

Union Calendar No. 395

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6498

[Report No. 119–461]

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase transparency in college tuition for consumers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 9, 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE (for himself, Mr. ONDER, and Mrs. TRAHAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

JANUARY 21, 2026

Additional sponsors: Mr. NORCROSS and Mr. VINDMAN

JANUARY 21, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on December 9, 2025]

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase transparency in college tuition for consumers, 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 “Student Financial Clar-*
 5 *ity Act of 2025”.*

6 **SEC. 2. TRANSPARENCY IN COLLEGE TUITION FOR CON-**
 7 **SUMERS.**

8 *(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 132 of the Higher Edu-*
 9 *cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1015a) is amended by strik-*
 10 *ing subsections (a) through (j) and inserting the following:*

11 *“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

12 *“(1) COLLEGE SCORECARD WEBSITE.—The term*
 13 *‘College Scorecard website’ means the College Score-*
 14 *card website required under subsection (b) and in-*
 15 *cludes any successor website.*

16 *“(2) COST OF ATTENDANCE.—The term ‘cost of*
 17 *attendance’ has the meaning given such term in sec-*
 18 *tion 472(a).*

19 *“(3) REQUIRED COSTS.—The term ‘required*
 20 *costs’ means the sum of all the items listed in section*
 21 *472(a) that are required by an institution of higher*
 22 *education for a program of study for the program*
 23 *length of a program of study, for the time to creden-*
 24 *tial for a student, or for an award year of a program*
 25 *of study, as applicable, including—*

1 “(A) the tuition and fees normally assessed
 2 a student enrolled in such program of study car-
 3 rying the same academic workload, as deter-
 4 mined by the institution; and

5 “(B) in a case in which the institution re-
 6 quires a student to reside in institutionally
 7 owned or operated housing or to use institution-
 8 ally owned or operated food services, the applica-
 9 ble standard allowance for such housing or food
 10 services determined by the institution in accord-
 11 ance with section 472(a)(5).

12 “(4) AMOUNT OF GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP
 13 AID.—The term ‘amount of grant and scholarship
 14 aid’ means the sum of all of the grant and scholarship
 15 aid that is available to the student for the program
 16 length of a program of study, for the time to creden-
 17 tial for a student, or for an award year of a program
 18 of study, as applicable, that a student does not have
 19 to repay, including need-based, merit-based, or ath-
 20 letic-based, or another type of grant and scholarship
 21 aid, that is—

22 “(A) offered under title IV;

23 “(B) offered through other Federal pro-
 24 grams;

25 “(C) offered by the institution;

1 “(D) offered by a State; or

2 “(E) offered by any other source.

3 “(5) NET PRICE REQUIRED FOR COMPLETION.—

4 “(A) TOTAL NET PRICE REQUIRED FOR
5 COMPLETION.—The term ‘total net price required
6 for completion’ means, with respect to a student
7 in a program of study—

8 “(i) the required costs charged to such
9 student for the program of study for the
10 time to credential; minus

11 “(ii) the amount of grant and scholar-
12 ship aid that is available to the student for
13 such program for the time to credential.

14 “(B) ANNUAL NET PRICE REQUIRED FOR
15 COMPLETION.—The term ‘annual net price re-
16 quired for completion’ means, with respect to a
17 student in a program of study—

18 “(i) the required costs charged to such
19 student for the program of study for an
20 award year; minus

21 “(ii) the amount of grant and scholar-
22 ship aid that is available to the student for
23 such program for such award year.

