

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4724

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to make for-profit institutions ineligible for Federal student aid and to protect the integrity of nonprofit institutions of higher education.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 17, 2019

Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. TLAIB) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to make for-profit institutions ineligible for Federal student aid and to protect the integrity of nonprofit institutions of higher education.

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 “Students Not Profits  
5 Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-**  
2 **CATION.**

3 The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001  
4 et seq.) is amended—

5 (1) in section 101—

6 (A) in subsection (a), in the matter pre-  
7 ceding paragraph (1), by striking “other than  
8 title IV,”;

9 (B) in subsection (b)—

10 (i) in the matter preceding paragraph  
11 (1), by striking “other than title IV,”;

12 (ii) in paragraph (1), by striking  
13 “and” after the semicolon;

14 (iii) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking  
15 the period at the end and inserting a semi-  
16 colon; and

17 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-  
18 lowing:

19 “(3) a public, nonprofit postsecondary voca-  
20 tional institution; and

21 “(4) only for the purposes of part D of title IV,  
22 an institution outside the United States that is com-  
23 parable to an institution of higher education, as de-  
24 fined in subsection (a), and that has been approved  
25 by the Secretary for the purpose of part D of title

1 IV, consistent with the requirements of section  
2 452(d).”;

3 (C) in subsection (c), by striking “and sec-  
4 tion 102”; and

5 (D) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(d) REQUIREMENTS OF COURSES OF STUDY AND  
7 ENROLLMENT.—An institution shall be considered to meet  
8 the definition of an institution of higher education in sub-  
9 section (a) or (b) only if such institution—

10 “(1) limits enrollment of students in distance  
11 education courses offered by the institution to not  
12 more than 50 percent of all students enrolled in the  
13 institution, unless the institution is a public or non-  
14 profit technical institution or career and technical  
15 education school, as described in section 3(3)(C) of  
16 the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education  
17 Act of 2006;

18 “(2) limits enrollment of students who are in-  
19 carcerated to not more than 25 percent of all stu-  
20 dents enrolled in the institution;

21 “(3) limits enrollment of students who do not  
22 have a secondary school diploma or its recognized  
23 equivalent to not more than 50 percent of all stu-  
24 dents enrolled in the institution; and

1           “(4) if the institution offers an education or  
2           training program that leads to a certificate, or other  
3           nondegree recognized credential and funds available  
4           under title IV for students are used for enrollment  
5           in such education or program, ensures that such  
6           education or program prepares students for gainful  
7           employment in a recognized occupation.

8           “(e) LIMITATIONS BASED ON MANAGEMENT.—An in-  
9           stitution shall not be considered to meet the definition of  
10          an institution of higher education in subsection (a) or (b)  
11          if such institution—

12           “(1) the institution, or an affiliate of the insti-  
13           tution that has the power, by contract or ownership  
14           interest, to direct or cause the direction of the man-  
15           agement or policies of the institution, has filed for  
16           bankruptcy; or

17           “(2) the institution, the institution’s owner, the  
18           institution’s chief executive officer, or any other ex-  
19           ecutive officer of the institution—

20           “(A) has been convicted of, or has pled  
21           nolo contendere or guilty to, a crime involving  
22           the acquisition, use, or expenditure of funds  
23           under title IV;

24           “(B) has been determined to have com-  
25           mitted fraud, substantial misrepresentation, or

1 false certification involving funds under title IV;  
2 or

3 “(C) has been previously employed at an  
4 institution receiving funds under title IV that  
5 closed.

6 “(f) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall certify an  
7 institution’s qualification as an institution of higher edu-  
8 cation in accordance with the requirements of subpart 3  
9 of part H of title IV.

10 “(g) LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY.—An institution of higher  
11 education shall not be considered to meet the definition  
12 of an institution of higher education in subsection (a) or  
13 (b) if such institution is removed from eligibility for funds  
14 under title IV as a result of an action pursuant to part  
15 H of title IV.

