

Hello, my name is _____ and I am a graduate student at The Ohio State University . I'm calling on behalf of Ohio State's Council of Graduate Students and the Student Advocates for Graduate Education to express our concern over HR 3393, the Student and Family Tax Simplification Act.

In its current form, HR 3393 eliminates support for graduate students who are pursuing advanced degrees that employers and our economy needs. This is in addition to previous legislation that discontinued subsidized federal loans for graduate students, and another which forces us to pay higher interest rates on loans than undergraduates. For these reasons, we cannot support HR 3393.

Although we applaud the effort to simplify tax benefits for higher education, we are asking that Rep. _____ not support this bill unless some modifications are made. These include: preserving the qualified education tax credit for graduate students, creating a second-tier of tax credits under the AOTC that can be used beyond the first four years of school, or replacing the four year limit with a lifetime dollar cap.