

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7607

To direct institutions of higher education to improve transparency with respect to the use of personality traits in admissions, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 27, 2022

Mrs. STEEL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To direct institutions of higher education to improve transparency with respect to the use of personality traits in admissions, 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 “Helping Applicants  
5       Receive Valid and Reasonable Decisions Act” or the  
6       “HARVARD Act”.

7       **SEC. 2. USE OF PERSONALITY TRAITS IN ADMISSIONS.**

8       Section 487(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
9       (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)) is amended by adding at the end the  
10      following:

1           “(30)(A) In the case of an institution that con-  
2           siders the personality traits of applicants in making  
3           admission determinations, the institution shall make  
4           available on the public website and application mate-  
5           rials of such institution—

6                   “(i) a statement informing applicants of  
7           the use of personality traits in making admis-  
8           sion determinations;

9                   “(ii) the rationale for such use of person-  
10          ality traits;

11                  “(iii) a description of the process under  
12          which personality traits are considered; and

13                  “(iv) the standards and criteria used for  
14          rating personality traits.

15           “(B) In this paragraph, the term ‘personality  
16          traits’ means, with respect to an individual, the pat-  
17          terns of such individual with respect to behaviors,  
18          thoughts, and emotions, and may include patterns  
19          relating to humor, sensitivity, grit, leadership, integ-  
20          rity, helpfulness, courage, and kindness.”.

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