16 “(h) POSTSECONDARY VOCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—

17 “(1) PRINCIPAL CRITERIA.—For the purpose of  
18 this section, the term ‘postsecondary vocational insti-  
19 tution’ means a school that—

20 “(A) provides an eligible program of train-  
21 ing to prepare students for gainful employment  
22 in a recognized occupation;

23 “(B) meets the requirements of paragraphs  
24 (1), (2), (4), and (5) of subsection (a); and

1 “(C) has been in existence for at least 2  
2 years.

3 “(2) ADDITIONAL INSTITUTIONS.—The term  
4 ‘postsecondary vocational institution’ also includes  
5 an educational institution in any State that, in lieu  
6 of the requirement in subsection (a)(1), admits as  
7 regular students individuals—

8 “(A) who are beyond the age of compul-  
9 sory school attendance in the State in which the  
10 institution is located; or

11 “(B) who will be dually or concurrently en-  
12 rolled in the institution and a secondary school.

13 “(i) INSTITUTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of quali-  
15 fying as an institution under subsection (b)(4), the  
16 Secretary shall establish criteria by regulation for  
17 the approval of institutions outside the United  
18 States and for the determination that such institu-  
19 tions are comparable to an institution of higher edu-  
20 cation, as defined in subsection 101(a) (except that  
21 a graduate medical school, nursing school, or a vet-  
22 erinary school, located outside the United States  
23 shall not be required to meet the requirements of  
24 subsection (a)(4)). Such criteria shall include a re-  
25 quirement that a student attending such school out-

side the United States is ineligible for loans made under part D of title IV unless—

“(A) in the case of a graduate medical school located outside the United States—

“(i) at least 60 percent of those enrolled in, and at least 60 percent of the graduates of, the graduate medical school outside the United States were not persons described in section 484(a)(5) in the year preceding the year for which a student is seeking a loan under part D of title IV; and

“(ii) at least 75 percent of the individuals who were students or graduates of the graduate medical school outside the United States or Canada (both nationals of the United States and others) taking the examinations administered by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates received a passing score in the year preceding the year for which a student is seeking a loan under part D of title IV;

“(B) in the case of a veterinary school located outside the United States that does not

1 meet the requirements of subsection (a)(4), the  
2 institution's students complete their clinical  
3 training at an approved veterinary school lo-  
4 cated in the United States; or

5 “(C) in the case of a nursing school lo-  
6 cated outside of the United States—

7 “(i) the nursing school has an agree-  
8 ment with a hospital, or accredited school  
9 of nursing (as such terms are defined in  
10 section 801 of the Public Health Service  
11 Act (42 U.S.C. 296)), located in the  
12 United States that requires the students of  
13 the nursing school to complete the stu-  
14 dents' clinical training at such hospital or  
15 accredited school of nursing;

16 “(ii) the nursing school has an agree-  
17 ment with an accredited school of nursing  
18 located in the United States providing that  
19 the students graduating from the nursing  
20 school located outside of the United States  
21 also receive a degree from the accredited  
22 school of nursing located in the United  
23 States;

24 “(iii) the nursing school certifies only  
25 Federal Direct Stafford Loans under sec-



1           tion 455(a)(2)(A), Federal Direct Unsub-  
2           sidized Stafford Loans under section  
3           455(a)(2)(D), or Federal Direct PLUS  
4           Loans under section 455(a)(2)(B) for stu-  
5           dents attending the institution;

6           “(iv) the nursing school reimburses  
7           the Secretary for the cost of any loan de-  
8           faults for current and former students in-  
9           cluded in the calculation of the institu-  
10          tion’s cohort default rate during the pre-  
11          vious fiscal year; and

12          “(v) not less than 75 percent of the  
13          individuals who were students or graduates  
14          of the nursing school, and who took the  
15          National Council Licensure Examination  
16          for Registered Nurses in the year pre-  
17          ceding the year for which the institution is  
18          certifying a Federal Direct Stafford Loan  
19          under section 455(a)(2)(A), a Federal Di-  
20          rect Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under  
21          section 455(a)(2)(D), or a Federal Direct  
22          PLUS Loan under section 455(a)(2)(B),  
23          received a passing score on such examina-  
24          tion.

