

S 963

Loan Forgiveness for Educators Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Mar 23, 2023

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 23, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/963>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]

Party: Democratic • State: NM • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		Apr 18, 2023
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 7, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 23, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 2992	Related bill	<b>Apr 28, 2023:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.
118 S 1341	Related bill	<b>Apr 27, 2023:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S1421)
118 HR 1757	Identical bill	<b>Mar 23, 2023:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Summary (as of Mar 23, 2023)

Loan Forgiveness for Educators Act

This bill expands loan forgiveness for educators by revising the Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program. The program provides loan forgiveness (up to \$17,500) for teachers who are highly qualified, teach full-time in a low-income elementary or secondary school or educational service agency, and complete five years of consecutive service.

Specifically, the bill renames the program as the Educator Loan Forgiveness Programs.

Additionally, the bill expands the program by making additional loan types eligible for benefits under the program (e.g., parent PLUS loans).

Further, the bill expands program eligibility to early childhood educators and program directors serving in early childhood education programs and school leaders serving in public high-need schools.

The bill requires the Department of Education to

- make monthly student loan payments on behalf of the educator during qualifying service (i.e., employment as a full-time qualifying educator in a high-need school or an early childhood education program),
- provide complete loan forgiveness after five years of qualifying service, and
- take steps to notify borrowers about changes to the program.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 23, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 23, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.