

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.**

To simplify and streamline the information regarding institutions of higher education made publicly available by the Secretary of Education, and for other purposes.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. FOXX (for herself, Mr. MESSER, and Mr. KLINE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on

---

**A BILL**

To simplify and streamline the information regarding institutions of higher education made publicly available by the Secretary of Education, 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 Trans-  
5 parency in Higher Education Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COLLEGE DASHBOARD WEBSITE.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 132 of the Higher  
3 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1015a) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “first-  
6 time,”;

7 (B) in paragraph (3) in the matter pre-  
8 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “first-  
9 time,”; and

10 (C) in paragraph (4), by striking “first-  
11 time,”;

12 (2) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “first-  
14 time”; and

15 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “first-  
16 time”;

17 (3) by striking subsections (c) through (g), (j),  
18 and (l);

19 (4) by redesignating subsections (h), (i), and  
20 (k) as subsections (c), (d), and (e), respectively; and

21 (5) by striking subsection (d) (as so redesign-  
22 ated) and inserting the following new subsection:

23 “(d) CONSUMER INFORMATION.—

24 “(1) AVAILABILITY OF TITLE IV INSTITUTION  
25 INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall develop and  
26 make publicly available a website to be known as the

1 'College Dashboard website' in accordance with this  
2 section and prominently display on such website, in  
3 simple, understandable, and unbiased terms for the  
4 most recent academic year for which satisfactory  
5 data are available, the following information with re-  
6 spect to each institution of higher education that  
7 participates in a program under title IV:

8 "(A) A link to the website of the institu-  
9 tion.

10 "(B) An identification of the type of insti-  
11 tution as one of the following:

12 "(i) A four-year public institution of  
13 higher education.

14 "(ii) A four-year private, nonprofit in-  
15 stitution of higher education.

16 "(iii) A four-year private, for-profit  
17 institution of higher education.

18 "(iv) A two-year public institution of  
19 higher education.

20 "(v) A two-year private, nonprofit in-  
21 stitution of higher education.

22 "(vi) A two-year private, for-profit in-  
23 stitution of higher education.

24 "(vii) A less than two-year public in-  
25 stitution of higher education.

1                   “(viii) A less than two-year private,  
2                   nonprofit institution of higher education.

3                   “(ix) A less than two-year private,  
4                   for-profit institution of higher education.

5                   “(C) The number of students enrolled at  
6                   the institution—

7                   “(i) as undergraduate students; and

8                   “(ii) as graduate students, if applica-  
9                   ble.

10                  “(D) The student-faculty ratio.

11                  “(E) The percentage of degree-seeking or  
12                  certificate-seeking undergraduate students en-  
13                  rolled at the institution who obtain a degree or  
14                  certificate within—

15                  “(i) the normal time for completion  
16                  of, or graduation from, the program in  
17                  which the student is enrolled;

18                  “(ii) 150 percent of the normal time  
19                  for completion of, or graduation from, the  
20                  program in which the student is enrolled;  
21                  and

22                  “(iii) 200 percent of the normal time  
23                  for completion of, or graduation from, the  
24                  program in which the student is enrolled.

1           “(F) The average net price per year for  
2           undergraduate students and a link to the net  
3           price calculator for such institution.

4           “(G) The average Federal student loan  
5           debt incurred by an undergraduate student who  
6           has obtained a certificate or degree from the in-  
7           stitution and who borrowed Federal student  
8           loans in the course of obtaining such certificate  
9           or degree.

10          “(H) The cohort default rate (as defined in  
11          section 435(m)) for such institution.

12          “(I) A link to national and regional data  
13          from the Bureau of Labor Statistics on starting  
14          salaries in all major occupations.

15          “(2) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—The Sec-  
16          retary shall publish on Internet webpages that are  
17          linked to through the College Dashboard website for  
18          the most recent academic year for which satisfactory  
19          data is available the following information with re-  
20          spect to each institution of higher education that  
21          participates in a program under title IV:

22                 “(A) ENROLLMENT.—

23                         “(i) The percentages of male and fe-  
24                         male undergraduate students enrolled at  
25                         the institution.