1           “(2) FAILURE TO RELEASE INFORMATION.—

2           The failure of an institution outside the United  
3           States to provide, release, or authorize release to the  
4           Secretary of such information as may be required by  
5           paragraph (1) shall render such institution ineligible  
6           for the purpose of part D of title IV.

7           “(3) SPECIAL RULE.—If, pursuant to this sub-  
8           section, an institution loses eligibility to participate  
9           in the programs under title IV, then a student en-  
10          rolled in such institution may, notwithstanding such  
11          loss of eligibility, continue to be eligible to receive a  
12          loan under part D of title IV while attending such  
13          institution for the academic year succeeding the aca-  
14          demic year in which such loss of eligibility oc-  
15          curred.”;

16                 (2) by striking section 102; and

17                 (3) by redesignating section 103 as section 102.

18 **SEC. 3. REPEAL OF EXISTING REFERENCES TO PROPRI-**  
19 **ETARY INSTITUTIONS.**

20           Section 487 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
21 U.S.C. 1094) is amended—

22                 (1) in subsection (a)—

23                         (A) by striking paragraph (24);

1 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (25)  
 2 through (29) as paragraphs (24) through (28),  
 3 respectively;

4 (C) in paragraph (24)(A)(ii) (as redesign-  
 5 ated by subparagraph (B)), by striking “sub-  
 6 section (e)” and inserting “subsection (d)”;

7 (D) in paragraph (26) (as redesignated by  
 8 subparagraph (B)), by striking “subsection (h)”  
 9 and inserting “subsection (g)”;

10 (2) by striking subsection (d);

11 (3) by redesignating subsections (e) through (j)  
 12 as subsections (d) through (i), respectively;

13 (4) in subsection (f)(1) (as redesignated by  
 14 paragraph (3)), by striking “subsection (e)(2)” and  
 15 inserting “subsection (d)(2)”;

16 (5) in subsection (g)(1) (as redesignated by  
 17 paragraph (3)), by striking “subsection (a)(27)” in  
 18 the matter preceding subparagraph (A) and insert-  
 19 ing “subsection (a)(26)”.

#### 20 **SEC. 4. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

21 The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001  
 22 et seq.) is amended—

23 (1) in section 102, as redesignated by sub-  
 24 section (a)(3), in paragraph (5)(B), by striking “(as  
 25 such term is defined in section 102)”;

1 (2) in section 114—

2 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “(as de-  
3 fined in section 102)” and

4 (B) in subsection (b)(2)(B), by striking  
5 “(as defined in section 102)”;

6 (3) in section 133(b)—

7 (A) by striking paragraph (5); and

8 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (6)  
9 through (9) as paragraphs (5) through (8), re-  
10 spectively;

11 (4) in section 151(2), by striking “, as such  
12 term in defined in section 102,”;

13 (5) in section 152—

14 (A) in subsection (a)(1)(A), by striking  
15 “subsections (a)(27) and (h) of section 487”  
16 and inserting “subsections (a)(26) and (g) of  
17 section 487”; and

18 (B) in subsection (b)(1)(B)(i)(I), by strik-  
19 ing “section 487(e)” and inserting “section  
20 487(d)”;

21 (6) in section 153(c)(3), by striking “section  
22 487(a)(25)” each place the term appears and insert-  
23 ing “section 487(a)(24)”;

24 (7) in section 420L(1), by striking “, as defined  
25 in section 102,”;

1 (8) in section 435(a)(1), by striking “, as de-  
2 fined in section 102,”;

3 (9) section 486(b)—

4 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “sections  
5 102(a)(3)(A), 102(a)(3)(B)”;

6 (B) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking “sec-  
7 tion 102(a)(1)(C)” and inserting “section  
8 101(b)(4)”;

