

## HR 1798

### Students and Families Empowerment Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Taxation

**Introduced:** Mar 14, 2019

**Current Status:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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. (Mar 14, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1798>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Rice, Kathleen M. [D-NY-4]

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

### Cosponsors

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No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 14, 2019
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 14, 2019

### Subjects & Policy Tags

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#### Policy Area:

Taxation

### Related Bills

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No related bills are listed.

## **Students and Families Empowerment Act**

This bill expands tax deductions and grace periods that apply to student loan payments.

The bill modifies the tax deduction for interest on education loans to replace the dollar limitation and the limitation based on modified adjusted gross income with a \$750,000 limit (\$1.5 million in the case of a joint return) on the aggregate amount of qualified education loans that may be taken into account for the deduction.

The bill excludes from gross income the discharge of any student loan debt pursuant to income contingent and income-based repayment plans under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

The bill extends from 6 months to 12 months (1) the grace period before payment must begin on Federal Direct Stafford Loans and Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans after the student ceases to carry at least one-half of the normal full-time academic workload, and (2) the deferment periods for parent borrowers and graduate or professional student borrowers with Federal Direct PLUS Loans.

The bill prohibits interest from accruing on a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan or a Federal Direct PLUS Loan during the 12-month extension or deferral period.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 14, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 14, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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.