

S 1153

Stop Student Debt Relief Scams Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Apr 11, 2019

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 116-251.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 116-251. (Dec 22, 2020)

Law: 116-251 (Enacted Dec 22, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1153>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]

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

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Braun, Mike [R-IN]	R · IN		Apr 11, 2019
Sen. Fischer, Deb [R-NE]	R · NE		Apr 11, 2019
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Apr 11, 2019
Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]	R · TN		Dec 9, 2019
Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC]	R · NC		Dec 18, 2019
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 6, 2020
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 15, 2020
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Nov 18, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Dec 1, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 2888	Identical bill	May 22, 2019: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

Stop Student Debt Relief Scams Act of 2019

This bill establishes criminal penalties for unauthorized access of certain student loan information and expands the requirements for student loan exit counseling.

Specifically, the bill makes it a crime to knowingly use an access device (e.g., account number) that was issued to another person or was fraudulently obtained to access Department of Education (ED) information technology systems for commercial advantage or private financial gain. A violator is subject to criminal penalties—a fine, a prison term of up to five years, or both.

Further, the bill expands loan exit counseling requirements to require an institution of higher education that participates in federal student-aid programs to provide an explanation to borrowers cautioning them about third-party student debt relief companies.

It also requires ED to prevent unauthorized access to the central database for student aid (i.e., the National Student Loan Data System) and warn borrowers of suspicious activity regarding their student loan accounts.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 22, 2020:** Signed by President.
- **Dec 22, 2020:** Became Public Law No: 116-251.
- **Dec 11, 2020:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 7, 2020:** Ms. Stevens moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Dec 7, 2020:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6880-6883)
- **Dec 7, 2020:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 1153.
- **Dec 7, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H6881)
- **Dec 7, 2020:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H6881)
- **Dec 7, 2020:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Dec 2, 2020:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Dec 2, 2020:** Received in the House.
- **Dec 2, 2020:** Held at the desk.
- **Dec 1, 2020:** Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions discharged by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S7141-7142)
- **Dec 1, 2020:** Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S7141-7142)
- **Dec 1, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(text: CR S7141-7142)
- **Dec 1, 2020:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (text: CR S7141-7142)
- **Apr 11, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 11, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.