9 (C) in paragraph (3)(C), by striking “an  
10 institution of higher education that meets the  
11 requirements of subsection (a) of section 102,  
12 other than the requirement of paragraph (3)(A)  
13 or (3)(B) of such subsection,” and inserting  
14 “an institution of higher education that meets  
15 the requirements of section 101, other than the  
16 requirement of section 101(e)(1)(A),”;

17 (10) in section 487—

18 (A) in subsection (c)(1)(A)(iii), by striking  
19 “section 102(a)(1)(C)” and inserting “section  
20 101(b)(4)”;

21 (B) in subsection (i)—

22 (i) by striking paragraph (4); and

23 (ii) by redesignating paragraphs (5)  
24 and (6) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respec-  
25 tively;

1 (11) in section 491(l)(2)(A), by striking “sec-  
2 tion 102(a)(1)(C)” and inserting “section  
3 101(b)(4)”;

4 (12) in section 496—

5 (A) in subsection (c)(3)(A), by striking  
6 “section 487(f)” and inserting “section  
7 487(e)”;

8 (B) in subsection (j), by striking “section  
9 102” and inserting “section 101”; and

10 (C) in subsection (k), by striking “section  
11 102” and inserting “section 101”;

12 (13) in section 498—

13 (A) in subsection (g)(3), by striking “sec-  
14 tion 102(a)(1)(C)” and inserting “section  
15 101(b)(4)”;

16 (B) in subsection (i), by striking “section  
17 102” and inserting “section 101”;

18 (C) in subsection (j), by striking “sections  
19 102(b)(1)(E) and 102(c)(1)(C)” and inserting  
20 “section 101(i)(1)(C)”;

21 (D) in subsection (k)—

22 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking “sec-  
23 tion 487(f)” and inserting “section  
24 487(e)”;

1 (ii) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking  
 2 “sections 102(b)(1)(E) and 102(c)(1)(C)”  
 3 and inserting “section 101(i)(1)(C)”;  
 4 (14) in section 498B(b), by striking “section  
 5 102(a)(1)(C)” and inserting “section 101(b)(4)”;  
 6 (15) in section 741(f)(2), by striking “section  
 7 102” and inserting “section 101”; and  
 8 (16) in section 807(d)(1), by striking subpara-  
 9 graph (A) and inserting the following:  
 10 “(A) intend to pursue a career in instruc-  
 11 tion at an institution of higher education in the  
 12 United States; and”.

13 **SEC. 5. INTEGRITY OF NONPROFIT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGH-**  
 14 **ER EDUCATION.**

15 Part B of title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
 16 (20 U.S.C. 1011 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
 17 the following:

18 **“SEC. 124. INTEGRITY OF NONPROFIT INSTITUTIONS OF**  
 19 **HIGHER EDUCATION.**

20 “(a) DETERMINATION.—On determining that an in-  
 21 stitution of higher education meets the requirements  
 22 under subsection (b), the Secretary shall approve the con-  
 23 version of an institution of higher education to a nonprofit  
 24 institution of higher education.

1       “(b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to convert under  
2 this section and participate as a nonprofit institution of  
3 higher education under this Act, an institution of higher  
4 education shall submit an application to the Secretary that  
5 demonstrates each of the following:

6               “(1) That such institution of higher education  
7 is a nonprofit institution of higher education.

8               “(2) That the assets or services acquired from  
9 former owners of such institution of higher edu-  
10 cation were not acquired for more than the value of  
11 such assets or services.

12               “(3) That no member of the governing board of  
13 such institution of higher education (other than ex  
14 officio members serving at the pleasure of the re-  
15 mainder of the governing board and receiving a fixed  
16 salary), or any person with the power to appoint or  
17 remove members of such governing board or any im-  
18 mediate family member of such a member of the  
19 board or such a person with power of appointment,  
20 receives any substantial direct or indirect economic  
21 benefit (including a lease, promissory note, or other  
22 contract) from such institution of higher education.

