

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5527

To require the Secretary of Defense to restore access to curricula, books, and other learning materials at schools operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

Mr. RASKIN (for himself, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. JAYAPAL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to restore access to curricula, books, and other learning materials at schools operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity, 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 “Stop Censoring Mili-
5 tary Families Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESTORATION OF ACCESS TO CURRICULA, BOOKS,**
2 **AND OTHER LEARNING MATERIALS.**

3 (a) RESTORATION AND TEMPORARY LIMITATION ON
4 FURTHER RESTRICTIONS.—

5 (1) RESTORATION.—As soon as practicable
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, but not
7 later than 30 days after such date, the Secretary of
8 Defense shall restore access to all curricula, books,
9 and other learning materials that were available at
10 covered educational institutions before January 20,
11 2025.

12 (2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of Defense
13 may not take any action that would limit the avail-
14 ability of the materials described in paragraph (1)
15 until after the beginning of the 2026–2027 academic
16 year.

17 (b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days
18 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
19 of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional
20 committees a report that includes—

21 (1) identification of all curricula, books, or
22 other learning materials identified for potential re-
23 moval pursuant to instructions issued by the Sec-
24 retary of Defense after January 20, 2025;

25 (2) a detailed account of the processes and in-
26 structions used to carry out such actions; and

1 (3) in the case of any such actions affecting
 2 schools operated by the Department of Defense Edu-
 3 cation Activity, an explanation of whether such ac-
 4 tions complied with the requirements of section
 5 2164a of title 10, United States Code.

6 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) The term “covered educational institution”
 8 means a school operated by the Department of De-
 9 fense Education Activity.

10 (2) The term “appropriate congressional com-
 11 mittees” means—

12 (A) the Committee on Armed Services and
 13 the Committee on Education and Workforce of
 14 the House of Representatives; and

15 (B) the Committee on Armed Services and
 16 the Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
 17 and Pensions of the Senate.

18 **SEC. 3. LIMITATIONS ON FURTHER RESTRICTIONS TO CUR-**
 19 **RICULA, BOOKS, OTHER LEARNING MATE-**
 20 **RIALS, AND CULTURAL EVENTS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2164 of title 10, United
 22 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 23 lowing new subsection:

24 “(n) LIMITATION ON RESTRICTIONS TO CURRICULA,
 25 LEARNING MATERIALS, AND CULTURAL EVENTS.—

1 “(1) The Secretary of Defense may not issue
2 any directive affecting the curriculum, program of
3 instruction, administration, or personnel of two or
4 more schools operated by the Department of Defense
5 Education Activity until one year after the following
6 requirements have been met:

7 “(A) The Secretary has submitted to the
8 School Advisory Committee (or the equivalent
9 advisory body) and Installation Advisory Com-
10 mittee of the schools involved and to the Com-
11 mittees on Armed Services of the Senate and
12 the House of Representatives written notice of
13 the Secretary’s intent to issue such directive to-
14 gether with a description of and justification for
15 the directive.

16 “(B) Each School Advisory Committee (or
17 the equivalent advisory body) that received the
18 notice under subparagraph (A)—

19 “(i) with respect to a directive per-
20 taining to curricula or programs of instruc-
21 tion, has voted to initiate the CMRC proc-
22 ess with regard to the directive; or

23 “(ii) with respect to a directive per-
24 taining to administration or personnel—

1 “(I) has voted to initiate the
2 CMRC process with regard to the di-
3 rective; or

4 “(II) in lieu of initiating such
5 process, has conducted a review to de-
6 termine how the directive will affect
7 the school involved, produced a writ-
8 ten response setting forth the results
9 of the review, and approved such re-
10 sponse via an official vote.

11 “(C) The findings of such process or re-
12 view (as the case may be) were submitted to the
13 Committees on Armed Services of the Senate
14 and the House of Representatives not later
15 than 90 days after the process or review was
16 initiated, and such Committees have had an op-
17 portunity to consider potential legislative re-
18 sponses to the proposed directive.

19 “(2) The Secretary of Defense may not issue
20 any directive affecting the curriculum, program of
21 instruction, administration, or personnel of two or
22 more schools operated by the Department of Defense
23 Education Activity unless—

24 “(A) the Secretary submits to the School
25 Advisory Committee (or the equivalent advisory

body) of the schools involved and the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives written notice of the Secretary's intent to issue such directive together with a description of and justification for the directive; and

“(B) a period of 90 days has elapsed following the date on which such notice was submitted.

