

S 4531

Student Aid Fraud Oversight and Accountability Act of 2026

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: May 14, 2026

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. (May 14, 2026)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/4531>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Husted, Jon [R-OH]

Party: Republican • **State:** OH • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		May 14, 2026
Sen. Tuberville, Tommy [R-AL]	R · AL		May 14, 2026

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 14, 2026

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 7891	Related bill	May 26, 2026: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 582.

Student Aid Fraud Oversight and Accountability Act of 2026

This bill requires the Department of Education (ED) to prioritize the review of institutions of higher education (IHEs) that disburse federal student aid without verifying the identity of a student whose Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) presents a reasonable suspicion of identity fraud.

Specifically, the bill requires ED to identify each IHE that disburses, on or after October 1, 2026, federal financial aid for an award year to any student whose FAFSA presents a reasonable suspicion of identity fraud, as determined by ED's identity fraud detection system. However, the bill excludes from this identification any IHE that demonstrates to ED, for each student and before disbursing federal financial aid, that the IHE (1) verifies the student's identity in person or by live video, (2) notifies ED of the identity verification, and (3) maintains a record of such identity verification.

ED may use identification information to inform program reviews, audits, investigations, and other oversight activities related to federal student aid.

(On April 26, 2026, ED began implementing a real-time identity fraud detection process within the FAFSA form that places applicants into one of four risk categories. High-risk applicants must confirm their identity by presenting documentation during the online application process, including via a live camera process. Applicants who are rejected via this automated process must then have their identity verified in person by IHEs.)

Actions Timeline

- **May 14, 2026:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 14, 2026:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legilist.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legilist.com/learn

Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

legilist.com/api

Public data belongs to the public. — legilist.com