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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to increase the amount of financial support available for working students.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BERA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to increase the amount of financial support available for working students.

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 “Working Students
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASING SUPPORT FOR WORKING STUDENTS**
2 **BY 35 PERCENT.**

3 (a) **DEPENDENT STUDENTS.**—Section 475(g)(2)(D)
4 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
5 1087oo(g)(2)(D)) is amended to read as follows:

6 “(D) an income protection allowance (or a
7 successor amount prescribed by the Secretary
8 under section 478) of \$9,010 for academic year
9 2018–2019;”.

10 (b) **INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITHOUT DEPEND-**
11 **ENTS OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.**—Section 476(b)(1)(A)(iv)
12 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
13 1087pp(b)(1)(A)(iv)) is amended to read as follows:

14 “(iv) an income protection allowance
15 (or a successor amount prescribed by the
16 Secretary under section 478)—

17 “(I) for single or separated stu-
18 dents, or married students where both
19 are enrolled pursuant to subsection
20 (a)(2), of \$14,010 for academic year
21 2018–2019; and

22 “(II) for married students where
23 1 is enrolled pursuant to subsection
24 (a)(2), of \$22,460 for academic year
25 2018–2019;”.

1 (c) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS
 2 OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 477(b)(4) of the High-
 3 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087qq(b)(4)) is
 4 amended to read as follows:

5 “(4) INCOME PROTECTION ALLOWANCE.—The
 6 income protection allowance is determined by the fol-
 7 lowing table (or a successor table prescribed by the
 8 Secretary under section 478), for academic year
 9 2018–2019:

“Income Protection Allowance						
Family Size (including student)	Number in College					For each additional subtract:
	1	2	3	4	5	
2	\$35,470	\$29,410				\$6,030
3	44,170	38,130	\$32,070			
4	54,540	45,490	42,450	\$36,370		
5	64,360	58,280	52,240	46,190	\$40,160	
6	75,260	69,210	63,190	57,090	51,070	
For each additional add:	8,500					”.

10 (d) UPDATED TABLES AND AMOUNTS.—Section
 11 478(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 12 1087rr(b)) is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraphs
 14 (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For each academic
 16 year after academic year 2018–2019, the Sec-
 17 retary shall publish in the Federal Register a
 18 revised table of income protection allowances
 19 for the purpose of sections 475(c)(4) and

1 477(b)(4), subject to subparagraphs (B) and
2 (C).

3 “(B) TABLE FOR INDEPENDENT STU-
4 DENTS.—For each academic year after aca-
5 demic year 2018–2019, the Secretary shall de-
6 velop the revised table of income protection al-
7 lowances by increasing each of the dollar
8 amounts contained in the table of income pro-
9 tection allowances under section 477(b)(4) by a
10 percentage equal to the estimated percentage
11 increase in the Consumer Price Index (as deter-
12 mined by the Secretary for the most recent cal-
13 endar year ending prior to the beginning of the
14 academic year for which the determination is
15 being made), and rounding the result to the
16 nearest \$10.”; and

17 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “shall be de-
18 veloped” and all that follows through the period at
19 the end and inserting “shall be developed for each
20 academic year after academic year 2018–2019, by
21 increasing each of the dollar amounts contained in
22 such section for academic year 2018–2019 by a per-
23 centage equal to the estimated percentage increase
24 in the Consumer Price Index (as determined by the
25 Secretary for the most recent calendar year ending

1 prior to the beginning of the academic year for
2 which the determination is being made), and round-
3 ing the result to the nearest \$10.”.

4 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
5 this section shall take effect beginning on July 1, 2018
6 and shall apply to grant and award determinations made
7 under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
8 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) beginning with the 2018–2019 award
9 year.