

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2399

To provide Federal student loan relief for teachers who work in a military impacted community.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 20, 2021

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. MORAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To provide Federal student loan relief for teachers who work in a military impacted community.

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 “Defense Community
5 Teacher Support Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR TEACHERS IN MILITARY**
7 **IMPACTED COMMUNITIES.**

8 (a) FFEL LOANS.—Section 428J of the Higher Edu-
9 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078–10) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(A)—

1 (A) by inserting “(i)” before “in a school”;

2 (B) by striking “locations; and” and in-
3 serting “locations; or”; and

4 (C) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(ii) in a school in a military impacted
6 community; and”;

7 (2) in subsection (c)(3)—

8 (A) in the subsection heading, by inserting
9 “OR SERVING MILITARY IMPACTED COMMU-
10 NITIES” after “EDUCATION”;

11 (B) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking
12 “and” after the semicolon;

13 (C) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by striking
14 the period at the end and inserting “; and”;
15 and

16 (D) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(C) an elementary school or secondary
18 school teacher employed in a school in a mili-
19 tary impacted community.”;

20 (3) in subsection (g)—

21 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking
22 “(b)(1)(A)” and inserting “(b)(1)(A)(i)”; and

23 (B) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(4) MILITARY CONNECTED TEACHERS.—In the
25 case of an elementary school or secondary school

1 teacher who is employed in a school in a military im-
 2 pacted community, is the spouse of a member of the
 3 armed forces, and is required to move as a result of
 4 the spouse's permanent change of station, the teach-
 5 er may meet the 5-year teaching requirement of this
 6 section by teaching in multiple elementary schools or
 7 secondary schools in different military impacted
 8 communities.”; and

9 (4) in subsection (h), by striking “DEFINI-
 10 TION.—” and all that follows through “the term”
 11 and inserting the following: “DEFINITIONS.—For
 12 purposes of this section:

13 “(1) MILITARY DEPENDENT STUDENT.—The
 14 term ‘military dependent student’ means a student
 15 described in subparagraph (B) or (D)(i) of section
 16 7003(a)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
 17 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(a)(1)).

18 “(2) MILITARY IMPACTED COMMUNITY.—The
 19 term ‘military impacted community’, when used with
 20 respect to a school, means a school served by a local
 21 educational agency for which not less than 20 per-
 22 cent (as rounded to the nearest whole percent) of
 23 the students in average daily attendance in all
 24 schools served by the local educational agency during

1 the preceding school year were military dependent
 2 students for such year.

3 “(3) YEAR.—The term”.

4 (b) FEDERAL DIRECT LOANS.—Section 460 of the
 5 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087j) is
 6 amended—

7 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(A)—

8 (A) by inserting “(i)” before “in a school”;

9 (B) by striking “locations; and” and in-
 10 serting “locations; or”; and

11 (C) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(ii) in a school in a military impacted
 13 community; and”;

14 (2) in subsection (c)(3)—

15 (A) in the subsection heading, by inserting
 16 “OR SERVING MILITARY IMPACTED COMMU-
 17 NITIES” after “EDUCATION”;

18 (B) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking
 19 “and” after the semicolon;

20 (C) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by striking
 21 the period at the end and inserting “; and”;
 22 and

23 (D) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(C) an elementary school or secondary
 2 school teacher employed in a school in a mili-
 3 tary impacted community.”;

4 (3) in subsection (g)—

5 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking
 6 “(b)(1)(A)” and inserting “(b)(1)(A)(i)”; and

7 (B) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(4) MILITARY CONNECTED TEACHERS.—In the
 9 case of an elementary school or secondary school
 10 teacher who is employed in a school in a military im-
 11 pacted community, is the spouse of a member of the
 12 armed forces, and is required to move as a result of
 13 the spouse’s permanent change of station, the teach-
 14 er may meet the 5-year teaching requirement of this
 15 section by teaching in multiple elementary schools or
 16 secondary schools in different military impacted
 17 communities.”; and

18 (4) in subsection (h), by striking “DEFINI-
 19 TION.—” and all that follows through “the term”
 20 and inserting the following: “DEFINITIONS.—For
 21 purposes of this section:

22 “(1) MILITARY DEPENDENT STUDENT.—The
 23 term ‘military dependent student’ means a student
 24 described in subparagraph (B) or (D)(i) of section

1 7003(a)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
2 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(a)(1)).

3 “(2) MILITARY IMPACTED COMMUNITY.—The
4 term ‘military impacted community’, when used with
5 respect to a school, means a school served by a local
6 educational agency for which not less than 20 per-
7 cent (as rounded to the nearest whole percent) of
8 the students in average daily attendance in all
9 schools served by the local educational agency during
10 the preceding school year were military dependent
11 students for such year.

12 “(3) YEAR.—The term”.

○