HR 605

Student Empowerment Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)
Chamber: House
Policy Area: Taxation
Introduced: Jan 28, 2021
Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. (Jan 28, 2021)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/605

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Smith, Jason [R-MO-8]
Party: Republican • **State:** MO • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (22 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Chabot, Steve [R-OH-1]	R · OH		Jan 28, 2021
Rep. Gaetz, Matt [R-FL-1]	R · FL		Jan 28, 2021
Rep. Joyce, John [R-PA-13]	R · PA		Jan 28, 2021
Rep. Kelly, Mike [R-PA-16]	R · PA		Jan 28, 2021
Rep. Lamborn, Doug [R-CO-5]	R · CO		Jan 28, 2021
Rep. McMorris Rodgers, Cathy [R-WA-5]	R · WA		Jan 28, 2021
Rep. Norman, Ralph [R-SC-5]	R · SC		Jan 28, 2021
Rep. Reed, Tom [R-NY-23]	R · NY		Jan 28, 2021
Rep. Weber, Randy K., Sr. [R-TX-14]	R · TX		Jan 28, 2021
Rep. Bishop, Dan [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Feb 23, 2021
Rep. Issa, Darrell E. [R-CA-50]	R · CA		Feb 23, 2021
Rep. Mast, Brian J. [R-FL-18]	R · FL		Feb 23, 2021
Rep. Owens, Burgess [R-UT-4]	R · UT		Feb 23, 2021
Rep. Perry, Scott [R-PA-10]	R · PA		Feb 23, 2021
Rep. Cawthorn, Madison [R-NC-11]	R · NC		Jun 15, 2021
Rep. Long, Billy [R-MO-7]	R · MO		Jun 16, 2021
Rep. Luetkemeyer, Blaine [R-MO-3]	R · MO		Jun 17, 2021
Rep. Smith, Adrian [R-NE-3]	R · NE		Jul 27, 2021
Rep. Kustoff, David [R-TN-8]	R · TN		Aug 3, 2021
Rep. McClintock, Tom [R-CA-4]	R · CA		Aug 24, 2021
Rep. Burchett, Tim [R-TN-2]	R · TN		Sep 20, 2021
Rep. Hinson, Ashley [R-IA-1]	R · IA		Aug 2, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 28, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Taxation

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 8913	Related bill	**Sep 20, 2022:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
117 S 4726	Related bill	**Aug 2, 2022:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 HR 7269	Related bill	**Mar 29, 2022:** 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.
117 HR 3704	Related bill	**Jun 4, 2021:** 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.
117 S 1757	Related bill	**May 20, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 S 44	Identical bill	**Jan 26, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Summary (as of Jan 28, 2021)

Student Empowerment Act

This bill allows tax-exempt distributions from qualified tuition programs (known as 529 plans) to be used for additional educational expenses in connection with enrollment or attendance at an elementary or secondary school.

(Under current law, distributions in connection with an elementary or secondary school are limited to tuition for a public, private, or religious school.) The bill allows the distributions to be used for additional educational expenses, including

- curriculum and curricular materials,
- books or other instructional materials,
- online educational materials,
- tutoring or educational classes outside the home,
- testing fees,
- fees for dual enrollment in an institution of higher education, and
- educational therapies for students with disabilities.

Distributions may also be used for tuition and the purposes above in connection with a homeschool (whether treated as a homeschool or a private school under state law).

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 28, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 28, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.