

HR 6814

Supporting Connectivity for Higher Education Students in Need Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: May 12, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Com

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. (May 12, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6814>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]

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

Cosponsors (27 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12]	D · NC		May 12, 2020
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		May 12, 2020
Rep. Butterfield, G. K. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		May 12, 2020
Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]	D · TX		May 12, 2020
Rep. Fudge, Marcia L. [D-OH-11]	D · OH		May 12, 2020
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		May 12, 2020
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		May 14, 2020
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		May 14, 2020
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		May 26, 2020
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		May 27, 2020
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		May 27, 2020
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		May 28, 2020
Del. San Nicolas, Michael F. Q. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Jun 4, 2020
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Jun 4, 2020
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jun 4, 2020
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Jun 4, 2020
Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11]	D · IL		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Jun 18, 2020
Rep. Vela, Filemon [D-TX-34]	D · TX		Jun 18, 2020
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Jul 9, 2020
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Jul 9, 2020
Rep. Haaland, Debra A. [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Jul 16, 2020
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Jul 29, 2020
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Aug 14, 2020
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		Aug 28, 2020
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Sep 11, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	May 12, 2020
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	May 12, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 4131	Related bill	Jul 1, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
116 S 3701	Identical bill	May 12, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Supporting Connectivity for Higher Education Students in Need Act

This bill establishes and provides funds for the Emergency Higher Education Connectivity Fund. Specifically, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) must use the fund to support institutions of higher education (IHEs) in providing broadband internet access service, videoconferencing systems and services used for distance learning, and equipment (e.g., computers, Wi-Fi hotspots, and other one-time costs) to enrolled students during the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) public health emergency.

The bill requires the NTIA, in consultation with the Department of Education, to promulgate regulations within 14 days related to support for IHEs.

Among other things, the regulations must

- prioritize support for IHEs that receive certain institutional grants, including historically Black colleges and universities, minority-serving institutions, and rural-serving institutions;
- require IHEs to prioritize support for students who are eligible for need-based financial aid; and
- establish a schedule of reasonable per-student funding amounts for eligible services and equipment.

Actions Timeline

- **May 12, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **May 12, 2020:** Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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.