“(3) The requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) shall apply to directives affecting two or more schools operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity regardless of whether such directives are issued collectively or separately to individual schools.

“(4) The Secretary of Defense may not issue any directive affecting the selection or removal of library resources, textbooks, or other printed or published instructional materials at any individual school operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity unless—

“(A) the Secretary submits to the School Advisory Committee (or the equivalent advisory body) of the school involved written notice of the Secretary's intent to issue such directive to-

1 gether with a description of and justification for
2 the directive; and

3 “(B) a period of 30 days has elapsed fol-
4 lowing the date on which such notice was sub-
5 mitted.

6 “(5) The Secretary of Defense may not—

7 “(A) limit the authority of an individual
8 school to plan or hold commemorative events or
9 cultural events that have been duly approved by
10 the principal, faculty, staff, or School Advisory
11 Committee (or the equivalent) of the school in-
12 volved; or

13 “(B) withhold funding or take other action
14 against a school solely because such school
15 plans or holds an event described in subpara-
16 graph (A).

17 “(6) In this subsection, the term ‘CMRC proc-
18 ess’ means the procedures described in Department
19 of Defense Education Activity Administrative In-
20 struction 2992.01 relating to ‘Information Center
21 and Classroom Supplemental Materials Selection
22 Policy and Challenge Procedures’, dated February
23 12, 2010.”.

24 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY.—The
25 amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on

1 the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply be-
2 ginning with the 2026–2027 academic year for schools op-
3 erated by the Department of Defense Education Activity.

4 **SEC. 4. NULLIFICATION OF CERTAIN EXECUTIVE ORDERS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Executive orders specified in
6 subsection (b) shall have no force or effect with respect
7 to the Department of Defense and no Federal funds may
8 be used to implement or enforce such Executive orders,
9 or any substantially similar directives, within the Depart-
10 ment of Defense.

11 (b) EXECUTIVE ORDERS SPECIFIED.—The Executive
12 orders specified in this subsection are the following:

13 (1) Executive Order 14190 (90 Fed. Reg. 8853;
14 relating to ending radical indoctrination in K–12
15 schooling).

16 (2) Executive Order 14280 (90 Fed. Reg.
17 17533; relating to reinstating commonsense school
18 discipline policies).

19 (3) Executive Order 14281 (90 Fed. Reg
20 17537; relating to restoring equality of opportunity
21 and meritocracy).

22 (4) Executive Order 14185 (90 Fed. Reg. 8763;
23 relating to restoring America’s fighting force).

1 (5) Executive Order 14183 (90 Fed. Reg. 8757;
2 relating to prioritizing military excellence and readi-
3 ness).

4 (6) Executive Order 14168 (90 Fed. Reg. 8615;
5 relating to defending women from gender ideology
6 extremism and restoring biological truth to the Fed-
7 eral Government).

8 (7) Executive Order 14201 (90 Fed. Reg. 9279;
9 relating to keeping men out of women's sports).

10 **SEC. 5. STUDY AND REPORT ON POTENTIAL ESTABLISH-**
11 **MENT OF INDEPENDENT BODY TO IMPLE-**
12 **MENT CURRICULA FOR DODEA SCHOOLS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the
14 United States shall conduct a study to determine the
15 feasibility and advisability of establishing an independent
16 body to design and implement educational curricula for
17 schools operated by the Department of Defense Education
18 Activity. The study shall address—

19 (1) how such an independent body could be es-
20 tablished and structured;

21 (2) who should be appointed to such a body;

22 (3) how such body could maintain independence
23 to ensure it is insulated from political influence and
24 changing priorities of the Executive Branch; and

1 (4) such other factors as the Comptroller Gen-
2 eral determines appropriate.

3 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 270 days after the date
4 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall
5 submit to the appropriate congressional committees a re-
6 port on the results of the study conducted under sub-
7 section (a).

8 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
9 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
10 sional committees” means—

11 (1) the Committee on Armed Services and the
12 Committee on Education and Workforce of the
13 House of Representatives; and

14 (2) the Committee on Armed Services and the
15 Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
16 sions of the Senate.

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