

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4008

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to prohibit Federal mandates, direction, or control of specific instructional content, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 6, 2014

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to prohibit Federal mandates, direction, or control of specific instructional content, 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 “Educational Freedom
5 Act of 2014”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST FEDERAL MANDATES, DI-**
2 **RECTION, OR CONTROL.**

3 Subpart 2 of part E of title IX of the Elementary
4 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7901
5 et seq.) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating sections 9534, 9535, and
7 9536 (20 U.S.C. 7914, 7915, and 7916), as sections
8 9535, 9536, and 9537, respectively; and

9 (2) by inserting after section 9533 (20 U.S.C.
10 7913) the following:

11 **“SEC. 9534. PROHIBITION AGAINST FEDERAL MANDATES,**
12 **DIRECTION, OR CONTROL.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—No officer or employee of the
14 Federal Government shall, directly or indirectly, through
15 grants, contracts, or other cooperative agreements, man-
16 date, direct, incentivize, or control a State’s, local edu-
17 cational agency’s, or school’s specific instructional content,
18 academic standards and assessments, curricula, or pro-
19 gram of instruction (including through any requirement,
20 direction, incentive, or mandate to adopt the Common
21 Core State Standards developed under the Common Core
22 State Standards Initiative or any other academic stand-
23 ards common to a significant number of States) nor shall
24 any provision of this Act be construed to authorize such
25 an officer or employee to do so.

1 “(b) FINANCIAL SUPPORT.—No officer or employee
2 of the Federal Government shall, directly or indirectly,
3 through grants, contracts, or other cooperative agree-
4 ments, make financial support available in a manner that
5 is conditioned upon a State’s, local educational agency’s,
6 or school’s adoption of specific instructional content, aca-
7 demic standards and assessments, curriculum, or program
8 of instruction (including any requirement, direction, or
9 mandate to adopt the Common Core State Standards de-
10 veloped under the Common Core State Standards Initia-
11 tive, any other academic standards common to a signifi-
12 cant number of States, or any assessment, instructional
13 content, or curriculum aligned to such standards) even if
14 such requirements are specified in an Act other than this
15 Act, nor shall any provision of this Act be construed to
16 authorize such an officer or employee to do so.”.

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