

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5486

To prevent harassment at institutions of higher education, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

Mr. POCAN (for himself, Mr. AMO, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. BALINT, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BELL, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. COHEN, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. SIMON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TONKO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To prevent harassment at institutions of higher education,
and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Tyler Clementi Higher
5 Education Anti-Harassment Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN-**
7 **FORMATION FOR STUDENTS.**

8 Section 485(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
9 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)) is amended—

10 (1) by striking the subsection heading and in-
11 serting “DISCLOSURE OF CAMPUS SECURITY AND
12 HARASSMENT POLICY AND CAMPUS CRIME STATIS-
13 TICS.”;

14 (2) in paragraph (6)(A)—

15 (A) by redesignating clauses (iii), (iv), and
16 (v) as clauses (vi), (vii), and (viii), respectively;
17 and

18 (B) by inserting after clause (ii) the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(iii) The term ‘commercial mobile service’ has
21 the meaning given the term in section 332(d) of the
22 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).

23 “(iv) The term ‘electronic communication’
24 means any transfer of signs, signals, writing, im-
25 ages, sounds, or data of any nature transmitted in

1 whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic,
2 photoelectronic, or photooptical system.

3 “(v) The term ‘electronic messaging services’
4 has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the
5 Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement
6 Act (47 U.S.C. 1001).”;

7 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through
8 (18) as paragraphs (10) through (19), respectively;
9 and

10 (4) by inserting after paragraph (8) the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(9)(A) Each institution of higher education partici-
13 pating in any program under this title, other than a for-
14 eign institution of higher education, shall develop and dis-
15 tribute as part of the report described in paragraph (1)—

16 “(i) a statement of policy regarding harassment
17 on the basis of a student’s actual or perceived race,
18 color, national origin, sex (including sexual orienta-
19 tion, gender identity, pregnancy, childbirth, a med-
20 ical condition related to pregnancy or childbirth, a
21 sex stereotype, and sex characteristics, including
22 intersex traits), disability, or religion, which shall in-
23 clude—

1 “(I) a prohibition of such harassment of
2 enrolled students by other students, faculty,
3 and staff—

4 “(aa) on campus;

5 “(bb) in noncampus buildings or on
6 noncampus property;

7 “(cc) on public property;

8 “(dd) in dormitories or other residen-
9 tial facilities for students on campus;

10 “(ee) through the use of electronic
11 mail addresses issued by the institution of
12 higher education;

13 “(ff) through the use of computers
14 and communication networks, including
15 any telecommunications service, owned, op-
16 erated, or contracted for use by the institu-
17 tion of higher education or its agents; or

18 “(gg) during an activity sponsored by
19 the institution of higher education or car-
20 ried out with the use of resources provided
21 by the institution of higher education;

22 “(II) a prohibition of such harassment that
23 is carried out in whole or in part through the
24 use of electronic messaging services, commercial

1 mobile services, electronic communications, or
2 other technology;

3 “(III) a description of the institution’s pro-
4 grams to combat harassment, which shall be
5 aimed at the prevention of harassment;

6 “(IV) a description of the procedures that
7 a student should follow if an incident of harass-
8 ment occurs; and

9 “(V) a description of the procedures that
10 the institution will follow once an incident of
11 harassment has been reported; and

12 “(ii) a detailed description of each occasion in
13 which a pattern of harassment occurs based on one
14 or more of the characteristics described in clause (i)
15 and the actions taken by the institution of higher
16 education.

17 “(B) The statement of policy described in subpara-
18 graph (A)(i) shall address the following areas:

19 “(i) Procedures for timely institutional action in
20 cases of alleged harassment, which procedures shall
21 include a clear statement that the accuser and the
22 accused shall be informed of the outcome of any dis-
23 ciplinary proceedings in response to an allegation of
24 harassment.

1 “(ii) Possible sanctions to be imposed following
2 the final determination of an institutional discipli-
3 nary procedure regarding harassment.

4 “(iii) Notification of existing counseling, mental
5 health, or student and employee services for victims
6 or perpetrators of harassment, both on campus and
7 in the community.

8 “(iv) Identification of a designated employee or
9 office at the institution that will be responsible for
10 receiving and tracking each report of harassment by
11 a student, faculty, or staff member.”.

