

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1606

To amend the Child Abuse and Prevention Act to require a study and report on marital age of consent.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR (for himself, Mr. MORELLE, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Child Abuse and Prevention Act to require a study and report on marital age of consent.

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 “End Forced Child Mar-
5 riages Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY AND REPORT ON MARITAL AGE OF CON-**
7 **SENT.**

8 Section 110 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
9 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106f) is amended by adding
10 at the end the following:

1 “(e) STUDY AND REPORT ON MARITAL AGE OF CON-
2 SENT.—

3 “(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall study, with
4 respect to each State—

5 “(A) the State law regarding the minimum
6 marriage age; and

7 “(B) the prevalence of marriage involving
8 a child who is under the age of such minimum
9 marriage age.

10 “(2) FACTORS.—The study required under
11 paragraph (1) shall include an examination of—

12 “(A) the extent to which any statutory ex-
13 ceptions to the minimum marriage age in such
14 laws contribute to the prevalence of marriage
15 involving a child described in paragraph (1)(B);

16 “(B) whether such exceptions allow such a
17 child to be married without the consent of such
18 child; and

19 “(C) the impact of such exceptions on the
20 safety of such children.

21 “(3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
22 date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary
23 shall submit to the Committee on Health, Edu-
24 cation, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the
25 Committee on Education and Labor of the House of

- 1 Representatives a report containing the findings of
- 2 the study required by this subsection, including any
- 3 best practices.”.

