

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6031

To provide student loan forgiveness to the survivors of victims of the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 6, 2006

Mrs. MCCARTHY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To provide student loan forgiveness to the survivors of victims of the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001.

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 “September 11 Sur-  
5 vivors Student Loan Relief Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CANCELLATION OF STUDENT LOAN INDEBTEDNESS**

7 **FOR SURVIVORS OF VICTIMS OF THE SEP-**  
8 **TEMBER 11, 2001, ATTACKS.**

9 (a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

1           (1) ELIGIBLE PUBLIC SERVANT.—The term “el-  
2           igible public servant” means an individual who, as  
3           determined in accordance with regulations of the  
4           Secretary—

5                   (A) served as a police officer, firefighter,  
6                   other safety or rescue personnel, or as a mem-  
7                   ber of the Armed Forces; and

8                   (B) died (or dies) or became (or becomes)  
9                   permanently and totally disabled due to injuries  
10                  suffered in the terrorist attack on September  
11                  11, 2001.

12           (2) ELIGIBLE VICTIM.—The term “eligible vic-  
13           tim” means an individual who, as determined in ac-  
14           cordance with regulations of the Secretary, died (or  
15           dies) or became (or becomes) permanently and to-  
16           tally disabled due to injuries suffered in the terrorist  
17           attack on September 11, 2001.

18           (3) ELIGIBLE PARENT.—The term “eligible  
19           parent” means the parent of an eligible victim if—

20                   (A) the parent owes a Federal student loan  
21                   that is a consolidation loan that was used to  
22                   repay a PLUS loan incurred on behalf of such  
23                   eligible victim; or

1           (B) the parent owes a Federal student loan  
2           that is a PLUS loan incurred on behalf of an  
3           eligible victim.

4           (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
5           the Secretary of Education.

6           (5) FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN.—The term  
7           “Federal student loan” means any loan made, in-  
8           sured, or guaranteed under part B, D, or E of title  
9           IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

10          (b) RELIEF FROM INDEBTEDNESS.—

11           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide  
12           for the discharge or cancellation of—

13           (A) the Federal student loan indebtedness  
14           of the spouse of an eligible public servant, as  
15           determined in accordance with regulations of  
16           the Secretary, including any consolidation loan  
17           that was used jointly by the eligible public serv-  
18           ant and his or her spouse to repay the Federal  
19           student loans of the spouse and the eligible  
20           public servant;

21           (B) the portion incurred on behalf of the  
22           eligible victim (other than an eligible public  
23           servant), of a Federal student loan that is a  
24           consolidation loan that was used jointly by the  
25           eligible victim and his or her spouse, as deter-

1           mined in accordance with regulations of the  
2           Secretary, to repay the Federal student loans of  
3           the eligible victim and his or her spouse;

4           (C) the portion of the consolidation loan  
5           indebtedness of an eligible parent that was in-  
6           curred on behalf of an eligible victim; and

7           (D) the PLUS loan indebtedness of an eli-  
8           gible parent that was incurred on behalf of an  
9           eligible victim.

10           (2) METHOD OF DISCHARGE OR CANCELLA-  
11           TION.—A loan required to be discharged or canceled  
12           under paragraph (1) shall be discharged or canceled  
13           by the method used under section 437(a), 455(a)(1),  
14           or 464(c)(1)(F) of the Higher Education Act of  
15           1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087(a), 1087e(a)(1),  
16           1087dd(c)(1)(F)), whichever is applicable to such  
17           loan.

18           (c) FACILITATION OF CLAIMS.—The Secretary  
19           shall—

20           (1) establish procedures for the filing of appli-  
21           cations for discharge or cancellation under this sec-  
22           tion by regulations that shall be prescribed and pub-  
23           lished within 90 days after the date of enactment of  
24           this Act and without regard to the requirements of  
25           section 553 of title 5, United States Code; and

1           (2) take such actions as may be necessary to  
2           publicize the availability of discharge or cancellation  
3           of Federal student loan indebtedness under this sec-  
4           tion.

5           (d) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR PAYMENTS.—  
6           Funds available for the purposes of making payments to  
7           lenders in accordance with section 437(a) for the dis-  
8           charge of indebtedness of deceased or disabled individuals  
9           shall be available for making payments under section  
10          437(a) to lenders of loans as required by this section.

11          (e) APPLICABLE TO OUTSTANDING DEBT.—The pro-  
12          visions of this section shall be applied to discharge or can-  
13          cel only Federal student loans (including consolidation  
14          loans) on which amounts were owed on September 11,  
15          2001. Nothing in this section shall be construed to author-  
16          ize any refunding of any repayment of a loan.

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