
HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING OUTRAGE AT RECENT CONGRESSIONAL CUTS TO STUDENT LOAN PROGRAMS.

1 WHEREAS, Congress recently cut funding for federal student-
2 loan programs in a move that is expected to increase the debt
3 burden for many future college graduates and their families; and
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5 WHEREAS, the legislation calls for \$12,700,000,000 to be
6 cut from federal student-loan programs over five years, raises
7 interest rates on the popular Stafford loans to a fixed 6.8 per
8 cent, even if commercial rates are lower, and cuts subsidies to
9 lenders; and
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11 WHEREAS, it is not the first time the federal government
12 has made cuts in student-aid programs, but it is the largest
13 single cut in dollar terms, and it follows years of increased
14 federal support for these programs during which interest rates
15 on student loans were kept low through government subsidies to
16 students and lenders; and
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18 WHEREAS, the cut is not expected to reduce the number of
19 those eligible for student loans but instead is expected to
20 result in higher interest payments for many student-loan
21 borrowers, particularly parents of college students; and
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23 WHEREAS, the changes come at a time when families have been
24 struggling with skyrocketing tuition bills as evidenced by
25 private-college tuition and fees, which have increased thirty-
26 seven per cent over the past decade, while tuition at public
27 colleges and universities has risen fifty-four per cent; now,
28 therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
31 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
32 of 2006, that this body expresses its outrage at Congress for
33 its recent cuts to student loan programs; and
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