

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2525

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 14, 2021

Mrs. MCBATH (for herself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. DUNCAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, 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 “Report and Educate
5 About Campus Hazing Act” or the “REACH Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF HAZING INCIDENTS IN ANNUAL SE-**
7 **CURITY REPORTS.**

8 Section 485(f)(1)(F) of the Higher Education Act of
9 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(1)(F)) is amended—

1 (1) in clause (i)(IX), by striking “and” after
2 the semicolon;

3 (2) in clause (ii), by striking “and” after the
4 semicolon;

5 (3) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the
6 end and inserting “; and”; and

7 (4) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(iv) of hazing incidents that were re-
9 ported to campus security authorities or local
10 police agencies.”.

11 **SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF HAZING.**

12 Section 485(f)(6)(A) of the Higher Education Act of
13 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)) is amended—

14 (1) by redesignating clauses (iii) through (v) as
15 clauses (iv) through (vi), respectively; and

16 (2) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

17 “(iii) The term ‘hazing’ means any inten-
18 tional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a
19 student, or a former student, of an institution
20 of higher education, whether individually or in
21 concert with other persons, against another stu-
22 dent (regardless of that student’s willingness to
23 participate), that—

24 “(I) was committed in connection with
25 an initiation into, an affiliation with, or

1 the maintenance of membership in, any or-
2 ganization that is affiliated with such insti-
3 tution of higher education (including any
4 athletic team affiliated with that institu-
5 tion); and

6 “(II) contributes to a substantial risk
7 of physical injury, mental harm, or deg-
8 radation or causes physical injury, mental
9 harm, or personal degradation.”.

10 **SEC. 4. RECORDING OF HAZING INCIDENTS.**

11 Section 485(f)(7) of the Higher Education Act of
12 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(7)) is amended by inserting after
13 the second sentence the following: “For hazing incidents,
14 such statistics shall be compiled in accordance with the
15 definition of that term in paragraph (6)(A)(iii).”.

16 **SEC. 5. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM ON HAZING.**

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

19 (1) in the matter preceding subclause (I), by
20 striking “and stalking” and inserting “stalking, and
21 hazing”;

22 (2) in subclause (I)(ff), by striking “and” after
23 the semicolon;

24 (3) in subclause (II), by striking the period at
25 the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

2 “(III) a comprehensive program to
3 prevent hazing that shall—

4 “(aa) be a campus-wide program
5 for students, staff, faculty, and other
6 campus stakeholders (such as alumni
7 and families of students);

8 “(bb) be a research-based pro-
9 gram;

10 “(cc) be designed and imple-
11 mented in partnership with a broad
12 coalition of campus stakeholders, in-
13 cluding leadership of the institution,
14 faculty, staff, students, alumni, and
15 families of students;

16 “(dd) include information on haz-
17 ing awareness, hazing prevention, the
18 institution’s policies on hazing, how to
19 report hazing, and the process used to
20 investigate hazing; and

21 “(ee) include skill building for
22 bystander intervention, information
23 about ethical leadership, and the pro-

1 motion of strategies for building
2 group cohesion without hazing.”.

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