

ACCESS Act

Accessible Campus Commuting and Expanded Student Savings Act

Led by Representatives Jennifer McClellan (VA-04) and Linda Sánchez (CA-38)

ABOUT THE ACCESS ACT:

The ACCESS Act would help American families who participate in 529 plans see their savings cover more of their children's education expenses, making colleges, universities, and apprenticeship programs more attainable and affordable.

Student parking and transportation costs incurred by commuting students are becoming more and more cost-prohibitive for students each school year. This is in part because institutions have had to increase parking fees for students in the last several years. It goes without saying the rise in parking and transportation costs could hurt student retention and success at a time when institutions are already seeing declining enrollments post-COVID.

Although this bill is just one piece of the puzzle to alleviate financial pressure, we believe it is an imperative step to ease the stress that students and their families experience around education attainability and affordability.

THE ACCESS ACT WOULD:

The Accessible College Campus and Expanded Student Savings (ACCESS) Act amends Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code to allow 529 savings plans to be used for transportation and parking expenses related to the cost of attendance at eligible higher education institutions and apprenticeship programs.

ENDORSEMENTS:

This legislation has been endorsed by Virginia529, the College Savings Plans Network (CSPN), the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), the Virginia College Advising Network (VCAN), the Council for Independent Colleges of Virginia (CICV), the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU), and the College Savings Foundation (CSF).