

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1154

To amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to improve the educational awards provided for national service, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 24, 2009

Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. FATTAH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to improve the educational awards provided for national service, 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 “AmeriCorps: Together
5 Improving Our Nation Act” or as the “ACTION Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMOUNT OF NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL**
2 **AWARD.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 147(a) of the National
4 and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12603(a))
5 is amended—

6 (1) by striking “equal to 90 percent of” and all
7 that follows and inserting the following: “equal to—

8 “(1) for fiscal year 2010, \$6585; and

9 “(2) except as provided in paragraph (1), for
10 each fiscal year, an amount equal to the greater of—

11 “(A) the average cost of tuition and fees
12 (determined under section 472 of the Higher
13 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll) for
14 the preceding fiscal year for a full-time student
15 at a 4-year public institution of higher edu-
16 cation that receives funds under title IV of that
17 Act (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.); and

18 “(B) the amount determined for the pre-
19 ceding fiscal year under this subsection.”.

20 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (a) takes effect
21 on October 1, 2009.

22 **SEC. 3. TREATMENT OF NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL**
23 **AWARD.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 147 of the National and
25 Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12603) is
26 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(d) TREATMENT.—The amount of a national service
 2 educational award provided to an individual under this
 3 subtitle shall not be included in the gross income of the
 4 individual for purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of
 5 1986.”.

6 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 7 subsection (a) shall apply to national service educational
 8 awards disbursed after December 31, 2009.

9 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAMS TO IMPLEMENT**
 10 **PRIORITIES OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.**

11 Section 121(b) of the National and Community Serv-
 12 ice Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12571(b)) is amended by add-
 13 ing at the end the following:

14 “(5) PRIORITIES OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.—In
 15 carrying out this subsection, the Corporation may
 16 enter into a contract or cooperative agreement with
 17 another Federal agency to support a national service
 18 program, carried out by the Federal agency, to im-
 19 plement the priorities of the Federal agency (not-
 20 withstanding section 122).”.

21 **SEC. 5. CABINET LEVEL STATUS FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF-**
 22 **FICER.**

23 (a) EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS.—Section 101 of title
 24 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
 25 the following:

1 “The Corporation for National and Community
2 Service.”.

3 (b) COMPENSATION.—Section 193 of the National
4 and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12651c)
5 is amended—

6 (1) by striking “level III” and inserting “level
7 I”; and

8 (2) by striking “section 5314” and inserting
9 “section 5312”.

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