

116TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 943

AN ACT

To authorize the Director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to support Holocaust education programs, 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 “Never Again Education
3 Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 The Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The United States has demonstrated a com-
7 mitment to remembrance and education about the
8 Holocaust through bilateral relationships and en-
9 gagement in international organizations such as the
10 United Nations and the International Holocaust Re-
11 membrance Alliance; the United States works to
12 promote Holocaust education as a means to under-
13 stand the importance of democratic principles, use
14 and abuse of power, and to raise awareness about
15 the importance of genocide prevention today.

16 (2) The Congress has played a critical role in
17 preserving the memory of the Holocaust and pro-
18 moting awareness, including by authorizing the
19 United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as an
20 independent establishment of the Federal Govern-
21 ment to ensure that “the study of the Holocaust be-
22 come part of the curriculum in every school system
23 in the country”, as well as by establishing a national
24 Holocaust Remembrance Day in 1978.

25 (3) 75 years after the conclusion of World War
26 II, with the decreasing number of eyewitnesses and

1 growing distance of students and their families from
2 this history, it is important to institutionalize edu-
3 cation about the events of the Holocaust such as the
4 German Nazis' racist ideology, propaganda, and
5 plan to lead a state to war and, with their collabo-
6 rators, kill millions—including the systematic mur-
7 der of 6,000,000 Jewish people; as well as the perse-
8 cution and murder of millions of others in the name
9 of racial purity, political, ideological, and behavioral
10 grounds, among them Roma, the disabled, the Slavs,
11 Communists, Socialists, Jehovah's Witnesses, and
12 homosexuals.

13 (4) As intolerance, antisemitism, and bigotry
14 are promoted by hate groups, Holocaust education
15 provides a context in which to learn about the dan-
16 ger of what can happen when hate goes unchal-
17 lenged and there is indifference in the face of the
18 oppression of others; learning how and why the Hol-
19 ocaust happened is an important component of the
20 education of citizens of the United States.

21 (5) Today, those who deny that the Holocaust
22 occurred or distort the true nature of the Holocaust
23 continue to find forums, especially online; this denial
24 and distortion dishonors those who were persecuted,
25 and murdered, making it even more of a national

1 imperative to educate students in the United States
2 so that they may explore the lessons that the Holo-
3 caust provides for all people, sensitize communities
4 to the circumstances that gave rise to the Holocaust,
5 and help youth be less susceptible to the falsehood
6 of Holocaust denial and distortion and to the de-
7 structive messages of hate that arise from Holocaust
8 denial and distortion.

9 (6) Currently, 12 States (California, Con-
10 necticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michi-
11 gan, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania,
12 and Rhode Island) require by law that schools teach
13 students about the Holocaust; more schools and
14 teachers, including those in underserved commu-
15 nities, can and should deliver quality Holocaust edu-
16 cation.

17 (7) For more than 30 years, the United States
18 Holocaust Memorial Museum has worked to build
19 and support the field of Holocaust education, and
20 advance the quality and sustainability of Holocaust
21 education at the local, State, and national levels, by
22 engaging teachers and students across disciplines
23 and grade levels.

24 (8) The Federal Government, through support
25 for educational activities of national museums estab-

1 lished under Federal law, can assist teachers in ef-
2 forts to incorporate historically accurate instruction
3 on human rights atrocities, including the Holocaust,
4 in curricula.

5 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this Act:

7 (1) **ANTISEMITISM.**—The term “antisemitism”
8 means a certain perception of Jews, which may be
9 expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and
10 physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed
11 toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals or their
12 property, toward Jewish community institutions and
13 religious facilities.

14 (2) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means
15 the Director of the United States Holocaust Memo-
16 rial Museum.

17 (3) **ELIGIBLE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT.**—The
18 term “eligible program participant” means—

19 (A) a high school teacher, a teacher of one
20 of the middle grades, or a school leader of a
21 high school or a school that includes one of the
22 middle grades (as such terms are defined in
23 section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary
24 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801));

1 (B) an educational leader or expert who is
2 not employed by a local educational agency (as
3 defined in section 8101 of the Elementary and
4 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
5 7801)) or an elementary school or secondary
6 school (as such terms are so defined) that is
7 independent of any local educational agency; or

8 (C) a prospective teacher enrolled in a pro-
9 gram of postsecondary education coursework or
10 preservice clinical education.

11 (4) HOLOCAUST.—The term “the Holocaust”
12 means the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored
13 persecution and murder of 6,000,000 Jews by the
14 Nazi regime and its allies and collaborators. During
15 the era of the Holocaust, German authorities also
16 targeted other groups because of their perceived “ra-
17 cial inferiority”, such as Roma, the disabled, and
18 Slavs. Other groups were persecuted on political,
19 ideological, and behavioral grounds, among them
20 Communists, Socialists, Jehovah’s Witnesses, and
21 homosexuals.

22 (5) HOLOCAUST DENIAL AND DISTORTION.—
23 The term “Holocaust denial and distortion” means
24 discourse and propaganda that deny the historical
25 reality and the extent of the extermination of the

1 Jews by the Nazis and their accomplices during
2 World War II, known as the Holocaust. Holocaust
3 denial refers specifically to any attempt to claim that
4 the Holocaust did not take place. Holocaust distor-
5 tion refers to efforts to excuse or minimize the
6 events of the Holocaust or its principal elements, in-
7 cluding collaborators and allies of Nazi Germany, to
8 blame the Jews for causing their own genocide, or
9 to portray the Holocaust as a positive historical
10 event.