24 “(6) NET PRICE OF ATTENDANCE.—

1 “(A) *TOTAL NET PRICE OF ATTENDANCE.*—

2 *The term ‘total net price of attendance’ means,*
3 *with respect to a student in a program of study,*
4 *the sum of—*

5 “(i) *the total net price required for*
6 *completion; and*

7 “(ii) *the sum, for the time to creden-*
8 *tial, of all the costs listed in section 472(a)*
9 *that are not required costs.*

10 “(B) *ANNUAL NET PRICE OF ATTEND-*
11 *ANCE.*—*The term ‘annual net price of attend-*
12 *ance’ means, with respect to a student in a pro-*
13 *gram of study, the net price of attendance for a*
14 *specific year of the program of study, determined*
15 *by disaggregating the total net price of attend-*
16 *ance for the student by each year of the student’s*
17 *time to credential.*

18 “(7) *PROGRAM LENGTH.*—*The term ‘program*
19 *length’ means the minimum amount of time in weeks,*
20 *months, or years that is specified in the catalog, mar-*
21 *keting materials, or other official publications of an*
22 *institution of higher education for a full-time student*
23 *to complete the requirements to obtain the degree or*
24 *credential awarded for a specific program of study.*

1 “(8) *TIME TO CREDENTIAL*.—The term ‘time to
 2 *credential*’ means, with respect to a student, the ac-
 3 *tual amount of time in weeks, months, or years it*
 4 *takes the student to complete the requirements to ob-*
 5 *tain the degree or credential awarded for a specific*
 6 *program of study.*

7 “(b) *CONSUMER INFORMATION*.—

8 “(1) *AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION FOR TITLE*
 9 *IV INSTITUTIONS AND PROGRAMS*.—Not later than 18
 10 *months after the effective date of this subsection, the*
 11 *Secretary shall make publicly available on the College*
 12 *Scorecard website the following information with re-*
 13 *spect to students of the institution who have received*
 14 *Federal financial assistance described in paragraph*
 15 *(2)(I), for the most recent award year for which such*
 16 *information is available:*

17 “(A) *INSTITUTIONS*.—With respect to each
 18 *institution of higher education that participates*
 19 *in a program under title IV, the following:*

20 “(i) *A link to the website of the institu-*
 21 *tion.*

22 “(ii) *A link to the Universal Net Price*
 23 *calculator described in subsection (c) and, if*
 24 *applicable, a link to any net price calcu-*

lator developed by the institution in accordance with paragraph (7) of such subsection.

“(iii) Information on the type of institution, including predominant and highest credential awarded, research intensity, and programs of study offered.

“(iv) In the case of an institution that requires scores for a college entrance examination (such as the SAT or ACT) to be submitted, data on such submitted scores.

“(v) The acceptance rate, determined by calculating the percentage of individuals who submitted a completed application to the institution who were accepted for enrollment.

“(vi) The institution’s cohort default rate, as defined under section 435(m).

“(vii) A link to the website of the institution containing the information on campus safety required to be collected under section 485(i).

“(B) INSTITUTIONS AND PROGRAMS OF STUDY.—With respect to each such institution and to each program of study at each such institution, the following:

1 “(i) *The geographic location.*

2 “(ii) *Information on student enroll-*
3 *ment, including the number and percentage*
4 *of students enrolled full-time, less than full-*
5 *time, and enrolled in distance education.*

6 “(iii) *Information on the number of*
7 *degree- or certificate-seeking undergraduate*
8 *students who have transferred from another*
9 *institution.*

10 “(iv) *Information on student progres-*
11 *sion and completion, including time to cre-*
12 *dential and rates of withdrawal, retention,*
13 *transfer, or completion.*

14 “(v) *Information on college costs and*
15 *financial aid, including—*

16 “(I) *the average, median, min-*
17 *imum, and maximum values of—*

18 “(aa) *the required costs for*
19 *such award year (determined for*
20 *an institution based on the re-*
21 *quired costs for all programs of*
22 *study);*

23 “(bb) *the cost of attendance*
24 *for such award year (determined*
25 *for an institution based on the*

1 *cost of attendance for all pro-*
2 *grams of study);*

3 *“(cc) the amount of grant*
4 *and scholarship aid received by*
5 *students for such award year (de-*
6 *termined for an institution based*
7 *on the amount of grant and schol-*
8 *arship aid received by students for*
9 *all programs of study);*

10 *“(dd) the information de-*
11 *scribed in item (cc) and subclause*
12 *(II)(cc), disaggregated—*