1                   “(ii) The percentages of under-  
2                   graduate students enrolled at the institu-  
3                   tion—

4                               “(I) full-time; and

5                               “(II) less than full-time.

6                   “(iii) Of the undergraduate students  
7                   enrolled at the institution—

8                               “(I) the percentage of such stu-  
9                   dents who are from the State in which  
10                  the institution is located;

11                              “(II) the percentage of such stu-  
12                  dents who are from other States; and

13                              “(III) the percentage of such stu-  
14                  dents who are international students.

15                              “(iv) The percentages of students en-  
16                  rolled at the institution, disaggregated by  
17                  race and ethnic background.

18                              “(v) The percentage of undergraduate  
19                  students enrolled at the institution who are  
20                  formally registered with the office of dis-  
21                  ability services of the institution (or the  
22                  equivalent office) as students with disabil-  
23                  ities, except that if such percentage is  
24                  three percent or less, the institution shall  
25                  report ‘three percent or less’.

1                   “(vi) The percentage of students en-  
2                   rolled at the institution who are veterans  
3                   (as defined in section 480).

4                   “(B) COMPLETION.—The information re-  
5                   quired under paragraph (1)(E), disaggregated  
6                   by—

7                   “(i) recipients of a Federal Pell  
8                   Grant;

9                   “(ii) recipients of a loan made under  
10                  part D (other than a Federal Direct Un-  
11                  subsidized Stafford Loan) who did not re-  
12                  ceive a Federal Pell Grant; and

13                  “(iii) persons who did not receive a  
14                  Federal Pell Grant or a loan made under  
15                  part D (other than a Federal Direct Un-  
16                  subsidized Stafford Loan).

17                  “(C) COSTS.—

18                  “(i) The cost of attendance for full-  
19                  time undergraduate students enrolled in  
20                  the institution who live on campus.

21                  “(ii) The cost of attendance for full-  
22                  time undergraduate students enrolled in  
23                  the institution who live off campus.

1           “(iii) The cost of tuition and fees for  
2           full-time undergraduate students enrolled  
3           in the institution.

4           “(iv) The cost of tuition and fees per  
5           credit hour or credit hour equivalency for  
6           undergraduate students enrolled in the in-  
7           stitution less than full time.

8           “(v) In the case of a public institution  
9           of higher education and notwithstanding  
10          subsection (b)(1), the costs described in  
11          clauses (i) and (ii) for—

12                   “(I) full-time students enrolled in  
13                   the institution who are residents of  
14                   the State in which the institution is  
15                   located; and

16                   “(II) full-time students enrolled  
17                   in the institution who are not resi-  
18                   dents of such State.

19          “(vi) The net price for students re-  
20          ceiving Federal student financial aid under  
21          title IV, disaggregated by the following in-  
22          come categories for such students:

23                   “(I) \$0 to \$30,000.

24                   “(II) \$30,001 to \$48,000.

25                   “(III) \$48,001 to \$75,000.



1 “(IV) \$75,001 to \$110,000.

2 “(V) Over \$110,000.

3 “(D) FINANCIAL AID.—

4 “(i) The average annual amount of a  
5 Federal Pell Grant awarded to an under-  
6 graduate student enrolled at such institu-  
7 tion who receives a Federal Pell Grant.

8 “(ii) The average annual amount of  
9 Federal student loans provided through  
10 such institution to an undergraduate bor-  
11 rower enrolled at such institution.

12 “(iii) The average annual grant  
13 amount (including Federal, State, and in-  
14 stitutional aid) awarded to an under-  
15 graduate student enrolled at the institution  
16 who receives financial aid.

17 “(iv) The percentage of under-  
18 graduate students enrolled at the institu-  
19 tion receiving Federal, State, and institu-  
20 tional grants, student loans, and any other  
21 type of student financial assistance known  
22 by the institution, provided publicly or  
23 through the institution, such as Federal  
24 work-study funds.

