

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9608

To ensure the Department of Health and Human Services will manage family engagement programs for elementary and secondary education, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 9, 2026

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To ensure the Department of Health and Human Services will manage family engagement programs for elementary and secondary education, 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 “Less Bureaucracy,
5 Better Family Engagement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FUNC-**
7 **TIONS RELATING TO FAMILY ENGAGEMENT.**

8 There are transferred to the Secretary of Health and
9 Human Services all the functions which the Secretary of

1 Education exercised before the effective date of this Act
2 (including all related functions of any officer or employee
3 of the Department of Education) with respect to each of
4 the following:

5 (1) Family Engagement in Education Programs
6 authorized under part E of title IV of the Elemen-
7 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
8 U.S.C. 7241 et seq.).

9 (2) The Community Support for School Success
10 program authorized under subpart 2 of part F of
11 title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education
12 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7271 et seq.).

13 (3) National Activities for School Safety pro-
14 gram authorized under subpart 3 of part F of title
15 IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
16 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7281).

17 (4) The Ready to Learn Programming Grant
18 program authorized under section 4643 of the Ele-
19 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
20 U.S.C. 7293).

21 **SEC. 3. EXERCISE OF AUTHORITIES.**

22 Except as otherwise provided by law, the Secretary
23 of Health and Human Services may, for purposes of per-
24 forming a function transferred under this Act, exercise all
25 authorities under any other provision of law that were

1 available with respect to the performance of that function
2 to the Secretary of Education immediately before the ef-
3 fective date of the transfer of the function under this Act.

4 **SEC. 4. TRANSFER AND ALLOCATIONS OF APPROPRIA-**
5 **TIONS AND PERSONNEL.**

6 Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the per-
7 sonnel employed in connection with, and the assets, liabil-
8 ities, contracts, property, records, and unexpended bal-
9 ances of appropriations, authorizations, allocations, and
10 other funds employed, used, held, arising from, available
11 to, or to be made available in connection with the func-
12 tions transferred under this Act, subject to section 1531
13 of title 31, United States Code, shall be transferred to the
14 Secretary of Health and Human Services. Unexpended
15 funds transferred pursuant to this section shall be used
16 only for the purposes for which the funds were originally
17 authorized and appropriated.

18 **SEC. 5. AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MAN-**
19 **AGEMENT AND BUDGET WITH RESPECT TO**
20 **FUNCTIONS TRANSFERRED.**

21 (a) PERSONNEL DETERMINATIONS.—The Director of
22 the Office of Management and Budget shall ensure that
23 this Act does not result in a net increase in full-time equiv-
24 alent employees at the Federal agencies impacted by this

1 Act, based on the number of such employees at such agen-
2 cies on the date of enactment of this Act.

3 (b) FUNCTION DETERMINATIONS.—If necessary, the
4 Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall
5 make any determination of the functions that are trans-
6 ferred under this Act.

7 (c) INCIDENTAL TRANSFERS.—The Director of the
8 Office of Management and Budget, at such time or times
9 as the Director shall provide, may make such determina-
10 tions as may be necessary with regard to the functions
11 transferred by this Act, and to make such additional inci-
12 dental dispositions of personnel, assets, liabilities, grants,
13 contracts, property, records, and unexpended balances of
14 appropriations, authorizations, allocations, and other
15 funds held, used, arising from, available to, or to be made
16 available in connection with such functions, as may be nec-
17 essary to carry out the provisions of this Act. The Director
18 shall provide for the termination of the affairs of all enti-
19 ties terminated by this Act and for such further measures
20 and dispositions as may be necessary to effectuate the pur-
21 poses of this Act.

22 (d) CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE.—On the effec-
23 tive date of this Act, the Director of the Office of Manage-
24 ment and Budget shall certify compliance with this Act,
25 including the requirement under subsection (a), to the

1 Committee on Education and Workforce of the House of
2 Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education,
3 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

4 **SEC. 6. DELEGATION AND ASSIGNMENT.**

5 Except as otherwise expressly prohibited by law or
6 otherwise provided in this Act, the Secretary of Health
7 and Human Services may delegate any of the functions
8 so transferred to such officers and employees of the De-
9 partment of Health and Human Services as the Secretary
10 may designate, and may authorize successive redelegations
11 of such functions as may be necessary or appropriate. No
12 delegation of functions under this section or under any
13 other provision of this Act shall relieve the Secretary of
14 Health and Human Services of responsibility for the ad-
15 ministration of the function.

