

HR 5899

Strengthening Forgiveness for Public Servants Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Jul 14, 2016

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training. (Sep 19, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/5899>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]

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

Cosponsors (8 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Boyle, Brendan F. [D-PA-13] | D · PA | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Rep. Jeffries, Hakeem S. [D-NY-8] | D · NY | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6] | D · WA | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33] | D · CA | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6] | D · NY | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33] | D · TX | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3] | D · CA | | Sep 28, 2016 |
| Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11] | D · CA | | Nov 30, 2016 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Education and Workforce Committee | House | Referred to | Sep 19, 2016 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|------------|----------------|---|
| 114 S 2463 | Identical bill | Jan 21, 2016: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. |

Strengthening Forgiveness for Public Servants Act

This bill amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to direct the Department of Education (ED) to cancel 15%, 15%, 20%, 20%, and 30% of the amount a borrower owes after 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 years of public service employment, respectively, on a William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan made after this bill's enactment. (Currently, the balance of a borrower's Direct Loan is canceled if the borrower is not in default and has made 120 monthly payments on such loan while employed as a public service employee.)

The bill: (1) requires borrowers availing themselves of such loan cancellation to submit an employment certification form that includes self-certification of employment and employer certification of employment dates, and (2) places the borrower's loan in deferment during the period in which the borrower is employed in an eligible public service job if the borrower submits such form to ED.

If a portion of a loan is canceled for any year, the interest on such loan for such year shall be canceled.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 19, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.
- **Jul 14, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 14, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.