13 *“(AA) by the type of*
14 *source described in subpara-*
15 *graphs (A) through (E) of*
16 *subsection (a)(4); and*

17 *“(BB) by whether such*
18 *aid is need-based, merit-*
19 *based, or athletic-based, or is*
20 *another type of aid;*

21 *“(II) with respect to students who*
22 *completed a credential during the most*
23 *recent award year, the average, me-*
24 *dian, minimum, and maximum values*
25 *of—*

1 “(aa) the program length
2 (determined for an institution
3 based on the program length for
4 all programs of study);

5 “(bb) the time to credential
6 (determined for an institution
7 based on the time to credential for
8 all programs of study);

9 “(cc) the amount of grant
10 and scholarship aid received for
11 the time to credential (determined
12 for an institution based on the
13 amount of grant and scholarship
14 aid received by students for all
15 programs of study);

16 “(dd) the total net price re-
17 quired for completion (determined
18 for an institution based on the
19 total net price required for com-
20 pletion for all programs of study);
21 and

22 “(ee) the total net price re-
23 quired for attendance (determined
24 for an institution based on the

1 total net price required for attend-
2 ance for all programs of study);

3 “(III) the number and percentage
4 of students receiving any amount of
5 grant and scholarship aid for such
6 award year, and with respect to stu-
7 dents who completed a credential dur-
8 ing the most recent award year, the
9 number and percentage of such stu-
10 dents receiving any amount of grant
11 and scholarship aid for the time to cre-
12 dential;

13 “(IV) the average annual percent-
14 age change and average annual dollar
15 change in the required costs for each of
16 the three most recent academic years
17 for which data are available; and

18 “(V) the average annual percent-
19 age change and average annual dollar
20 change in the total and annual net
21 price required for completion for each
22 of the three most recent academic years
23 for which data are available.

24 “(vi) Information on student debt and
25 repayment, including—

1 “(I) the average, median, min-
2 imum, and maximum amounts bor-
3 rowed by students under title IV;

4 “(II) information with respect to
5 repayment of loans made under title
6 IV, including borrower-based repay-
7 ment rates, dollar-based repayment
8 rates, and time spent in repayment;
9 and

10 “(III) the number and percentage
11 of students who—

12 “(aa) are borrowers of a loan
13 made under title IV;

14 “(bb) are not borrowers of a
15 loan made under title IV, but
16 have at least one parent who is a
17 borrower of a loan made under
18 title IV on behalf of the student;
19 and

20 “(cc) are borrowers of a loan
21 made under title IV, and have at
22 least one parent who is a bor-
23 rower of a loan made under title
24 IV on behalf of the student.

1 “(vii) *Information on the earnings of*
2 *students, including the average, median,*
3 *minimum, and maximum values of—*

4 “(I) *with respect to students who*
5 *complete a program of study in the*
6 *most recent award year for which data*
7 *are available—*

8 “(aa) *the annual earnings of*
9 *such students; and*

10 “(bb) *the value-added earn-*
11 *ings (as defined in section*
12 *481(b)(3)(A)(iv)) of such students;*
13 *and*

14 “(II) *the annual earnings of stu-*
15 *dents who were enrolled in a program*
16 *of study at the institution during the*
17 *most recent award year for which data*
18 *are available, and who at the time the*
19 *information is reported—*

20 “(aa) *have not completed*
21 *such program of study; and*

22 “(bb) *are not enrolled at the*
23 *institution in any program of*
24 *study.*

1 “(C) *PROGRAMS OF STUDY.*—*With respect*
2 *to each program of study at each such institu-*
3 *tion, the credential awarded for completion of the*
4 *program of study.*

5 “(2) *DISAGGREGATED INFORMATION.*—*The Sec-*
6 *retary shall ensure the information described in para-*
7 *graph (1) is disaggregated, as applicable, by the fol-*
8 *lowing student characteristics:*

9 “(A) *Financial circumstances including—*

10 “(i) *household income categories, as de-*
11 *termined by students’ and families’ adjusted*
12 *gross income; and*

