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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase the period of eligibility for Federal Pell Grants, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. LAWRENCE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase the period of eligibility for Federal Pell Grants, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Pell to Grad Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANTS.**

6 Section 401 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
7 U.S.C. 1070a) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “or as a
2 postbaccalaureate student in accordance with sub-
3 section (c)(1),” after “as an undergraduate,”; and

4 (2) in subsection (c)—

5 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as
6 follows:

7 “(1) The period during which a student may re-
8 ceive Federal Pell Grants shall be the period re-
9 quired for the completion of the first undergraduate
10 baccalaureate course of study being pursued by that
11 student at the institution at which the student is in
12 attendance except that—

13 “(A) any period during which the student
14 is enrolled in a noncredit or remedial course of
15 study as defined in paragraph (2) shall not be
16 counted for the purpose of this paragraph; and

17 “(B) the period during which a student
18 may receive Federal Pell Grants shall also in-
19 clude the period required for the completion of
20 the first postbaccalaureate course of study at
21 an eligible institution that meets the definition
22 of institution of higher education in section
23 101, in a case in which—

24 “(i) the student received a Federal
25 Pell Grant during the period required for

1 the completion of the student's first under-
2 graduate baccalaureate course of study for
3 at least 1 but fewer than 16 semesters, or
4 the equivalent of at least 1 but fewer than
5 16 semesters, as determined under para-
6 graph (5);

7 “(ii) the student would otherwise be
8 eligible for a Federal Pell Grant, but for
9 the completion of such baccalaureate
10 course of study; and

11 “(iii) the period during which the stu-
12 dent receives Federal Pell Grants does not
13 exceed the student's duration limits under
14 paragraph (5).”; and

15 (B) in paragraph (5), by striking “12”
16 each place it appears and inserting “16”.

17 **SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO LAW AS MODIFIED**
18 **BY THE CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS**
19 **ACT, 2021.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401 of the Higher Edu-
21 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a), as amended by sec-
22 tion 703 of division FF the Consolidated Appropriations
23 Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–260), is further amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b)(8)(A), by inserting “or as
2 a postbaccalaureate student in accordance with sub-
3 section (d)(1),” after “as an undergraduate,”;

4 (2) in subsection (d)—

5 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as
6 follows:

7 “(1) The period during which a student may re-
8 ceive Federal Pell Grants shall be the period re-
9 quired for the completion of the first undergraduate
10 baccalaureate course of study being pursued by that
11 student at the institution at which the student is in
12 attendance except that—

13 “(A) any period during which the student
14 is enrolled in a noncredit or remedial course of
15 study, as described in paragraph (2), shall not
16 be counted for the purpose of this paragraph;
17 and

18 “(B) the period during which a student
19 may receive Federal Pell Grants shall also in-
20 clude the period required for the completion of
21 the first postbaccalaureate course of study at
22 an eligible institution that is an institution of
23 higher education as defined in section 101, in
24 a case in which—

1 “(i) the student received a Federal
2 Pell Grant during the period required for
3 the completion of the student’s first under-
4 graduate baccalaureate course of study for
5 at least 1 but fewer than 16 semesters, or
6 the equivalent of at least 1 but fewer than
7 16 semesters, as determined under para-
8 graph (5);

9 “(ii) the student would otherwise be
10 eligible for a Federal Pell Grant, but for
11 the completion of such baccalaureate
12 course of study; and

13 “(iii) the period during which the stu-
14 dent receives Federal Pell Grants does not
15 exceed the student’s duration limits under
16 paragraph (5).”; and

17 (B) in paragraph (5)(A), by striking “12”
18 each place it appears and inserting “16”.

19 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
20 subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enact-
21 ment of division FF of the Consolidated Appropriations
22 Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–260).