23               “(4) That such institution of higher education  
24 is an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of



1 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt  
2 from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

3 “(5) Subject to subsection (c), that none of the  
4 core functions of the institution of higher education  
5 are under the control of, or subject to significant di-  
6 rection from, an entity that is not a public institu-  
7 tion of higher education or other nonprofit entity.

8 “(c) PRESUMPTION OF SIGNIFICANT DIRECTION.—  
9 For purposes of subsection (b)(5), in the case of an insti-  
10 tution, there shall be a conclusive presumption that an en-  
11 tity (other than such institution) exercises significant di-  
12 rection over such institution if one or more of the employ-  
13 ees or owners of the entity serves as an officer, member  
14 of the board, or person holding similar authority for such  
15 institution.

16 “(d) TRANSITION PERIOD.—In the case of an institu-  
17 tion of higher education approved for conversion under  
18 subsection (a), such institution shall be subject to any  
19 rules and regulations that apply to proprietary institutions  
20 of higher education, as defined in section 102(b), for a  
21 minimum of 5 years.

22 “(e) VALUE.—The term ‘value’, with respect to an  
23 acquisition under subsection (b)(2)—

1 “(1) includes the value of any ongoing relation-  
2 ship (including any contract, agreement, lease or  
3 other arrangement);

4 “(2) subject to paragraph (3), may be dem-  
5 onstrated through—

6 “(A) a third-party appraisal based on com-  
7 parable assets acquired by, or goods or services  
8 procured by, nonprofit corporations in similar  
9 market conditions;

10 “(B) an independent financing of the ac-  
11 quisition based upon the assets acquired; or

12 “(C) a full and open competition in the ac-  
13 quisition of services or assets, as such term is  
14 defined in section 2.101(b) of title 48, Code of  
15 Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of  
16 the enactment of this section; and

17 “(3) shall be subject to such other demonstra-  
18 tion process determined appropriate by the Secretary  
19 in a case in which the Secretary does not accept a  
20 demonstration process described in paragraph (2).

21 “(f) PUBLICATION.—

22 “(1) APPLICATION.—Before the Secretary may  
23 approve the conversion of an institution of higher  
24 education under subsection (a), the application of  
25 such institution submitted to the Secretary under

1 subsection (b) shall be published in the Federal Reg-  
2 ister with an appropriate notice and comment pe-  
3 riod.

4 “(2) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary shall  
5 publish each determination under this section, and  
6 the reasons for such determination, under the Fed-  
7 eral Register.

8 “(g) PUBLIC REPRESENTATION AND MARKETING OF  
9 NONPROFIT STATUS.—An institution of higher education  
10 shall not promote or market itself, in any manner, as a  
11 nonprofit institution of higher education unless—

12 “(1) in the case of an institution of higher edu-  
13 cation that seeks to convert to a nonprofit institu-  
14 tion of higher education under this section—

15 “(A) the Secretary has given final approval  
16 of the conversion of the institution to a non-  
17 profit institution of higher education under this  
18 section;

19 “(B) an accrediting agency or association  
20 recognized by the Secretary pursuant to section  
21 496 has approved the nonprofit status of the  
22 institution; and

23 “(C) the State has given final approval to  
24 the institution as a nonprofit institution of  
25 higher education, as applicable; and

1           “(2) the Commissioner of Internal Revenue has  
2           approved the institution as tax exempt for purposes  
3           of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

4           “(h) OFFICE TO MONITOR NONPROFIT INTEG-  
5 RITY.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment  
6 of the Students Not Profits Act of 2019, the Secretary  
7 shall establish an office within the Department with the  
8 expertise necessary to carry out this section.

9           **“SEC. 125. REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE.**

10          “The Secretary shall review the governance of an in-  
11 stitution of higher education when such institution has en-  
12 gaged in transactions or arrangements determined by the  
13 Secretary as potential indicators of private inurement, in  
14 order to promote the highest standards of nonprofit integ-  
15 rity.”.

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