16 **SEC. 7. REFERENCES.**

17 With regard to functions transferred under section 2,
18 a reference in any other Federal law, Executive order,
19 rule, regulation, or delegation of authority, or any docu-
20 ment of or relating to—

21 (1) the Secretary of Education shall be deemed
22 to refer to the Secretary of Health and Human
23 Services; and

1 (2) the Department of Education shall be
2 deemed to refer to the Department of Health and
3 Human Services.

4 **SEC. 8. SAVINGS PROVISIONS.**

5 (a) **LEGAL DOCUMENTS.**—All orders, determinations,
6 rules, regulations, permits, grants, loans, contracts, agree-
7 ments, certificates, licenses, and privileges—

8 (1) that have been issued, made, granted, or al-
9 lowed to become effective by the President, any Fed-
10 eral agency or official thereof, or by a court of com-
11 petent jurisdiction, in the performance of any func-
12 tion that is transferred by this Act, and

13 (2) that are in effect on the effective date of
14 such transfer (or become effective after such date
15 pursuant to their terms as in effect on such effective
16 date),

17 shall continue in effect according to their terms until
18 modified, terminated, superseded, set aside, or revoked in
19 accordance with law by the President, the Secretary of
20 Health and Human Services, any other authorized official,
21 a court of competent jurisdiction, or operation of law.

22 (b) **PROCEEDINGS.**—This Act shall not affect any
23 proceedings or any application for any benefits, service,
24 license, permit, certificate, or financial assistance pending
25 on the date of the enactment of this Act before the De-

1 partment of Education (with respect to functions trans-
2 ferred by this Act). Such proceedings and applications
3 shall continue, orders shall be issued in such proceedings,
4 appeals shall be taken therefrom, and payments shall be
5 made pursuant to such orders, as if this Act had not been
6 enacted, and orders issued in any such proceeding shall
7 continue in effect until modified, terminated, superseded,
8 or revoked by a duly authorized official, by a court of com-
9 petent jurisdiction, or by operation of law. Nothing in this
10 subsection shall be considered to prohibit the discontinu-
11 ance or modification of any such proceeding under the
12 same terms and conditions and to the same extent that
13 such proceeding could have been discontinued or modified
14 if this Act had not been enacted.

15 (c) SUITS.—Except as provided in subsection (e)—

16 (1) this Act shall not affect suits commenced
17 before the effective date of this Act; and

18 (2) in all such suits, proceeding shall be had,
19 appeals taken, and judgments rendered in the same
20 manner and with the same effect as if this Act had
21 not been enacted.

22 (d) NONABATEMENT OF ACTIONS.—No suit, action,
23 or other proceeding commenced by or against the Depart-
24 ment of Education (with respect to the functions trans-
25 ferred by this Act), or by or against any individual in the

1 official capacity of such individual as an officer or em-
2 ployee of the Department of Education (with regard to
3 functions transferred by this Act), shall abate by reason
4 of the enactment of this Act.

5 (e) CONTINUANCE OF SUITS.—If, before the date on
6 which a transfer of a function under this Act takes effect,
7 the Secretary of Education or any officer or employee of
8 the Department of Education in the official capacity as
9 such an officer or employee is party to a suit relating to
10 the function, then such suit shall be continued and the
11 Secretary of Health and Human Services, or other appro-
12 priate official of the Department of Health and Human
13 Services, shall be substituted or added as a party.

14 (f) ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE AND JUDICIAL RE-
15 VIEW.—Except as otherwise provided by this Act, any
16 statutory requirements relating to notice, hearings, action
17 upon the record, or administrative or judicial review that
18 apply to any function transferred by this Act shall apply
19 to the exercise of such function by the Secretary of Health
20 and Human Services, and other officers of the Depart-
21 ment of Health and Human Services, to which such func-
22 tion is transferred by this Act.

23 **SEC. 9. TRANSITION.**

24 Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the
25 Secretary of Health and Human Services is authorized to

1 use, for such period of time as may reasonably be needed
2 to facilitate the orderly implementation of this Act—

3 (1) the services of officers, employees, and other
4 personnel of the Department of Education with re-
5 gard to functions transferred under this Act;

6 (2) assets of the Department of Education with
7 regard to such functions; and

8 (3) funds appropriated to such functions.

9 **SEC. 10. DEFINITION OF FUNCTION.**

10 For purposes of this Act, the term “function” in-
11 cludes any duty, obligation, power, authority, responsi-
12 bility, right, privilege, activity, or program.

13 **SEC. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

14 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in section 9,
15 this Act shall take effect 6 months after the date of enact-
16 ment of this Act.

17 (b) **EARLY IMPLEMENTATION.**—Notwithstanding
18 subsection (a), transfers of functions under section 2 or
19 any other provision of this Act (other than section 9) may
20 be carried out beginning on the date of enactment of this
21 Act but not later than the effective date of this Act.

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