

## S 867

PROTECT Students Act of 2019

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Education

**Introduced:** Mar 26, 2019

**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. (Mar 26, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/867>

### Sponsor

---

**Name:** Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]

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

## Cosponsors (27 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Mar 26, 2019
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Mar 26, 2019
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Mar 28, 2019
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 8, 2019
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 9, 2019
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 11, 2019
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 29, 2019
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 29, 2019
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Apr 30, 2019
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 30, 2019
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		May 1, 2019
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		May 6, 2019
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		May 6, 2019
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 7, 2019
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		May 9, 2019
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		May 13, 2019
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		May 13, 2019
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 20, 2019
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		May 23, 2019
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 5, 2019
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 10, 2019
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jun 11, 2019
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Jun 26, 2019
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 8, 2019
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 9, 2019

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 26, 2019

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Education

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 4977	Related bill	<b>Nov 1, 2019:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.
116 HR 3512	Identical bill	<b>Jul 30, 2019:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
116 HR 3369	Related bill	<b>Jun 19, 2019:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.
116 S 608	Related bill	<b>Feb 28, 2019:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## **Preventing Risky Operations from Threatening the Education and Career Trajectories of Students Act of 2019 or the PROTECT Students Act of 2019**

This bill provides additional oversight of postsecondary education programs, including for-profit institutions of higher education (IHEs), and addresses protections for students and student loan borrowers from fraudulent or predatory practices.

The bill sets forth a variety of provisions concerning oversight of for-profit IHEs. Specifically, the bill decreases the cap on the amount of revenue for-profit IHEs may receive from federal sources, including funds from the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense. In addition, it establishes (1) a process for reviewing for-profit IHEs that convert to nonprofit or public status, and (2) a For-Profit Education Oversight Coordination Committee.

The bill also sets forth provisions to address predatory practices in higher education. For instance, the bill requires career education programs to prepare students for gainful employment. In addition, it requires the Office of Federal Student Aid to have a unit that enforces compliance with laws governing student financial assistance programs. The office must also maintain a system that tracks reports of suspicious activity of IHEs or student loan servicers, including anonymous complaints. Lastly, the bill allows borrowers of student loans to seek loan forgiveness if IHEs mislead the students or engage in other misconduct.

Finally, the bill prohibits IHEs that receive federal funding from limiting students' legal actions, providing incentive compensation, and using educational assistance funds for recruiting and marketing activities.

### **Actions Timeline**

---

- **Mar 26, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 26, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.