

H.J. Res. 45 CRA Resolution to Overturn Biden's Student Loan Bailout

Rep. Bob Good

BACKGROUND:

- In August 2022, the Biden Administration announced a [plan](#) to “cancel” debt for those making under \$125,000 – up to \$20,000 for Pell Grant recipients and up to \$10,000 for non-Pell Grant recipients.
- The student loan transfer plan is estimated to cost taxpayers [\\$315.6 billion](#).
- This expense is on top of:
 - Estimated [\\$195 billion](#) from repayment pause since March 2020, lasting through the summer of 2023.
 - [\\$230 billion](#) for the new Income-Driven Repayment Plan.
- The Supreme Court heard oral arguments on this plan in February. [Over 120](#) members of the House signed on to an amicus brief expressing concerns regarding the unconstitutionality of the Biden Administration’s actions.
- Across the country, more than [92%](#) of all student loan debt comes from federal loans – totaling over [\\$1.6 trillion](#). This debt is held by approximately [13%](#) of the population.

SUMMARY:

- Rep. Good’s Joint Resolution would allow Congress to formally revoke the authority the Administration claimed it had to forgive loans.
- The Biden Administration is claiming authority to transfer billions of dollars to the taxpayer through national emergency status from COVID-19 and the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003, meant to provide temporary relief to military members during deployment following 9/11.
- This shocking justification of new-found executive power was created by a [legal memo](#) from the Department of Justice to the Department of Education. The Biden Administration first announced this in August, and then in [October](#) published in the Federal Register updates to waivers and modifications that supposedly justified this decision.
- In September 2022, Chairwoman Virginia Foxx, Senators Bill Cassidy and John Cornyn, and Representatives Bob Good and Mariannette Miller-Meeks sent a letter to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) asking for a determination on whether this executive action was subject to the CRA.
- On March 17, 2023, GAO [determined](#) that this policy is subject to the CRA.

BOTTOM LINE:

- Student loan cancellation doesn’t make debt go away – it shifts the costs from student loan borrowers and transfers it to U.S. taxpayers.
- Congress should stop the unilateral actions of President Biden that would cost everyday Americans.