

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6860

To amend the General Education Provisions Act to provide a private right of action to parents and eligible students to protect certain education-related rights, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 18, 2025

Ms. HAGEMAN (for herself and Mr. GROTHMAN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend the General Education Provisions Act to provide a private right of action to parents and eligible students to protect certain education-related rights, 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 “Parental Rights Relief
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PRIVATE RIGHTS OF ACTION UNDER FERPA AND**
2 **PPRA.**

3 (a) FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY
4 ACT.—Section 444(g) of the General Education Provi-
5 sions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g(g)) (commonly known as the
6 “Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974”)
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 “(g) OFFICE AND REVIEW BOARD.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
10 lish or designate an office and review board within
11 the Department for the purpose of investigating,
12 processing, reviewing, and adjudicating violations of
13 this section and complaints which may be filed con-
14 cerning alleged violations of this section.

15 “(2) COMPLAINTS.—The Secretary shall ensure
16 that complaints filed pursuant to paragraph (1) are
17 investigated, processed, reviewed, and adjudicated
18 not later than 90 days after being filed.

19 “(3) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A parent (or a stu-
21 dent who is at least eighteen years of age or is
22 attending an institution of postsecondary edu-
23 cation) who is aggrieved by a violation of this
24 section by an educational agency or institution
25 may bring a civil action in an appropriate dis-
26 trict court of the United States against such

educational agency or institution for declaratory relief, injunctive relief, or reasonable attorney’s fees and costs with respect to the violation.

“(B) ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES NOT REQUIRED.—A civil action under subparagraph (A) may be commenced, and relief may be granted, without regard to whether the party commencing the action has sought or exhausted any available administrative remedies.

“(C) INTERVENTION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL.—A court may, in its discretion, permit the Attorney General to intervene in a civil action brought under subparagraph (A) if the Attorney General certifies that the action is of general public importance.

“(4) PROHIBITION.—Except for the conduct of hearings, none of the functions of the Secretary under this section shall be carried out in any of the regional offices of the Department.”.

(b) PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.—

Section 445(f) of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232h(f)) (commonly known as the “Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment”) is amended to read as follows:

“(f) OFFICE AND REVIEW BOARD.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
2 lish or designate an office and review board within
3 the Department of Education to investigate, process,
4 review, and adjudicate violations of the rights estab-
5 lished under this section.

6 “(2) COMPLAINTS.—The Secretary shall ensure
7 that complaints filed pursuant to paragraph (1) are
8 investigated, processed, reviewed, and adjudicated
9 not later than 90 days after being filed.

10 “(3) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A parent (or a stu-
12 dent who is at least eighteen years of age or is
13 an emancipated minor under an applicable
14 State law) who is aggrieved by a violation of
15 this section by an educational agency or institu-
16 tion may bring a civil action in an appropriate
17 district court of the United States against such
18 educational agency or institution for declaratory
19 relief, injunctive relief, or reasonable attorney’s
20 fees and costs with respect to the violation.

21 “(B) ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES NOT RE-
22 QUIRED.—A civil action under subparagraph
23 (A) may be commenced, and relief may be
24 granted, without regard to whether the party

1 commencing the action has sought or exhausted
2 any available administrative remedies.

3 “(C) INTERVENTION OF ATTORNEY GEN-
4 ERAL.—A court may, in its discretion, permit
5 the Attorney General to intervene in a civil ac-
6 tion brought under subparagraph (A) if the At-
7 torney General certifies that the action is of
8 general public importance.”.

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