

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1779

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend loan forgiveness for certain loans to Head Start teachers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2007

Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. LEE, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. WYNN, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. SUTTON, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Ms. HIRONO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend loan forgiveness for certain loans to Head Start teachers.

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. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR HEAD START TEACH-**
4 **ERS.**

5 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the
6 “Loan Forgiveness for Head Start Teachers Act of 2007”.

7 (b) HEAD START TEACHERS.—Section 428J of the
8 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C 1078–10) is
9 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b), by striking paragraph (1)
2 and inserting the following:

3 “(1)(A) has been employed—

4 “(i) as a full-time teacher for 5 consecutive
5 complete school years in a school that qualifies
6 under section 465(a)(2)(A) for loan cancellation
7 for Perkins loan recipients who teach in such a
8 school; or

9 “(ii) as a Head Start teacher for 5 con-
10 secutive complete program years under the
11 Head Start Act; and

12 “(B)(i) if employed as an elementary school or
13 secondary school teacher, is highly qualified as de-
14 fined in section 9101 of the Elementary and Sec-
15 ondary Education Act of 1965, or meets the require-
16 ments of subsection (g)(3); and

17 “(ii) if employed as a Head Start teacher, has
18 demonstrated knowledge and teaching skills in read-
19 ing, writing, early childhood development, and other
20 areas of a preschool curriculum, with a focus on cog-
21 nitive learning; and”;

22 (2) in subsection (g), by adding at the end the
23 following:

24 “(4) HEAD START.—An individual shall be eli-
25 gible for loan forgiveness under this section for serv-

1 ice described in clause (ii) of subsection (b)(1)(A)
2 only if such individual received a baccalaureate or
3 graduate degree on or after the date of enactment
4 of the Loan Forgiveness for Head Start Teachers
5 Act of 2007.”; and

6 (3) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
8 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
9 necessary for fiscal year 2011 and succeeding fiscal years
10 to carry out loan repayment under this section for service
11 described in clause (ii) of subsection (b)(1)(A).”.

12 (c) DIRECT STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 460 of the Higher
14 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087j) is amend-
15 ed—

16 (A) in subsection (b)(1), by striking sub-
17 paragraph (A) and inserting the following:

18 “(A)(i) has been employed—

19 “(I) as a full-time teacher for 5 con-
20 secutive complete school years in a school
21 that qualifies under section 465(a)(2)(A)
22 for loan cancellation for Perkins loan re-
23 cipients who teach in such a school; or

1 “(II) as a Head Start teacher for 5
2 consecutive complete program years under
3 the Head Start Act; and

4 “(ii)(I) if employed as an elementary
5 school or secondary school teacher, is highly
6 qualified as defined in section 9101 of the Ele-
7 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965,
8 or meets the requirements of subsection (g)(3);
9 and

10 “(II) if employed as a Head Start teacher,
11 has demonstrated knowledge and teaching skills
12 in reading, writing, early childhood develop-
13 ment, and other areas of a preschool cur-
14 riculum, with a focus on cognitive learning;
15 and”;

16 (B) in subsection (g), by adding at the end
17 the following:

18 “(4) HEAD START.—An individual shall be eli-
19 gible for loan forgiveness under this section for serv-
20 ice described in subclause (II) of subsection
21 (b)(1)(A)(i) only if such individual received a bacca-
22 laurate or graduate degree on or after the date of
23 enactment of the Loan Forgiveness for Head Start
24 Teachers Act of 2007.”; and

25 (C) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
3 necessary for fiscal year 2011 and succeeding fiscal years
4 to carry out loan repayment under this section for service
5 described in subclause (II) of subsection (b)(1)(A)(i).”.

6 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

7 (1) FFEL PROGRAM.—Section 428J of the
8 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078–10)
9 is amended—

10 (A) in subsection (e)(1), by inserting “or
11 fifth complete program year” after “fifth com-
12 plete school year of teaching”;

13 (B) in subsection (f), by striking “sub-
14 section (b)” and inserting “subsection
15 (b)(1)(A)(i)”;

16 (C) in subsection (g)(1)(A), by striking
17 “subsection (b)(1)(A)” and inserting “sub-
18 section (b)(1)(A)(i)”;

19 (D) in subsection (h), by inserting “except
20 as part of the term ‘program year’,” before
21 “where”.

22 (2) DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM.—Section 460 of
23 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
24 1087j) is amended—

1 (A) in subsection (e)(1), by inserting “or
2 fifth complete program year” after “fifth com-
3 plete school year of teaching”;

4 (B) in subsection (f), by striking “sub-
5 section (b)” and inserting “subsection
6 (b)(1)(A)(i)(I)”;

7 (C) in subsection (g)(1)(A), by striking
8 “subsection (b)(1)(A)” and inserting “sub-
9 section (b)(1)(A)(i)(I)”;

10 (D) in subsection (h), by inserting “except
11 as part of the term ‘program year,’” before
12 “where”.

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