

HR 640

Student Aid Simplification Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Taxation

Introduced: Jan 17, 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. (Jan 17, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/640>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]

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

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Buchanan, Vern [R-FL-16]	R · FL		Jan 17, 2019
Rep. Kind, Ron [D-WI-3]	D · WI		Feb 8, 2019
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Dec 6, 2019
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Dec 6, 2019
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Dec 6, 2019
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Dec 6, 2019
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Dec 6, 2019
Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1]	D · CT		Dec 6, 2019
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Dec 6, 2019
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Dec 6, 2019
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Dec 6, 2019
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Dec 6, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 17, 2019
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 17, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Taxation

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 2486	Related bill	Jul 23, 2020: Message on House action received in Senate and at desk: House amendments to Senate amendment.
116 S 1346	Related bill	May 7, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
116 HR 2065	Related bill	Apr 3, 2019: Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Financial Services, 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.
116 S 1002	Related bill	Apr 3, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Summary (as of Jan 17, 2019)

Student Aid Simplification Act

This bill requires the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to disclose certain tax return information to the Department of Education (ED) for the purpose of administering financial aid and loan programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965. (Under current law, students must obtain their own tax return information from the IRS and submit it to ED.)

Upon receiving a request from ED, the IRS must disclose specified tax return information to ED for the purposes of

- establishing, renewing, administering, and conducting analyses and forecasts for estimating costs related to income-contingent or income-based repayment programs;
- the discharge of loans based on a total and permanent disability;
- determining the eligibility for, and the amount of, federal student financial aid; and
- conducting analyses and forecasts for estimating costs related to federal student financial aid programs.

ED may only use the disclosed information for the purposes above and for mitigating risks related to the programs.

Mitigating risks includes activities related to analyzing or estimating costs, conducting oversight, developing statistics, and reducing improper payments. It does not include conducting criminal investigations or prosecutions.

With the consent of the taxpayer, ED may disclose the return information to certain institutions of higher education, state higher education agencies, and scholarship organizations solely for the use in financial aid programs.

The bill also specifies notification and reporting requirements related to the disclosures and the implementation of this bill.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 17, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 17, 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.