

## S 649

### Higher Education Reform and Opportunity Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Education

**Introduced:** Mar 4, 2015

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Mar 4, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/649>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** UT • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Mar 4, 2015
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		Mar 4, 2015
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		Mar 4, 2015
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Mar 4, 2015
Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]	R · AR		Feb 1, 2016

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 4, 2015

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Education

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 1287	Identical bill	Apr 29, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

## **Higher Education Reform and Opportunity Act of 2015**

Amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to make the following entities, programs, and courses eligible for funding under title IV if they are accredited by an authorized accreditation authority in a state that has an alternative accreditation agreement with the Secretary of Education:

- institutions that provide postsecondary courses;
- postsecondary apprenticeship programs; and
- postsecondary education courses or programs provided by institutions of postsecondary education, nonprofit organizations, or for-profit organizations or businesses.

Lists the items to be included in a state's alternative accreditation agreement with the Secretary, including the standards those entities, programs, and courses must meet to receive and maintain their accreditation.

Requires that agreement to include the state's assurance that only entities, programs, and courses that provide credits toward a postsecondary certification, credential, or degree (as defined by the state in the agreement) will be accredited.

Establishes the formula for determining the administrative cost allowance for: (1) the entities, programs, and courses that are accredited through the alternative accreditation system and that administer the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Work-Study, and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant programs in accordance with the agreement; and (2) states that will administer those programs for such entities, programs, and courses in accordance with the agreement.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 4, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 4, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.