic forms with tax return information.

ED must report to Congress on: (1) efforts to simplify the federal financial aid application process, and (2) the needs of limited English proficient students.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 12, 2016:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
- **Jul 11, 2016:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Education and the Workforce. H. Rept. 114-678.
- **Jul 11, 2016:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 526.
- **Jul 11, 2016:** Mr. Heck (NV) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jul 11, 2016:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H4611-4613)
- **Jul 11, 2016:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 5528.
- **Jul 11, 2016:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H4611)
- **Jul 11, 2016:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H4611)
- **Jul 11, 2016:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jun 22, 2016:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 22, 2016:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Jun 20, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 20, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.