

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3561

To amend the section 484(r) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to exclude certain marijuana-related offenses from the drug-related offenses that result in students being barred from receiving Federal educational loans, grants, and work assistance, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

Mr. BLUMENAUER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the section 484(r) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to exclude certain marijuana-related offenses from the drug-related offenses that result in students being barred from receiving Federal educational loans, grants, and work assistance, 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 “Fair Access to Edu-
5 cation Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF MISDEMEANOR MARIJUANA POS-**
2 **SESSION OFFENSES FROM DRUG-RELATED**
3 **OFFENSES RESULTING IN SUSPENSION OF**
4 **ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
5 **FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.**

6 Paragraph (1) of section 484(r) of the Higher Edu-
7 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1091(r)(1)) is amended by
8 inserting after “controlled substance” the following: “, but
9 not including any misdemeanor offense for possession of
10 marihuana (as such term is defined in section 102 of the
11 Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)),”.

12 **SEC. 3. APPLICABILITY; RESUMPTION OF ELIGIBILITY.**

13 (a) **APPLICABILITY.**—The amendment made by sec-
14 tion 2 shall apply to convictions for offenses described in
15 the matter inserted by such amendment occurring before,
16 on, and after the date of the enactment of this Act.

17 (b) **RESUMPTION OF ELIGIBILITY.**—Any student
18 whose eligibility for grants, loans, and work assistance
19 under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.) was suspended under paragraph (1)
21 of section 484(r) of such Act by reason of a conviction,
22 before the enactment of this Act, for an offense described
23 in the matter inserted by the amendment made by section
24 2 of this Act shall, unless otherwise ineligible for such as-
25 sistance, resume eligibility upon such date of enactment.