

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5349

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 9, 2024

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education,
Labor, and Pensions

AN ACT

To develop and disseminate a civic education curriculum
and oral history resources regarding certain political
ideologies, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Crucial Communism
3 Teaching Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

5 The purposes of this Act are the following:

6 (1) To help families, civic institutions, local
7 communities, local educational agencies, high
8 schools, and State educational agencies to prepare
9 high school students to be civically responsible and
10 knowledgeable adults.

11 (2) To ensure that high school students in the
12 United States—

13 (A) learn that communism has led to the
14 deaths of over 100,000,000 victims worldwide;

15 (B) understand the dangers of communism
16 and similar political ideologies; and

17 (C) understand that 1,500,000,000 people
18 still suffer under communism.

19 **SEC. 3. DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF CIVIC EDU-**
20 **CATION CURRICULUM AND ORAL HISTORY**
21 **RESOURCES.**

22 The independent entity created under section
23 905(b)(1)(B) of the FRIENDSHIP Act (40 U.S.C. 8903
24 note; 107 Stat. 2331 note), also known as the “Victims
25 of Communism Memorial Foundation”, shall—

(1) develop a civic education curriculum for high school students that—

(A) includes a comparative discussion of certain political ideologies, including communism and totalitarianism, that conflict with the principles of freedom and democracy that are essential to the founding of the United States;

(B) is updated periodically to ensure the curriculum includes both past and present communist and totalitarian regimes, with a focus on—

(i) ongoing human rights abuses by such regimes, such as the treatment of Uyghurs in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) by the People's Republic of China; and

(ii) aggression by such regimes against democratic nations and democracy, such as actions taken by the People's Republic of China to deter pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong and the increasingly aggressive posture by the People's Republic of China toward Taiwan, a democratic friend of the United States.

1 (C) is accurate, relevant, and accessible, so
2 as to promote the understanding of such polit-
3 ical ideologies; and

4 (D) is compatible with a variety of courses,
5 including social studies, government, history,
6 and economics classes;

7 (2) develop oral history resources that may be
8 used alongside the curriculum described in para-
9 graph (1) and that include personal stories, titled
10 “Portraits in Patriotism”, from diverse individuals
11 who—

12 (A) demonstrate civic-minded qualities;

13 (B) are victims of the political ideologies
14 described in paragraph (1)(A); and

15 (C) are able to compare the political
16 ideologies described in paragraph (1)(A) with
17 the political ideology of the United States; and

18 (3) engage with State and local educational
19 leaders to assist high schools in using the curriculum
20 described in paragraph (1) and the resources de-
21 scribed in paragraph (2).

1 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

2 The terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and
3 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801) shall
4 apply to this Act.

 Passed the House of Representatives December 6,
2024.

Attest:

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,

Clerk.