

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5590

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for communicating threats that target schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

Mr. LAWLER (for himself and Mr. BACON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for communicating threats that target schools.

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 “Schools Want Account-
5 ability for Threats Act” or the “SWAT Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. THREATS INVOLVING FIRE OR EXPLOSIVES.**

7 Section 844(e) of title 18, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) by striking “(e)” and inserting “(e)(1)”;

10 and

1 (2) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(2) Whoever violates paragraph (1) by making a
3 threat against, or maliciously conveying false information
4 with respect to, a public, private, or religious school that
5 provides early childhood, elementary, secondary, postsec-
6 ondary, or career and technical education, as determined
7 under State law, shall be imprisoned for not more than
8 20 years or fined under this title, or both.”.

9 **SEC. 3. THREATS THROUGH THE MAIL OR INTERSTATE**
10 **COMMUNICATIONS.**

11 Chapter 41 of title 18, United States Code, is amend-
12 ed—

13 (1) in section 875 by adding at the end the fol-
14 lowing:

15 “(e) Whoever violates any other provision of this sec-
16 tion by making a threat against a public, private, or reli-
17 gious school that provides early childhood, elementary,
18 secondary, postsecondary, or career and technical edu-
19 cation, as determined under State law, shall be imprisoned
20 for not more than 20 years or fined under this title, or
21 both.”; and

22 (2) in section 876 by adding at the end the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(e) Whoever violates any other provision of this sec-
25 tion by making a threat against a public, private, or reli-

1 gious school that provides early childhood, elementary,
2 secondary, postsecondary, or career and technical edu-
3 cation, as determined under State law, shall be imprisoned
4 for not more than 20 years or fined under this title, or
5 both.”.

6 **SEC. 4. FALSE INFORMATION AND HOAXES.**

7 Section 1038(a)(1) of title 18, United States Code,
8 is amended—

9 (1) in subparagraph (B) by striking “and”;

10 (2) in subparagraph (C) by striking the period
11 and inserting “; and”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(D) if the information indicates that the
14 activity has taken, is taking, or will take place
15 in a public, private, or religious school that pro-
16 vides early childhood, elementary, secondary,
17 postsecondary, or career and technical edu-
18 cation, as determined under State law, be fined
19 under this title or imprisoned not more than 20
20 years, or both.”.

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