13 “(ii) *student aid index categories, as*
14 *determined by the Secretary.*

15 “(B) *Sex.*

16 “(C) *Race and ethnicity.*

17 “(D) *Classification as a student with a dis-*
18 *ability.*

19 “(E) *Enrollment status, including part-*
20 *time or full-time enrollment, and status as a dis-*
21 *tance education student.*

22 “(F) *Status as a first year, second year,*
23 *third year, or subsequent year student, based on*
24 *the number of years a student has been enrolled*

1 *at the institution or in the program of study, as*
 2 *applicable.*

3 “(G) *Status as an in-district, in-State, or*
 4 *out-of-State student.*

5 “(H) *Status as an international student.*

6 “(I) *The type of Federal financial assist-*
 7 *ance received, including—*

8 “(i) *a Pell Grant;*

9 “(ii) *a loan made under title IV; and*

10 “(iii) *assistance described in section*
 11 *131(f)(4) administered, sponsored, or sup-*
 12 *ported by the Department of Defense or the*
 13 *Department of Veterans Affairs.*

14 “(J) *Status as a participant in a program*
 15 *described in section 116(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Work-*
 16 *force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29*
 17 *U.S.C. 3141(b)(3)(A)(ii)).*

18 “(3) *COMPARISONS; ACCESS; PRIVACY.—The Sec-*
 19 *retary shall ensure that the College Scorecard*
 20 *website—*

21 “(A) *includes a method for users to easily*
 22 *compare institutions and programs, including in*
 23 *a manner that allows for such comparison based*
 24 *on—*

1 “(i) the institutional and program in-
2 formation described in paragraph (1); and

3 “(ii) the student characteristics de-
4 scribed in paragraph (2);

5 “(B) provides access to information in an
6 electronic and downloadable format; and

7 “(C) complies with applicable Federal pri-
8 vacy statutes and uses appropriate statistical
9 disclosure limitation techniques necessary to en-
10 sure that the data released to the public cannot
11 be used to identify specific individuals, including
12 with respect to disaggregated information under
13 paragraph (2).

14 “(4) ANNUAL UPDATES; ADJUSTMENTS.—

15 “(A) ANNUAL DATA.—The Secretary shall
16 annually update the data on the College Score-
17 card website required under this subsection.

18 “(B) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary may
19 adjust the data required under subclauses (IV)
20 and (V) of paragraph (1)(B)(v) using the Con-
21 sumer Price Index if the Secretary determines
22 such adjustment is necessary.

23 “(5) DATA COLLECTION.—The Commissioner for
24 Education Statistics shall continue to update and im-
25 prove the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data

1 *System (referred to in this section as ‘IPEDS’), in-*
2 *cluding the reporting of information by institutions*
3 *and the timeliness of the data collected.*

4 “(c) *UNIVERSAL NET PRICE CALCULATOR.*—

5 “(1) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*Not later than 18*
6 *months after the effective date of this subsection, the*
7 *Secretary shall establish, on a dedicated website of the*
8 *Department, a Universal Net Price Calculator that—*

9 “(A) *allows an individual to select one or*
10 *more institutions of higher education and one or*
11 *more programs of study offered by each selected*
12 *institution for which estimates shall be cal-*
13 *culated;*

14 “(B) *makes available to the individual,*
15 *with respect to each selected institution and each*
16 *selected program of study, the individual’s—*

17 “(i) *annual estimated net price re-*
18 *quired for completion for each year of ex-*
19 *pected enrollment based on the program*
20 *length of a program of study, based on the*
21 *average annual net price required for com-*
22 *pletion for similarly situated students*
23 *(based on the individual’s information de-*
24 *scribed in subparagraph (C)(iv)) for such*
25 *institution or program for the most recent*

1 *award year, adjusted in accordance with*
2 *clauses (i) through (iii) of subparagraph*
3 *(C);*

