

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4724

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for a percentage of student loan forgiveness for public service employment, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 27, 2021

Mr. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. RUSH) 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 provide for a percentage of student loan forgiveness for public service employment, 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 “Strengthening Loan  
5       Forgiveness for Public Servants Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM.**

7       Section 455(m) of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
8       (20 U.S.C. 1087e(m)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “, except as provided in paragraph (5),” after “on any eligible Federal Direct Loan not in default”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) LOAN CANCELLATION FOR NEW LOANS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning after the date of enactment of the Strengthening Loan Forgiveness for Public Servants Act, after the conclusion of each employment period in a public service job, as described in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall cancel the percent specified in such subparagraph of the total amount due on any eligible Federal Direct Loan made after the date of enactment of the Strengthening Loan Forgiveness for Public Servants Act for a borrower who is employed in such public service job and submits an employment certification form described in subparagraph (C).

“(B) PERCENT AMOUNT.—The percent of a loan that shall be canceled under subparagraph (A) is as follows:

“(i) In the case of a borrower who completes 2 years of employment in a public service job, 15 percent of the total

1 amount due on the eligible Federal Direct  
2 Loan on the date the borrower commenced  
3 employment in such public service job.

4 “(ii) In the case of a borrower who  
5 completes 4 years of employment in a pub-  
6 lic service job, 15 percent of the total  
7 amount due on the eligible Federal Direct  
8 Loan on the date the borrower commenced  
9 employment in such public service job.

10 “(iii) In the case of a borrower who  
11 completes 6 years of employment in a pub-  
12 lic service job, 20 percent of the total  
13 amount due on the eligible Federal Direct  
14 Loan on the date the borrower commenced  
15 employment in such public service job.

16 “(iv) In the case of a borrower who  
17 completes 8 years of employment in a pub-  
18 lic service job, 20 percent of the total  
19 amount due on the eligible Federal Direct  
20 Loan on the date the borrower commenced  
21 employment in such public service job.

22 “(v) In the case of a borrower who  
23 completes 10 years of employment in a  
24 public service job, 30 percent of the total  
25 amount due on the eligible Federal Direct

1           Loan on the date the borrower commenced  
2           employment in such public service job.

3           “(C)       EMPLOYMENT       CERTIFICATION  
4       FORM.—

5                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—In order to receive  
6           loan cancellation under this paragraph, a  
7           borrower shall submit to the Secretary an  
8           employment certification form that is de-  
9           veloped by the Secretary and includes self-  
10          certification of employment and a separate  
11          part for employer certification that indi-  
12          cates the dates of employment.

13                   “(ii) DEFERMENT.—If a borrower  
14          submits to the Secretary the employment  
15          certification form described in clause (i),  
16          during the period in which the borrower is  
17          employed in a public service job for which  
18          loan cancellation is eligible under this  
19          paragraph, the borrower’s eligible Federal  
20          Direct Loan shall be placed in deferment.

21                   “(D) INTEREST CANCELED.—If a portion  
22          of a loan is canceled under this paragraph for  
23          any year, the entire amount of interest on such

1           loan that accrues for such year shall be can-  
2           celed.”.

