

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide additional amounts of loan forgiveness to teachers of English learners and teachers of bilingual and dual language immersion students, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. PADILLA introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide additional amounts of loan forgiveness to teachers of English learners and teachers of bilingual and dual language immersion students, 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 “Supporting Providers  
5       of English Language Learning Act” or the “SPELL Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TEACHERS OF ENGLISH LEARNERS AND BILINGUAL**  
2 **AND DUAL LANGUAGE STUDENTS.**

3 (a) LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR TEACHERS.—Section  
4 428J(c)(3) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
5 U.S.C. 1078–10(c)(3)) is amended—

6 (1) in the paragraph heading, by striking  
7 “MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, OR SPECIAL EDUCATION”  
8 and inserting “MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, SPECIAL  
9 EDUCATION, OR ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION”;

10 (2) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “and”  
11 at the end;

12 (3) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by striking the pe-  
13 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

15 “(C) an elementary school or secondary  
16 school teacher—

17 “(i) who meets the requirements of  
18 subsection (b);

19 “(ii) whose qualifying employment for  
20 purposes of such subsection is—

21 “(I) as a teacher of English  
22 learners (as that term is defined in  
23 section 8101 of the Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education Act of 1965)  
25 whose primary responsibility is to  
26 teach such learners; or

1 “(II) as a bilingual or dual lan-  
2 guage immersion teacher; and

3 “(iii) who, as certified by the chief ad-  
4 ministrative officer of the public or non-  
5 profit private elementary school or sec-  
6 ondary school in which the borrower is em-  
7 ployed, or, in the case of a teacher who is  
8 employed by an educational service agency,  
9 as certified by the chief administrative offi-  
10 cer of such agency—

11 “(I) is teaching English learners  
12 or bilingual or dual language immer-  
13 sion students who correspond with the  
14 borrower’s training; and

15 “(II) has demonstrated knowl-  
16 edge and teaching skills in the content  
17 areas of the elementary school or sec-  
18 ondary school curriculum that the  
19 borrower is teaching.”.

20 (b) LOAN CANCELLATION FOR TEACHERS.—Section  
21 460(c)(3) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
22 1087j(c)(3)) is amended—

23 (1) in the paragraph heading, by striking  
24 “MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, OR SPECIAL EDUCATION”

1       and inserting “MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, SPECIAL  
2       EDUCATION, OR ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION”;

3           (2) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “and”  
4       at the end;

5           (3) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by striking the pe-  
6       riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

8           “(C) an elementary school or secondary  
9       school teacher—

10           “(i) who meets the requirements of  
11       subsection (b);

12           “(ii) whose qualifying employment for  
13       purposes of such subsection is—

14           “(I) as a teacher of English  
15       learners (as that term is defined in  
16       section 8101 of the Elementary and  
17       Secondary Education Act of 1965)  
18       whose primary responsibility is to  
19       teach such learners; or

20           “(II) as a bilingual or dual lan-  
21       guage immersion teacher; and

22           “(iii) who, as certified by the chief ad-  
23       ministrative officer of the public or non-  
24       profit private elementary school or sec-  
25       ondary school in which the borrower is em-

1                   ployed, or, in the case of a teacher who is  
2                   employed by an educational service agency,  
3                   as certified by the chief administrative offi-  
4                   cer of such agency—

5                   “(I) is teaching English learners  
6                   or bilingual or dual language immer-  
7                   sion students who correspond with the  
8                   borrower’s training; and

9                   “(II) has demonstrated knowl-  
10                  edge and teaching skills in the content  
11                  areas of the elementary school or sec-  
12                  ondary school curriculum that the  
13                  borrower is teaching.”.

14   **SEC. 3. APPLICABILITY.**

15           The amendments made by section 2 shall take effect  
16   on the date of enactment of this Act and shall apply with  
17   respect to individuals who are eligible to receive teacher  
18   loan forgiveness under section 428J of the Higher Edu-  
19   cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078–10) or teacher loan  
20   cancellation under section 460 of such Act (20 U.S.C.  
21   1087j) after such date.