

S 3760

Strengthening Loan Forgiveness for Public Servants During the COVID–19 Crisis Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: May 19, 2020

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 19, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3760>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]

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

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 19, 2020
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		May 19, 2020
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		May 19, 2020
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		May 19, 2020
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		May 19, 2020
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		May 19, 2020
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		May 19, 2020
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		May 19, 2020
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		May 19, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 19, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 7761	Related bill	Jul 23, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.
116 HR 3096	Related bill	Jun 4, 2019: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

Strengthening Loan Forgiveness for Public Servants During the COVID-19 Crisis Act

This bill revises the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program to provide for partial loan cancellation based on the length of public service employment. It also allows public service employees who are impacted by the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) public health emergency to continue to participate, without disruption, in the PSLF program.

First, the bill directs 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 Federal Direct Loans made after the bill's enactment.

In addition, an individual who was employed in a public service job and who experiences lapse in employment (e.g., a furlough, a layoff, or the individual's resignation due to illness or caregiving responsibilities) because of the COVID-19 public health emergency may continue to participate in the PSLF program without disruption. The bill treats such an individual as employed in a public service job during the emergency and deems a monthly payment made by the individual as a qualifying monthly payment toward loan cancellation under the PSLF program. However, unless the individual would have completed requirements for partial or full loan cancellation during the public health emergency, the individual must resume employment in a public service job within six months after the end of the emergency. Finally, ED must develop and make available guidance related to certain assistance provided by the bill.

Actions Timeline

- **May 19, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 19, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.