

S 1136

Pell Grant Preservation and Expansion Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: May 16, 2017

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. (May 16, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1136>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]

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

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		May 16, 2017
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		May 16, 2017
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		May 16, 2017
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		May 16, 2017
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		May 16, 2017
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		May 22, 2017
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		May 23, 2017
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 12, 2017
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jun 29, 2017
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Oct 25, 2017
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Nov 26, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 16, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 4074	Related bill	Oct 26, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition.
115 HR 2490	Related bill	May 17, 2017: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.
115 S 1155	Related bill	May 17, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
115 HR 2451	Identical bill	May 16, 2017: Referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
115 S 1135	Related bill	May 16, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
115 S 1125	Related bill	May 15, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S2934)
115 HR 1432	Related bill	Mar 8, 2017: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Summary (as of May 16, 2017)

Pell Grant Preservation and Expansion Act

This bill amends the title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to revise the Federal Pell Grant Program. Specifically, it:

- converts the Pell Grant program into a mandatory spending program;
- increases the maximum Pell Grant award for academic year 2019-2020 and adjusts it in subsequent award years to account for inflation;
- allows federal financial aid for higher education to be given to dreamer students (students who entered the country when they were under the age of 16 and who meet certain educational criteria) and students convicted for the possession or sale of illegal drug;
- requires the Department of Education (ED) to carry out a program that awards Federal Pell Grants to students in job training programs;
- requires ED to award Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants under the Pell Grant program to assist veterans' dependents with the costs of attending institutions of higher education;
- increases, in academic year 2018-2019, the income protection allowance levels for students who are dependent, independent without non-spouse dependents (e.g., children), and independent with non-spouse dependents to reduce such students' income available (and increase need for financial assistance) to cover postsecondary educational expenses;
- increases the income threshold for an automatic zero expected family contribution from \$23,000 to \$34,000; and
- increases from 12 to 15 the total number of semesters a student may receive a Federal Pell Grant.

Actions Timeline

- **May 16, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 16, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.