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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to create the Pell Plus program.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL**

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to create  
the Pell Plus program.

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 “Pell Plus Act of 2023”.

5       **SEC. 2. PELL PLUS PROGRAM.**

6       Section 401 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
7       U.S.C. 1070a), as amended by section 703 of the FAFSA  
8       Simplification Act (title VII of division FF of Public Law  
9       116–260), is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(k) PELL PLUS PROGRAM.—

2 “(1) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning with award  
4 year 2025–2026, for each award year for which  
5 a student receives a Federal Pell Grant and  
6 meets the requirements of paragraph (2), the  
7 Secretary shall award such student an addi-  
8 tional Federal Pell Grant, referred to as a ‘Fed-  
9 eral Pell Plus Grant’, in an amount equal to the  
10 amount of the student’s Federal Pell Grant  
11 award determined under this section for such  
12 award year, except as provided in subparagraph  
13 (B).

14 “(B) COST OF ATTENDANCE REDUC-  
15 TIONS.—In any case in which a student is  
16 awarded a Federal Pell Grant under this sec-  
17 tion and a Federal Pell Plus grant under this  
18 subsection, the combined total of such Federal  
19 Pell Grant, such Federal Pell Plus Grant, and  
20 the amount provided by a Pell Plus institution  
21 in accordance with paragraph (4)(B)(i)(II)(aa)  
22 shall not exceed the cost of attendance (as de-  
23 fined in section 472) at the institution at which  
24 that student is in attendance. In the case that  
25 such combined total would exceed such cost of

1 attendance, the Secretary shall reduce the  
2 amount of the Federal Pell Plus grant awarded  
3 to the student, taking into consideration the  
4 corresponding reduction in the amount provided  
5 by a Pell Plus institution in accordance with  
6 paragraph (4)(B)(i)(II)(aa) as a result of the  
7 reduced Federal Pell Plus grant amount, until  
8 the combined total of such reduced Federal Pell  
9 Plus Grant, such reduced amount provided by  
10 a Pell Plus institution in accordance with para-  
11 graph (4)(B)(i)(II)(aa), and the Federal Pell  
12 Grant award of the student does not exceed  
13 such cost of attendance.

14 “(2) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY.—A student meets the  
15 requirements of this paragraph, if the student—

16 “(A) during the award year during which the  
17 student receives a Federal Pell Plus Grant under  
18 paragraph (1)—

19 “(i) is enrolled—

20 “(I) in the student’s first under-  
21 graduate baccalaureate course of study;  
22 and

23 “(II) at a Pell Plus institution; and

1           “(ii) is maintaining progress toward com-  
2           pletion of such course of study in not more than  
3           a total of 4 academic years; and

4           “(B) has completed at least 4 semesters, or the  
5           equivalent, of such course of study.

6           “(3) DURATION LIMITS.—The period during which  
7           a student receives a Federal Pell Plus Grant under para-  
8           graph (1) shall be included in calculating the duration lim-  
9           its with respect to such student under subsection (d)(5),  
10          and to the extent that such period was a fraction of a  
11          semester or the equivalent, only that same fraction of such  
12          semester or equivalent shall count towards such duration  
13          limits.

14          “(4) PELL PLUS INSTITUTIONAL ELIGIBILITY.—For  
15          purposes of this subsection, a Pell Plus institution is an  
16          eligible institution for purposes of this subpart that—

17                 “(A) notifies the Secretary that the institution  
18                 desires to participate in the program under this sub-  
19                 section;

20                 “(B) agrees to provide, to each student receiv-  
21                 ing a Federal Pell Plus Grant under paragraph  
22                 (1)—

23                         “(i) for each award year for which the stu-  
24                         dent receives such Federal Pell Plus Grant—

25                                 “(I) a notification that shall include—

1 “(aa) whether the student is  
2 maintaining the progress toward com-  
3 pletion required under paragraph  
4 (2)(A)(ii);

5 “(bb) in a case in which the stu-  
6 dent is not maintaining such progress  
7 toward completion, a list of available  
8 student support services and addi-  
9 tional resources to assist the student  
10 in completing the course of study for  
11 which the student is receiving the  
12 Federal Pell Plus Grant in not more  
13 than a total of 4 academic years; and

14 “(cc) the amount of funds the  
15 student is receiving under the Federal  
16 Pell Plus Grant and from the institu-  
17 tion under subclause (II)(aa); and

18 “(II) an amount of funds—

19 “(aa) equal to the amount of  
20 such Federal Pell Plus Grant received  
21 by the student for such award year;  
22 and

23 “(bb) using the non-Federal re-  
24 sources of the institution, such as—

1 “(AA) an institutional grant  
2 or scholarship;

3 “(BB) through a tuition or  
4 fee waiver; or

5 “(CC) foundation or other  
6 charitable organization funds;  
7 and

8 “(ii) in the case of a student who, as of the  
9 beginning of the third academic year of the  
10 course of study for which the student is receiv-  
11 ing the Federal Pell Plus Grant, is not main-  
12 taining the progress toward completion required  
13 under paragraph (2)(A)(ii), a warning during  
14 such third academic year that the student will  
15 not be eligible for a Federal Pell Plus Grant  
16 under paragraph (1) for the fourth academic  
17 year of such course of study unless the student  
18 demonstrates, by not later than the end of such  
19 third academic year, progress toward com-  
20 pleting such course of study by the end of the  
21 fourth academic year of such course of study;  
22 and

23 “(C) in the case of an institution that provides  
24 institutional grant or scholarship aid to a student  
25 for the academic year preceding the academic year

1       for which the student receives a Federal Pell Plus  
2       Grant under paragraph (1), agrees to provide the  
3       amount of such institutional grant or scholarship aid  
4       for any academic year for which the student receives  
5       such Federal Pell Plus Grant that the institution  
6       would have provided to such student in the absence  
7       of such Federal Pell Plus Grant, except that such  
8       amount of aid may be reduced to ensure that the  
9       combined amount of such aid, and the Federal Pell  
10      Plus Grant, the amount under subparagraph  
11      (B)(i)(II)(aa), and the Federal Pell Grant award  
12      provided to the student does not exceed the cost of  
13      attendance (as defined in section 472) at such insti-  
14      tution for such academic year; and

15           “(D) the Secretary determines meets the re-  
16      quirements of this paragraph.”.

17   **SEC. 3. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES.**

18      (a) AMENDMENT.—Section 485(a)(1) of the Higher  
19   Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(a)(1)) is amend-  
20   ed—

21           (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-  
22      graph (U); and

23           (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-  
24      paragraph (V) and inserting “; and”; and

25           (3) by adding at the end the following:

1                   “(W) in the case of an institution that is  
2                   a Pell Plus institution under section 401(k),  
3                   any applicable information with respect to the  
4                   institution’s participation in the Federal Pell  
5                   Plus Grant program under such subsection.”.

6           (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
7   subsection (a) shall take effect with respect to award year  
8   2025–2026 and each succeeding award year.