

What distinguishes JCL borrowers from the broader borrower base and student loan forgiveness movement?



- **Joint Consolidation Loan (JCL) borrowers sought statutory support and backbone directly from Congress to solve our student loan issue, in the manner prescribed by opponents of broad forgiveness.**
- On 4/19/2024, in a letter to ED, Republicans in the House Committee on Education and Workforce, under Virginia Foxx [R-NC], clarified that borrowers already consolidated to a single FFEL Consolidation Loan can legally receive a subsequent consolidation loan under Direct if they are **trying to access PSLF** (20 U.S.C. § 1078-3) **or separating a JCL** (20 U.S.C. § 1087e(g)). 85% of our JCL borrowers are trying to access PSLF with the legal right.
- Continued servicing of JCL loans endangers abuse victims to continued illegal physical threat and economic abuse, running contrary to the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization of 2022 (VAWA2022),

Borrowed it. Paid it. Still paying.

The average Joint Consolidation Loan (JCL) Borrower has paid **19.9 YEARS**, has paid **101%** of their original BALANCE, & still owes **125%** of their original BALANCE

We kindly request you direct inquiries to the Department of Education (ED), sharing what you have heard from JCL borrowers in your district/state. Please hold the Department accountable to implement the law quickly, and and to share firm implementation dates or plans. Joint Consolidation Borrowers desperately need to be processed starting in September 2024. Please consider 1) directing communication to the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs, 2) arranging staff-level calls with ED, 3) engaging your Legislative Director to escalate status requests with ED's Director of the Office of Legislative Affairs, and 4) scheduling a call with ED C-Staff and leadership, such as Secretary Cardona.

budget neutral
bipartisan
bicameral
common sense

Congress rightly and urgently passed the bill in the Senate by Unanimous Consent and in the House of Representatives with bipartisan support, finally bringing the Higher Education Act (HEA) in alignment with VAWA2022. **THIS BILL DOES NOT PROVISION STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS, but rather allows two comakers of a Joint Spousal Consolidation Loan to split the loan into individual loans based on their respective loan portions. As of October 11, 2022, JCL borrowers have had the right to separate their loans.**

What are JCL borrowers' undue hardships since the passing of PL117-200?

We cannot deliver JCLSA until the end of 2024, at earliest. Congress flatlined our funding in 2023.

ED says.

DURING THE COVID STUDENT LOAN PAYMENT PAUSE

53 JCL borrowers collectively

PAID

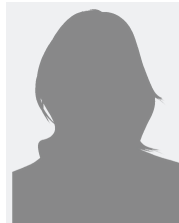
\$861,703 but their collective **BALANCE** only dropped

\$3237

Despite the Herculean effort to correct statute, the egregious conditions of the last 18 years persist under the new law, because **Congress starved the law's implementation by flatlining ED's budget in January 2023**, redistributing our taxes away from the laws that protect us. For ED, Presidential reforms have taken priority.

"We never want to see a spouse, especially one who is a victim of domestic violence, forced to be financially tied to his or her abuser... Given the urgency of the situation that many borrowers are in, this kind of delay is unacceptable."

~Rep. Virginia Foxx [R-NC]



"...The bottom line is this spousal consolidation has kept me bound to my abuser. These loans have continued to be an avenue in which my abuser continues to intimidate and abuse me. The government has allowed this with no solutions. They have forgotten me."

~Jen, SpousalConsolidation.DoUsPart! member

Real Costs \$ 9,240

The **average** amount of interest accrued by an FFEL JCL borrower while **waiting for ED to implement PL117-200** (\$385/mo.), **IF** Ed delivers separation in October 2024. Average monthly payments < interest accumulated. Some borrowers accrued \$34,000.

IF ONLY half of JCL cowriters remained employed & paid taxes within the common tax bracket, then JCL borrowers contributed **\$675.9 M**

IN TAX REVENUE redistributed to Trump's \$800B Paycheck Protection Program forgiveness and Biden's \$137B Broad Student Loan forgiveness

Congress's (YOUR) law is most meaningless when it cannot be executed to restore justice at a time when it is so direly needed.