4 *“(ii) total estimated net price required*
5 *for completion equal to the sum of the an-*
6 *nuual estimated net price required for com-*
7 *pletion for each year described in clause (i);*

8 *“(iii) annual estimated net price of at-*
9 *tendance for each year of expected enroll-*
10 *ment based on the program length of a pro-*
11 *gram of study, based on the average annual*
12 *net price of attendance for similarly situ-*
13 *ated students (based on the individual’s in-*
14 *formation described in subparagraph*
15 *(C)(iv)) for such institution or program for*
16 *the most recent award year, adjusted in ac-*
17 *cordance with clauses (i) through (iii) of*
18 *subparagraph (C); and*

19 *“(iv) total estimated net price of at-*
20 *tendance equal to the sum of the annual es-*
21 *timated net price of attendance for each*
22 *year described in clause (iii);*

23 *“(C) with respect to calculating net price*
24 *estimates as required by subparagraph (B)—*

1 “(i) determines an estimated annual
2 percentage change for each year for which a
3 net price calculation is made, based on the
4 annual percentage change in an institu-
5 tion’s or program’s required costs and other
6 costs under section 472(a), as applicable, for
7 the most recent three-year period for which
8 such data are reported;

9 “(ii) provides the individual with the
10 option to replace the estimated annual per-
11 centage change described in clause (i) with
12 an alternative annual percentage change
13 specified by the individual;

14 “(iii) in the case of an institution that
15 offers a multi-year tuition or net price
16 guarantee program, allow the individual to
17 have net price estimates calculated based on
18 the provisions of such guarantee program;
19 and

20 “(iv) uses the individual’s information,
21 based on—

22 “(I) the single set of questions de-
23 veloped by the Secretary in accordance
24 with paragraph (2);

1 “(II) the student-level data ele-
2 ments reported by institutions in ac-
3 cordance with section 668.408 of title
4 34, Code of Federal Regulations (or
5 successor regulations);

6 “(III) in the case of an individual
7 who submits a Free Application for
8 Federal Student Aid described in sec-
9 tion 483, the contents of such applica-
10 tion; and

11 “(IV) any additional information
12 provided by the individual with respect
13 to the individual’s grant and scholar-
14 ship aid;

15 “(D) includes a method for users to easily
16 compare institutions and programs; and

17 “(E) provides access to information in an
18 electronic and downloadable format.

19 “(2) DEVELOPMENT OF INPUT QUESTIONS.—The
20 Secretary shall develop a single set of questions for
21 purposes of capturing the information specified in
22 subsection (b)(2).

23 “(3) UPDATES.—

24 “(A) DATA.—The Secretary shall update the
25 data on the Universal Net Price Calculator

1 Website, as required under this subsection, not
2 less than annually.

3 “(B) *TECHNOLOGY AND FORMAT.*—The Sec-
4 retary shall regularly assess the format and tech-
5 nology of the Universal Net Price Calculator
6 website and make any changes or updates that
7 the Secretary considers appropriate.

8 “(4) *INTEGRATION WITH OTHER FEDERAL FI-*
9 *NANCIAL AID RESOURCES.*—In accordance with sub-
10 section (d)(5) of section 483, the Secretary shall en-
11 sure that a website link or other means of accessing
12 the Universal Net Price Calculator is included on the
13 FAFSA website (or similar successor website).

14 “(5) *INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.*—The Sec-
15 retary, in consultation with each appropriate head of
16 a department or agency of the Federal Government,
17 shall ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, that
18 any information related to higher education that is
19 published by such department or agency is consistent
20 with the information published on the Universal Net
21 Price Calculator website.