12 **SEC. 3. ANTI-HARASSMENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PRO-**
13 **GRAM.**

14 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
16 ty” means—

17 (A) an institution of higher education, in-
18 cluding an institution of higher education in a
19 collaborative partnership with a nonprofit orga-
20 nization; or

21 (B) a consortium of institutions of higher
22 education located in the same State.

23 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
24 the Secretary of Education.

1 (b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary is au-
2 thorized to award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible
3 entities to enable eligible entities to carry out the author-
4 ized activities described in subsection (d).

5 (c) AMOUNT OF GRANT AWARDS.—The Secretary
6 shall ensure that each grant awarded under this section
7 is of sufficient amount to enable the grantee to meet the
8 purpose of this section.

9 (d) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity
10 that receives a grant under this section shall use the funds
11 made available through the grant to address harassment
12 on the basis of one or more of the characteristics described
13 in section 485(f)(9)(A)(i) of the Higher Education Act of
14 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(9)(A)(i)), as amended by section
15 2 of this Act, by initiating, expanding, or improving pro-
16 grams—

17 (1) to prevent the harassment of students at in-
18 stitutions of higher education;

19 (2) at institutions of higher education that pro-
20 vide counseling or redress services to students who
21 have suffered such harassment or students who have
22 been accused of subjecting other students to such
23 harassment; or

24 (3) that educate or train students, faculty, or
25 staff of institutions of higher education about ways

1 to recognize and prevent harassment or ways to ad-
2 dress such harassment if it occurs.

3 (e) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
4 under this section, an eligible entity shall submit an appli-
5 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
6 containing such information, as the Secretary may re-
7 quire.

8 (f) DURATION; RENEWAL.—A grant under this sec-
9 tion shall be awarded for a period of not more than 3
10 years. The Secretary may renew a grant under this section
11 for one additional period of not more than 2 years.

12 (g) AWARD CONSIDERATIONS.—In awarding a grant
13 under this section, the Secretary shall select eligible enti-
14 ties that demonstrate the greatest need for a grant and
15 the greatest potential benefit from receipt of a grant.

16 (h) REPORT AND EVALUATION.—

17 (1) EVALUATION AND REPORT TO THE SEC-
18 RETARY.—Not later than 6 months after the end of
19 the eligible entity's grant period, the eligible entity
20 shall—

21 (A) evaluate the effectiveness of the activi-
22 ties carried out with the use of funds awarded
23 pursuant to this section; and

1 (B) prepare and submit to the Secretary a
2 report on the results of the evaluation con-
3 ducted by the entity.

4 (2) EVALUATION AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.—
5 Not later than 12 months after the date of receipt
6 of the first report submitted pursuant to paragraph
7 (1) and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall pro-
8 vide to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
9 and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on
10 Education and Workforce of the House of Rep-
11 resentatives a report that includes the following:

12 (A) The number and types of eligible enti-
13 ties receiving assistance under this section.

14 (B) The anti-harassment programs being
15 implemented with assistance under this section
16 and the costs of such programs.

17 (C) Any other information determined by
18 the Secretary to be useful in evaluating the
19 overall effectiveness of the program established
20 under this section in decreasing incidents of
21 harassment at institutions of higher education.

22 (3) BEST PRACTICES REPORT.—The Secretary
23 shall use the information provided under paragraph
24 (1) to publish a report of evidence-based best prac-
25 tices for combating harassment at institutions of

1 higher education, which shall be based on scientific
2 research that meets nationally recognized standards.
3 The report shall be made available to all institutions
4 of higher education and other interested parties.

5 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
6 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
7 \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2031.

8 **SEC. 4. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.**

9 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to invalidate
10 or limit rights, remedies, procedures, or legal standards
11 available under any other Federal law or law of a State
12 or political subdivision of a State, including title VI of the
13 Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), title
14 IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C.
15 1681 et seq.), section 504 or 505 of the Rehabilitation
16 Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794, 794a), or the Americans with
17 Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.). The
18 obligations imposed by this Act are in addition to those
19 imposed by title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42
20 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), title IX of the Education Amend-
21 ments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.), section 504 of
22 the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), and the
23 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101
24 et seq.).

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