

Floor Remarks of Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI), Chairman
Education and Workforce Committee
H.R. 6472, *Territorial Student Access to Higher Education Act*
March 3, 2026

(As prepared for delivery)

I rise today in support of H.R. 6472, sponsored by Congressman James Moylan of Guam, which allows residents of U.S. territories to access in-state tuition at public universities across the U.S.

I am proud to rise in support of H.R. 6472, which ensures students of the U.S. territories of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands receive in-state tuition at public universities across the country. I'm pleased that all the Representatives from each U.S. territory are original co-sponsors of the bill and that it received strong bipartisan support in the Committee markup.

Under H.R. 6472, public postsecondary institutions will be required to offer in-state tuition rates to residents of U.S. territories. Through this bill, a student from Guam would pay the same tuition at a public university just as any in-state student.

And this isn't a novel idea. Under current law, servicemembers and their families already receive in-state tuition rates—creating new pathways for more Americans to get high-quality educations at a competitive cost.

But H.R. 6472 doesn't just help students. It helps the territories, too. After graduation, students can return home with advanced degrees and credentials they can reinvest back into their homes and local economies.

This isn't just an investment in our students—it's an investment in the economic strength of American territories. Students can contribute their newfound expertise to help develop new industries and drive economic development.

That investment also strengthens American national security. As competition with our adversaries like China intensify in the Pacific and drug trafficking continues in South and Central America, we must ensure our territories have the infrastructure and brainpower needed to promote a strong national security posture in the region.

Last year, we passed the Working Families Tax Cuts, which included some of the most conservative reforms to higher education in decades—massively lowering costs and helping create new pathways for students to chase the American Dream.

We now have a chance to build off that success of the Working Families Tax Cuts and lower postsecondary education costs for residents of U.S. territories so they can continue supporting our vital military operations. As Chairman of the Education and Workforce Committee, I look forward to passing H.R. 6472 and supporting our territories.