22 “(6) *CONSUMER TESTING.*—In developing and
23 maintaining the College Scorecard website and the
24 Universal Net Price Calculator website, the Secretary,
25 in consultation with each appropriate head of each

1 *appropriate department and agency of the Federal*
2 *Government shall—*

3 “(A) *not later than 6 months after the date*
4 *of the effective date of this subsection, and not*
5 *less than once every 4 years thereafter, conduct*
6 *consumer testing with appropriate persons, in-*
7 *cluding current and prospective college students,*
8 *family members of such students, institutions of*
9 *higher education, and experts, to—*

10 “(i) *improve the usefulness and rel-*
11 *evance of the College Scorecard website, with*
12 *respect to the presentation of the consumer*
13 *information collected pursuant to subsection*
14 *(b); and*

15 “(ii) *ensure that the Universal Net*
16 *Price Calculator website is usable and eas-*
17 *ily understandable and provides useful and*
18 *relevant information to students and fami-*
19 *lies; and*

20 “(B) *display prominently on such websites*
21 *in simple, understandable, and unbiased terms*
22 *for the most recent academic year for which sat-*
23 *isfactory data is available, the categories of in-*
24 *formation described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of*
25 *subsection (b) and paragraph (1)(B) of this sub-*

1 *section that were determined to be useful and rel-*
2 *evant to students and families based on the con-*
3 *sumer testing described in subparagraph (A).*

4 “(7) *USE OF NET PRICE CALCULATOR BY INSTI-*
5 *TUTIONS.—Not later than two years after the date on*
6 *which the Secretary makes the calculator developed*
7 *under paragraph (1) available to institutions of high-*
8 *er education, each institution of higher education that*
9 *receives Federal funds under title IV shall make pub-*
10 *licly available on the institution’s website a net price*
11 *calculator to provide to current and prospective stu-*
12 *dents, families, and other consumers a student’s indi-*
13 *vidual net price estimates at such institution of high-*
14 *er education. Such calculator may be a net price cal-*
15 *culator developed—*

16 *“(A) by the Department pursuant to para-*
17 *graph (1); or*

18 *“(B) by the institution of higher education,*
19 *if the institution’s calculator includes, at a min-*
20 *imum, the same data elements included in the*
21 *calculator developed under paragraph (1).*

22 “(8) *NOTICE.—A net price estimate calculated*
23 *for an individual using the Universal Net Price Cal-*
24 *culator under this subsection shall be accompanied by*
25 *a clear and conspicuous notice—*

1 “(A) stating that the estimate—

2 “(i) does not represent a final deter-
3 mination, or actual award, of financial as-
4 sistance;

5 “(ii) shall not be binding on the Sec-
6 retary, an institution of higher education,
7 or a State; and

8 “(iii) may change;

9 “(B) stating that an individual must com-
10 plete the Free Application for Federal Student
11 Aid described in section 483 in order to be eligi-
12 ble for, and receive, an actual financial aid
13 award that includes Federal grant, loan, or
14 work-study assistance under title IV;

15 “(C) including a link to the website of the
16 Department that allows individuals to access the
17 Free Application for Federal Student Aid de-
18 scribed in section 483; and

19 “(D) explaining that the net price estimate
20 calculated for an individual using the Universal
21 Net Price Calculator under this subsection may
22 differ from the net price calculated for such indi-
23 vidual using an institution’s net price calculator
24 due to differences in data or methodology.”.

1 (b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.*—Section 132 of the
 2 *Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1015a)* is further
 3 amended by redesignating subsections (k) and (l) as sub-
 4 sections (d) and (e), respectively.

5 **SEC. 3. OTHER AMENDMENTS.**

6 (a) *COST OF ATTENDANCE OF A PROGRAM OF*
 7 *STUDY.*—

8 (1) *DETERMINATION OF COST OF ATTENDANCE*
 9 *OF A PROGRAM OF STUDY.*—

10 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 472(a) of the
 11 *Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.*
 12 *1087ll(a))* is amended—

13 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking “car-
 14 rying the same academic workload” and in-
 15 serting “enrolled in the same program of
 16 study and carrying the same academic
 17 workload”;

18 (ii) in paragraph (2), by striking
 19 “same course of study” and inserting “same
 20 program of study”; and

21 (iii) in paragraph (14), by striking
 22 “program” and inserting “program of
 23 study”.

