

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7491

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish notification and reporting requirements relating to unlawful acts and significant emergencies faced by students in public elementary and secondary schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 11, 2022

Mr. CRIST (for himself and Mr. DEUTCH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish notification and reporting requirements relating to unlawful acts and significant emergencies faced by students in public elementary and secondary 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 “Parents Need to Know
5 Act of 2022”.

1 **SEC. 2. NOTIFICATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**
2 **RELATING TO THREATS AND EMERGENCIES**
3 **FACED BY STUDENTS IN ELEMENTARY AND**
4 **SECONDARY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

5 (a) NOTIFICATION AND REPORTING REQUIRE-
6 MENTS.—Subsection (b) of section 1112 of the Elemen-
7 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
8 6312) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (12), by striking “and” at the
10 end;

11 (2) by redesignating paragraph (13) as para-
12 graph (14); and

13 (3) by inserting before paragraph (14), as so
14 redesignated, the following new paragraph:

15 “(13) how the local educational agency will es-
16 tablish procedures for schools served by the local
17 educational agency to provide—

18 “(A) timely notification to parents, in a
19 manner that does not reveal any personally
20 identifiable information about an individual stu-
21 dent, about—

22 “(i) an unlawful act or significant
23 emergency that occurs on school grounds,
24 during transportation for school-sponsored
25 events, or during school-sponsored activi-
26 ties; or

1 “(ii) a threat that has been made
2 about an unlawful act or significant emer-
3 gency occurring on school grounds, during
4 transportation for school-sponsored events,
5 or during school-sponsored activities;

6 “(B) a plan to address, mitigate, or correct
7 any risks to students associated with the unlaw-
8 ful act or significant emergency; and

9 “(C) provide annual notice to students,
10 parents, and any individual who works at the
11 school describing the notification procedures es-
12 tablished under subparagraph (A); and”.

13 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1112 of such Act (20
14 U.S.C. 6312) is further amended by adding at the end
15 the following:

16 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 “(1) TIMELY NOTIFICATION.—The term ‘timely
18 notification’ means, with respect to the notification
19 procedures established under subsection (b)(13)(A),
20 the exercise of reasonable care by a school to contact
21 the parents or other known emergency contacts of
22 students following the use of such notification proce-
23 dures, including by telephone calls, voice mail mes-
24 sages, text messages, and email messages.

1 “(2) UNLAWFUL ACT OR SIGNIFICANT EMER-
2 GENCY.—The term ‘unlawful act or significant emer-
3 gency’ means one or more of the following:

4 “(A) Homicide or accidental death.

5 “(B) Rape or sexual assault.

6 “(C) Aggravated assault with intent to
7 cause serious bodily harm.

8 “(D) Arson.

9 “(E) Any unauthorized possession or use
10 of a firearm.

11 “(F) A manmade or natural emergency in-
12 cluding any hurricane, tornado, storm, high
13 water, wind driven water, tidal wave, tsunami,
14 earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide,
15 mudslide, snowstorm, or drought, or, regardless
16 of cause, any fire, flood, explosion, gas leak,
17 building collapse, or damage by aircraft.”.

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