

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5735

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose their emergency response and evacuation procedures.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2008

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. ETHERIDGE, and Mr. POE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose their emergency response and evacuation procedures.

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 “Virginia Tech Victims
5 Campus Emergency Response Policy and Notification
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DISCLOSURE OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND**
2 **EVACUATION PROCEDURES.**

3 (a) AMENDMENT.—Section 485(f)(1) of the Higher
4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(1)) is amended
5 by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

6 “(J) A statement of current campus poli-
7 cies regarding immediate emergency response
8 and evacuation procedures, including the use of
9 electronic and cellular communication (if appro-
10 priate), which shall include procedures—

11 “(i) to activate notification procedures
12 for students and employees in not more
13 than 30 minutes after campus security au-
14 thorities confirm, or State or local law en-
15 forcement agencies report and confirm to
16 campus security authorities, that an emer-
17 gency exists on campus or public property;

18 “(ii) to publicize emergency response
19 and evacuation procedures on an annual
20 basis in a manner designed to reach stu-
21 dents and staff; and

22 “(iii) to test emergency response and
23 evacuation procedures on an annual
24 basis.”.

25 (b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall promulgate
26 regulations regarding the requirements applicable to an

1 institution of higher education under section 485(f)(1)(J)
2 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (as added by sub-
3 section (a)) not later than April 1, 2009.

4 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
5 subsection (a) shall take effect with respect to any annual
6 security report under section 485(f)(1) of the Higher Edu-
7 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(1)) prepared by
8 an institution of higher education in calendar year 2009
9 and any subsequent calendar year.

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