11 (6) HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTER.—The
12 term “Holocaust education center” means an insti-
13 tution that furthers the teaching and learning about
14 the Holocaust by offering programs for students and
15 training for teachers and other types of professional
16 leadership audiences.

17 (7) HOLOCAUST EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The
18 term “Holocaust education program” means a pro-
19 gram that has as its specific and primary purpose
20 to improve awareness and understanding of the Hol-
21 ocaust and educate individuals on the lessons of the
22 Holocaust as a means to raise awareness about the
23 importance of preventing genocide, hate, and bigotry
24 against any group of people.

1 **SEC. 4. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

2 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
3 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act
4 \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2021 and each of the 4 suc-
5 ceeding fiscal years.

6 (b) DONATIONS, GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND DEVISES OF
7 PROPERTY.—In accordance with chapter 23 of title 36,
8 United States Code, and in furtherance of the purposes
9 of this Act, the Director is authorized to solicit, accept,
10 hold, administer, invest, and use donated funds and gifts,
11 bequests, and devises of property, both real and personal.

12 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—The Director, using funds ap-
13 propriated under subsection (a) and resources received
14 under subsection (b), and including through the engage-
15 ment of eligible program participants as appropriate—

16 (1) shall develop and nationally disseminate ac-
17 curate, relevant, and accessible resources to promote
18 understanding about how and why the Holocaust
19 happened, which shall include digital resources and
20 may include other types of resources, such as print
21 resources and traveling exhibitions; and

22 (2) may carry out one or more of the following
23 Holocaust education program activities:

24 (A) Development, dissemination, and im-
25 plementation of principles of sound pedagogy
26 for teaching about the Holocaust.

1 (B) Provision of professional development
2 for eligible program participants, such as
3 through—

4 (i) local, regional, and national work-
5 shops;

6 (ii) teacher trainings in conjunction
7 with Holocaust education centers and
8 other appropriate partners;

9 (iii) engagement with—

10 (I) local educational agencies (as
11 defined in section 8101 of the Ele-
12 mentary and Secondary Education
13 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 21 7801));
14 and

15 (II) high schools and schools that
16 include one of the middle grades (as
17 so defined) that are independent of
18 any local educational agency; and

19 (iv) operation and expansion of a
20 teacher fellowship program to cultivate and
21 support leaders in Holocaust education.

22 (C) Engagement with State and local edu-
23 cation leaders to encourage the adoption of re-
24 sources supported under this Act into curricula
25 across diverse disciplines.

1 (D) Evaluation and research to assess the
2 effectiveness and impact of Holocaust education
3 programs, which may include completion of the
4 report required under section 8.

5 (d) APPLICATIONS.—The Director may seek the en-
6 gagement of an eligible program participant under sub-
7 section (c) by requiring submission of an application to
8 the Director at such time, in such manner, and based on
9 such competitive criteria as the Director may require.

10 **SEC. 5. ONLINE HOLOCAUST EDUCATION RESOURCES.**

11 (a) WEBSITE.—The Director shall maintain on the
12 website of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
13 a special section designated for Holocaust education re-
14 sources to improve awareness and understanding of the
15 Holocaust and educate individuals on the lessons of the
16 Holocaust as a means to raise awareness about the impor-
17 tance of preventing genocide, hate, and bigotry against
18 any group of people. The website and resources shall be
19 made publically available.

20 (b) INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION.—The Director
21 shall distribute information about the activities funded
22 under this Act through the website of the United States
23 Holocaust Memorial Museum, and shall respond to inquir-
24 ies for supplementary information concerning such activi-
25 ties.

1 (c) BEST PRACTICES.—The information distributed
2 by the Director shall include best practices for educators.

3 **SEC. 6. UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL.**

4 The United States Holocaust Memorial Council es-
5 tablished under section 2302 of title 36, United States
6 Code, shall have governance responsibility for the pro-
7 grams and activities carried out under this Act in accord-
8 ance with chapter 23 of title 36, United States Code.

9 **SEC. 7. ENGAGEMENT OF ELIGIBLE PROGRAM PARTICI-**
10 **PANTS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—An eligible program participant
12 shall be engaged at the discretion of the Director to par-
13 ticipate in Holocaust education program activities author-
14 ized under this Act and approved by the Director pursuant
15 to an application described in section 4(d).

16 (b) ENGAGEMENT PERIOD.—Engagement of eligible
17 program participants under this Act shall be for a period
18 determined by the Director.

19 (c) PRIORITY.—In engaging eligible program partici-
20 pants under section 4, the Director shall give priority to
21 applications from such participants who work for or with
22 a local educational agency, or a school that is independent
23 of any local educational agency, that does not, at the time
24 application is made, offer any Holocaust education pro-
25 gramming.

1 **SEC. 8. ANNUAL REPORT.**

2 Not later than February 1 of each year, the Director
3 shall submit to the Congress a report describing the activi-
4 ties carried out under this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives January 27,
2020.

Attest:

Clerk.

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