1                   “(v) The percentage of students en-  
2                   rolled at the institution receiving Federal  
3                   Pell Grants.

4                   “(3) OTHER DATA MATTERS.—

5                   “(A) COMPLETION DATA.—The Commis-  
6                   sioner of Education Statistics shall ensure that  
7                   the information required under paragraph  
8                   (1)(E) includes information with respect to all  
9                   students at an institution, including students  
10                  other than first-time, full-time students, in a  
11                  manner that the Commissioner considers appro-  
12                  priate.

13                  “(B) ADJUSTMENT OF INCOME CAT-  
14                  EGORIES.—The Secretary may annually adjust  
15                  the range of each of the income categories de-  
16                  scribed in paragraph (2)(C)(vi) to account for a  
17                  change in the Consumer Price Index for All  
18                  Urban Consumers as determined by the Bureau  
19                  of Labor Statistics if the Secretary determines  
20                  an adjustment is necessary.

21                  “(4) INSTITUTIONAL COMPARISON.—The Sec-  
22                  retary shall include on the College Dashboard  
23                  website a method for users to easily compare the in-  
24                  formation required under paragraphs (1) and (2) be-  
25                  tween institutions.

1           “(5) UPDATES.—

2                   “(A) DATA.—The Secretary shall update  
3           the College Dashboard website not less than an-  
4           nually.

5                   “(B) TECHNOLOGY AND FORMAT.—The  
6           Secretary shall regularly assess the format and  
7           technology of the College Dashboard website  
8           and make any changes or updates that the Sec-  
9           retary considers appropriate.

10           “(6) CONSUMER TESTING.—In developing and  
11           maintaining the College Dashboard website, the Sec-  
12           retary shall conduct consumer testing with appro-  
13           priate persons, including current and prospective col-  
14           lege students, family members of such students, in-  
15           stitutions of higher education, and experts, to ensure  
16           that the College Dashboard website is usable and  
17           easily understandable.

18           “(7) PROVISION OF APPROPRIATE LINKS TO  
19           PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AFTER SUBMISSION OF  
20           FAFSA.—The Secretary shall provide to each stu-  
21           dent that submits a Free Application for Federal  
22           Student Aid described in section 483 a link to the  
23           webpage of the College Dashboard website that con-  
24           tains the information required under paragraph (1)

1 for each institution of higher education such student  
2 includes on such Application.

3 “(8) INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—The Sec-  
4 retary, in consultation with each appropriate head of  
5 a department or agency of the Federal Government,  
6 shall ensure to the greatest extent practicable that  
7 any information related to higher education that is  
8 published by such department or agency is con-  
9 sistent with the information published on the College  
10 Dashboard website.

11 “(9) REFERENCES TO COLLEGE NAVIGATOR  
12 WEBSITE.—Any reference in this Act to the College  
13 Navigator website shall be considered a reference to  
14 the College Dashboard website.”.

15 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Higher Edu-  
16 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), as amended  
17 by subsection (a) of this section, is further amended—

18 (1) in section 131(h) (20 U.S.C. 1015(h)), by  
19 striking “College Navigator” and inserting “College  
20 Dashboard”; and

21 (2) in section 132(a) (20 U.S.C. 1015a(a)), by  
22 striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following  
23 new paragraph:

1           “(1) COLLEGE DASHBOARD WEBSITE.—The  
2           term ‘College Dashboard website’ means the College  
3           Dashboard website required under subsection (d).”.

4           (c) DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary of Education  
5           shall develop and publish the College Dashboard website  
6           required under section 132 of the Higher Education Act  
7           of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1015a), as amended by subsections  
8           (a) and (b) of this section, not later than one year after  
9           the date of the enactment of this Act.

10          (d) COLLEGE NAVIGATOR WEBSITE MAINTENANCE.—The Secretary shall maintain the College Navigator website required under section 132 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1015a), as in effect the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, in the manner required under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as in effect on such day, until the College Dashboard website referred to in subsection (c) is complete and  
18          publicly available on the Internet.