

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1372

To prohibit States from suspending, revoking, or denying State-issued professional licenses or issuing penalties due to student default.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2021

Ms. ROSS (for herself, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. DINGELL, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

---

## A BILL

To prohibit States from suspending, revoking, or denying State-issued professional licenses or issuing penalties due to student default.

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 “Protecting Job Oppor-  
5 tunities for Borrowers Act” or the “Protecting JOBS  
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST SUSPENSION, REVOCATION,**  
2 **OR DENIAL OF STATE-ISSUED PROFESSIONAL**  
3 **LICENSES OR PENALTIES DUE TO STUDENT**  
4 **DEFAULT.**

5 (a) HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965 LOANS.—Part  
6 B of title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
7 U.S.C. 1011 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
8 the following:

9 **“SEC. 124. PROHIBITION AGAINST SUSPENSION, REVOCA-**  
10 **TION, OR DENIAL OF STATE-ISSUED PROFES-**  
11 **SIONAL LICENSES OR PENALTIES DUE TO**  
12 **STUDENT DEFAULT.**

13 “(a) PROHIBITION.—Beginning 2 years after the  
14 date of enactment of the Protecting Job Opportunities for  
15 Borrowers Act, a State that receives assistance under this  
16 Act may not suspend, revoke, or deny the approval or re-  
17 newal of a State-issued license described in subsection (b)  
18 or issue a fine or other penalty with respect to an indi-  
19 vidual based solely on such individual’s default or delin-  
20 quency on a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under title  
21 IV.

22 “(b) TYPES OF LICENSES.—A State-issued license  
23 described in this subsection means any of the following:

24 “(1) A State-issued driver’s license (including  
25 any State-issued document permitting a specific in-  
26 dividual to operate one or more types of motorized

1 vehicles, such as a motorcycle, car, truck, or bus on  
2 a public road).

3 “(2) A State-issued teaching license.

4 “(3) A State-issued professional license involved  
5 in or affecting interstate commerce (including any li-  
6 cense, permit, certificate, registration, charter, au-  
7 thority or similar form of permission required for  
8 lawful employment in a particular career field).

9 “(c) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—Any individual aggrieved  
10 as a result of a violation of subsection (a) may bring a  
11 civil action in an appropriate district court of the United  
12 States to obtain prospective injunctive relief against an in-  
13 dividual State officer in the officer’s official capacity.”.

14 (b) HEALTH EDUCATION LOANS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—A State may not suspend,  
16 revoke, or deny the approval or renewal of a State-  
17 issued license described in section 124(b) of the  
18 Higher Education Act of 1965 or issue a fine or  
19 other penalty with respect to an individual based  
20 solely on such individual’s default or delinquency on  
21 a Health Education Assistance Loan or Primary  
22 Care Loan made under part A of title VII of the  
23 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 292 et seq.).

24 (2) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—Any individual ag-  
25 grieved as a result of a violation of paragraph (1)

1        may bring a civil action in an appropriate district  
2        court of the United States to obtain prospective in-  
3        junctive relief against an individual State officer in  
4        the officer's official capacity.

○