

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8342

To require the development of recommendations to improve and fully implement the Military Interstate Children’s Compact, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the development of recommendations to improve and fully implement the Military Interstate Children’s Compact, 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 “Military Interstate
5 Children’s Compact Commission Improvement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF**
2 **THE MILITARY INTERSTATE CHILDREN'S**
3 **COMPACT.**

4 (a) RECOMMENDATIONS REQUIRED.—The Secre-
5 taries concerned, in consultation with States through the
6 Defense-State Liaison Office, shall develop recommenda-
7 tions to improve and fully implement the Military Inter-
8 state Children's Compact.

9 (b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out subsection
10 (a), the Secretaries concerned shall—

11 (1) identify any barriers—

12 (A) to the ability of a parent of a transfer-
13 ring military-connected child to enroll the child,
14 in advance, in an elementary or secondary
15 school in the State in which the child is trans-
16 ferring, without requiring the parent or child to
17 be physically present in the State; and

18 (B) to the ability of a transferring mili-
19 tary-connected child who receives special edu-
20 cation services to gain access to such services
21 and related supports in the State to which the
22 child transfers within the timeframes required
23 under the Individuals with Disabilities Edu-
24 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.);

25 (2) consider the feasibility and advisability of—

1 (A) tracking and reporting the number of
2 families who use advanced enrollment in States
3 that offer advanced enrollment to military-con-
4 nected children;

5 (B) States clarifying in legislation that eli-
6 gibility for advanced enrollment requires only
7 written evidence of a permanent change of sta-
8 tion order, and does not require a parent of a
9 military-connected child to produce a rental
10 agreement or mortgage statement; and

11 (C) the Secretary of Defense, in coordina-
12 tion with the Military Interstate Children's
13 Compact, developing a letter or other memo-
14 randum that military families may present to
15 local educational agencies that outlines the pro-
16 tections afforded to military-connected children
17 by the Military Interstate Children's Compact;
18 and

19 (3) identify any other actions that may be
20 taken by the States (acting together or separately)
21 to improve the Military Interstate Children's Com-
22 pact.

23 (c) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretaries
25 concerned shall submit to the appropriate congressional

1 committees and to the States a report setting forth the
2 recommendations developed under subsection (a).

3 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) The term “appropriate congressional com-
5 mittees” means—

6 (A) the congressional defense committees;

7 (B) the Committee on Health, Education,
8 Labor, and Pensions and the Committee on
9 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
10 of the Senate; and

11 (C) the Committee on Education and
12 Labor and the Committee on Homeland Secu-
13 rity of the House of Representatives.

14 (2) The terms “child”, “elementary school”,
15 “local educational agency”, “secondary school”,
16 “parent”, and “State” have the meanings given
17 those terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and
18 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

19 (3) The terms “armed forces”, “active duty”
20 and “congressional defense committees” have the
21 meanings given those terms in section 101 of title
22 10, United States Code.

23 (4) The term “transferring military-connected
24 child” means the child of a parent who—

1 (A) is serving on active duty in the armed
2 forces;

3 (B) is changing duty locations due to a
4 permanent change of station order; and

5 (C) has not yet established an ongoing
6 physical presence in the State to which the par-
7 ent is transferring.

8 (5) The term “Military Interstate Children’s
9 Compact” means the Interstate Compact on Edu-
10 cational Opportunity for Military Children as de-
11 scribed in Department of Defense Instruction
12 1342.29, dated January 31, 2017 (or any successor
13 to such instruction).

14 (6) The term “Secretary concerned” means—

15 (A) the Secretary of Defense, with respect
16 to matters concerning the Department of De-
17 fense; and

18 (B) the Secretary of the department in
19 which the Coast Guard is operating, with re-
20 spect to matters concerning the Coast Guard
21 when it is not operating as a service in the De-
22 partment of the Navy.

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