

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1614

To authorize borrowers of loans under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program to modify the interest rate of such loans to be equal to the interest rate for such loans at the time of modification.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2017

Mr. POCAN (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. BEYER, Ms. MOORE, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. WELCH, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. KIND, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. KILMER, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, and Mr. PERLMUTTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To authorize borrowers of loans under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program to modify the interest rate of such loans to be equal to the interest rate for such loans at the time of modification.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Student Loan Refi-
3 nancing Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. BORROWER MODIFICATION OF INTEREST RATES**
5 **UNDER THE WILLIAM D. FORD FEDERAL DI-**
6 **RECT LOAN PROGRAM.**

7 Section 455(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
8 (20 U.S.C. 1087e(b)) is amended by adding at the end
9 the following new paragraph:

10 “(11) BORROWER MODIFICATION OF INTEREST
11 RATE.—

12 “(A) MODIFICATION.—Notwithstanding
13 the preceding paragraphs of this subsection, the
14 borrower of a Federal Direct Stafford Loan, a
15 Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, a
16 Federal Direct PLUS Loan, or a Federal Di-
17 rect Consolidation Loan may elect to modify the
18 interest rate of the loan to be equal to the in-
19 terest rate that would be applicable to such loan
20 if such loan were first disbursed (or in the case
21 of a Federal Direct Consolidation Loan, first
22 applied for) on the date on which such borrower
23 elects to modify the interest rate of such loan.

24 “(B) FIXED RATE.—Except as provided in
25 subparagraph (C), an interest rate elected

1 under subparagraph (A) for a loan shall be
2 fixed for the life of the loan.

3 “(C) CONTINUING AUTHORITY TO MOD-
4 IFY.—A borrower may elect to modify the inter-
5 est rate of a loan in accordance with subpara-
6 graph (A) at any time during the life of the
7 loan.”.

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