AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO COMMITTEE PRINT
OFFERED BY MR. GROTHMAN OF WISCONSIN

Page 96, after line 16, insert the following:

SEC. 20034. INSTITUTIONAL DETERMINED LOAN LIMITS.

Section 455(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087e(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) INSTITUTIONAL DETERMINED LIMITS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, an institution of higher education (at the discretion of a financial aid administrator at the institution) may prorate or limit the amount of a loan any student enrolled in a program of study at that institution may borrow under this part for an academic year—

“(i) if the institution can reasonably demonstrate that student debt levels are or would be excessive for such program by using the most recently available data for the average starting salary in the region in which the institution is located for typical
occupations pursued by graduates of such program from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the applicable State agency, or the institution;

“(ii) in a case in which the student is enrolled on a less than full-time basis or the student is enrolled for less than the period of enrollment to which the annual loan limit applies under this part, based on the student’s enrollment status;

“(iii) based on the credential level (such as a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential) that the student would attain upon completion of such program; or

“(iv) based on the year of the program for which the student is seeking such loan.

“(B) Increases for Individual Students.—Upon the request of a student whose loan amount for an academic year has been prorated or limited under subparagraph (A), an eligible institution (at the discretion of the financial aid administrator at the institution) may increase such loan amount to an amount
not exceeding the annual loan amount applicable to such student under this part for such academic year if such student demonstrates special circumstances or exceptional need.

“(C) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to authorize a proration or limiting of loan amounts by an institution of higher education because of a student’s race, color, religion, sex, marital status, age, disability, or national origin.”.