

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1
OFFERED BY M . _____

Add at the end of subtitle K of title I the following:

1 **SEC. 1803. PAYMENTS TO STATES MAKING STUDENT LOAN**
2 **REPAYMENTS ON BEHALF OF POLL WORK-**
3 **ERS.**

4 (a) PAYMENTS.—Title IX of the Help America Vote
5 Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21141 et seq.) is amended by add-
6 ing at the end the following new section:

7 **“SEC. 907. STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENTS ON BEHALF OF**
8 **POLL WORKERS AND ABSENTEE BALLOT TAB-**
9 **ULATORS.**

10 “(a) REPAYMENTS BY COMMISSION.—The Commis-
11 sion shall make a payment to each eligible State for the
12 costs incurred by the State in repaying (by direct pay-
13 ments on behalf of a qualified poll worker) a portion of
14 a student loan previously taken out by an individual who
15 serves as a qualified poll worker with respect to an election
16 for Federal office held in the State.

17 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—A State is eligible to receive a
18 payment under this section if the State submits to the
19 Commission, at such time and in such form as the Com-

1 mission may require, an application containing such infor-
2 mation and assurances as the Commission may require.

3 “(c) AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT.—Subject to the
4 amount of the payment made to the State under sub-
5 section (d), the amount of the costs the State incurs on
6 behalf of a qualified poll worker for purposes of subsection
7 (a) shall be equal to the product of—

8 “(1) a repayment rate established by the Com-
9 mission; and

10 “(2) the number of hours the individual serves
11 as a poll worker or as an absentee ballot tabulator,
12 as certified to the Commission by the appropriate
13 State or local election official.

14 “(d) AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
16 the amount of a payment made to a State under this
17 section shall be equal to the product of—

18 “(A) the total amount appropriated for
19 such payments pursuant to the authorization
20 under subsection (e); and

21 “(B) the State allocation percentage for
22 the State.

23 “(2) MINIMUM AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—The
24 amount of a payment made to a State under this
25 section may not be less than—

1 “(A) in the case of any of the several
2 States or the District of Columbia, one-half of
3 1 percent of the total amount appropriated for
4 such payments; or

5 “(B) in the case of the Commonwealth of
6 Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the
7 United States Virgin Islands, and the Common-
8 wealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, one-
9 tenth of 1 percent of such total amount.

10 “(3) PRO RATA REDUCTIONS.—The Commis-
11 sion shall make such pro rata reductions to the allo-
12 cations determined under paragraph (1) as are nec-
13 essary to comply with the requirements of paragraph
14 (2).

15 “(e) QUALIFIED POLL WORKER DEFINED.—In this
16 section, a ‘qualified student volunteer’ means an individual
17 who, as certified to the Commission by the appropriate
18 State or local election official, serves—

19 “(1) as a poll worker at a polling place, includ-
20 ing any location at which voters may cast ballots
21 prior to the date of the election, or

22 “(2) as an absentee ballot tabulator, as certified
23 to the Commission by the appropriate State or local
24 election official.

25 “(d) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—

1 “(1) STATE.—In this section, the term ‘State’
2 means each State, the District of Columbia, the
3 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa,
4 Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, and the
5 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

6 “(2) STATE ALLOCATION PERCENTAGE.—In
7 this section, the term ‘State allocation percentage’
8 means, with respect to a State, the amount (ex-
9 pressed as a percentage) equal to the quotient of—

10 “(A) the voting age population of the State
11 (as reported in the most recent decennial cen-
12 sus); and

13 “(B) the total voting age population of all
14 States (as reported in the most recent decennial
15 census).

16 “(f) APPLICATION OF REGULATIONS UNDER STU-
17 DENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM FOR FEDERAL EM-
18 PLOYEES.—In carrying out the program under this sec-
19 tion, the Commission may make applicable such provisions
20 of section 5379 of title 5, United States Code, as the Com-
21 mission considers appropriate.

22 “(g) EXCLUSION OF VALUE OF REPAYMENTS FROM
23 GROSS INCOME FOR FEDERAL TAX PURPOSES.—For pur-
24 poses of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, no amount
25 shall be included in gross income by reason of a discharge

1 of indebtedness resulting from a student loan repayment
2 under this section.

3 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
5 appropriated \$100,000,000 for payments under this
6 section.

7 “(2) CONTINUING AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS
8 AFTER APPROPRIATION.—A payment made to a
9 State under this section shall be available to the
10 State without fiscal year limitation.”.

11 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS ON TREATMENT OF POLL
12 WORKER INCOME AS QUALIFYING INCOME FOR PUR-
13 POSES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENE-
14 FITS.—It is the sense of Congress that States should re-
15 view their laws on the eligibility of individuals for unem-
16 ployment benefits, and should consider excluding income
17 paid to an individual for serving as a poll worker or an
18 absentee ballot tabulator from treatment as qualifying in-
19 come in determining the individual’s eligibility for such
20 benefits.

21 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
22 of such Act is amended by adding at the end of the items
23 relating to title IX the following:

“Sec. 907. Student loan repayments on behalf of poll workers and absentee bal-
lot tabulators.”.

Page 264, line 10, strike “(” is amended” and insert “(”, as amended by section 1803(a), is amended”.

Page 264, line 12, strike “**907**” and insert “**908**”.

Amend section 1932(b) to read as follows:

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
2 of such Act, as amended by section 1803(c), is amended
3 by adding at the end of the items relating to title IX the
4 following new item:

“Sec. 908. Election for Federal office defined.”.

