

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5380

To require institutions of higher education to notify students of the impact of private scholarships and grants on eligibility for institutional financial aid, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

Mr. KIM of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To require institutions of higher education to notify students of the impact of private scholarships and grants on eligibility for institutional financial aid, 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 “Helping Students Plan
5 for College Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIP IMPACT ON INSTITUTIONAL**
2 **FINANCIAL AID.**

3 Section 485(a)(1) of the Higher Education Act of
4 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(a)(1)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “, and, in
6 the case of an institution described in subparagraph
7 (W), a statement that eligibility for such programs
8 may be impacted by the receipt of financial assist-
9 ance not received under this title, including all schol-
10 arships, grants, loans, or other assistance known to
11 the institution at the time the determination of the
12 student’s need is made” after “institution”;

13 (2) in subparagraph (U), by striking “and” at
14 the end;

15 (3) in subparagraph (V), by striking the period
16 and inserting “; and”; and

17 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-
18 paragraph:

19 “(W) in the case of an institution that ad-
20 justs awards of institutional financial aid based
21 on student receipt of financial assistance not re-
22 ceived under this title, the institutional policies
23 on making such adjustments, including scholar-
24 ships, grants, loans, or other assistance, and
25 how receipt of such assistance may impact eligi-

1 bility for, and the amount of, institutional fi-
2 nancial aid awards.”.

3 **SEC. 3. GAO STUDY AND REPORT.**

4 (a) STUDY.—Not later than 90 days after the date
5 of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall
6 begin to conduct a study on the relationship between—

7 (1) financial assistance not received under title
8 IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
9 1070 et seq.), including scholarships, grants, loans,
10 or other assistance; and

11 (2) eligibility for, and the amount of, institu-
12 tional financial aid awards to students by institu-
13 tions of higher education, as defined in section 102
14 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1002).

15 (b) DATA.—The study conducted under subsection
16 (a) shall include information on—

17 (1) the demographic characteristics of students
18 who use private scholarships to pay for college; and

19 (2) policies of institutions of higher education
20 for accounting for private scholarships when award-
21 ing financial aid, and how such policies can affect fi-
22 nancial aid offers.

23 (c) REPORT.—At the conclusion of the study con-
24 ducted in accordance with this section, the Comptroller
25 General shall submit a report on the results of such study

1 to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House
2 of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Edu-
3 cation, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and shall make
4 such report publicly available. Such report shall include
5 recommendations, as appropriate, for legislative action to
6 support the use of financial assistance not received under
7 title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
8 1070 et seq.), including scholarships, grants, loans, or
9 other assistance, by students to supplement, and not sup-
10 plant, institutional financial aid awards.

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