1 (2) *DISCLOSURE.*—Section 472(c) of the Higher
2 *Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087l(c)) is*
3 *amended—*

4 (A) by inserting “of each program of study
5 at the institution” after “cost of attendance”;
6 and

7 (B) by striking “of the institution” and in-
8 serting “of such programs of study at the institu-
9 tion”.

10 (b) *PROGRAM OF STUDY DEFINED.*—Section 103 of the
11 *Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003) is amend-*
12 *ed—*

13 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through
14 (24) as paragraphs (16) through (25), respectively;
15 and

16 (2) by inserting after paragraph (14) the fol-
17 lowing new paragraph:

18 “(15) *PROGRAM OF STUDY DEFINED.*—

19 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The term ‘program of
20 study’—

21 “(i) means an eligible program at an
22 institution of higher education that is clas-
23 sified by a combination of—

24 “(I) one or more CIP codes; and

1 “(II) *one credential level, deter-*
 2 *mined by the credential awarded upon*
 3 *completion of the program; and*

4 “(ii) *does not include a program of*
 5 *study abroad.*

6 “(B) *CIP CODE.—The term ‘CIP code’*
 7 *means the six-digit taxonomic identification code*
 8 *assigned by an institution of higher education to*
 9 *a specific program of study at the institution,*
 10 *determined by the institution of higher education*
 11 *in accordance with the Classification of Instruc-*
 12 *tional Programs published by the National Cen-*
 13 *ter for Education Statistics.*

14 “(C) *CREDENTIAL LEVEL.—*

15 “(i) *IN GENERAL.—The term ‘ creden-*
 16 *tial level’ means the level of the degree or*
 17 *other credential awarded by an institution*
 18 *of higher education to students who com-*
 19 *plete a program of study of the institution.*
 20 *Each degree or other credential awarded by*
 21 *an institution shall be categorized by the in-*
 22 *stitution as either undergraduate credential*
 23 *level or graduate credential level.*

24 “(ii) *UNDERGRADUATE CREDENTIAL.—*
 25 *When used with respect to a credential or*

1 *credential level, the term ‘undergraduate*
 2 *credential’ includes credentials such as an*
 3 *undergraduate certificate, an associate de-*
 4 *gree, a bachelor’s degree, and a post-bacca-*
 5 *laureate certificate (including the*
 6 *coursework specified in paragraphs (3)(B)*
 7 *and (4)(B) of section 484(b)).*

8 “(iii) *GRADUATE CREDENTIAL.*—When
 9 *used with respect to a credential or creden-*
 10 *tial level, the term ‘graduate credential’ in-*
 11 *cludes credentials such as a master’s degree,*
 12 *a doctoral degree, a professional degree (as*
 13 *defined under section 668.2 of title 34, Code*
 14 *of Federal Regulations), and a postgraduate*
 15 *certificate.”.*

16 *(c) ELIMINATION OF EARLY ESTIMATOR TOOL.*—Para-
 17 *graph (4) of section 485E(b) of the Higher Education Act*
 18 *of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092f(b)) is repealed.*

19 *(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.*—

20 *(1) HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965.*—The
 21 *Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et*
 22 *seq.), as amended by this Act, is further amended—*
 23 *(A) by striking “College Navigator” each*
 24 *place it appears and inserting “College Score-*
 25 *card”; and*

1 (B) in the header of section 487(d)(3), by
2 striking “COLLEGE NAVIGATOR” and inserting
3 “COLLEGE SCORECARD”.

4 (2) *OTHER REFERENCES.*—Any reference in any
5 law (other than the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
6 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.)), regulation, document, record, or
7 other paper of the United States to the College Navi-
8 gator website shall be considered to be a reference to
9 the College Scorecard website.

10 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

11 This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
12 take effect on July 1, 2027, and shall apply with respect
13 to award year 2027–2028 and each subsequent award year,
14 as determined under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

Union Calendar No. 395

119TH CONGRESS
2D Session

H. R. 6498

[Report No. 119-461]

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase transparency in college tuition for consumers, and for other purposes.

JANUARY 21, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed