

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8164

To establish a Higher Education Initiative in the Office of Private Sector
of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

Mr. BARR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish a Higher Education Initiative in the Office
of Private Sector of the Federal Bureau of Investigation,
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 “Higher Education Re-
5 search Protection Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION INITIA-**
7 **TIVE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 33 of title 28, United
9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing:

1 **“§ 540D. Higher Education Initiative**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the
3 Office of Private Sector of the Intelligence Branch of the
4 Federal Bureau of Investigation a Higher Education Ini-
5 tiative, which shall be headed by the Assistant Director
6 of the Office of Private Sector (in this Act referred to as
7 ‘the Assistant Director’).

8 “(b) DUTIES.—

9 “(1) ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DUTIES.—The As-
10 sistant Director shall investigate and report to the
11 Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation any
12 suspected incidents of individuals participating in
13 federally funded research as agents of a foreign gov-
14 ernment in institutions of higher education and Na-
15 tional Academies.

16 “(2) DIRECTOR DUTIES.—The Director of the
17 Federal Bureau of Investigation shall instruct Fed-
18 eral Bureau of Investigation field offices to conduct
19 proactive outreach to institutions of higher education
20 and National Academies within the office’s area of
21 responsibility.

22 “(c) FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICAL PROGRAM AC-
23 CESS.—For the purpose of carrying out the duties de-
24 scribed in subsection (b), the Federal Bureau of Investiga-
25 tion shall have full access to any information collected by

1 the Foreign Trade Statistical Program of the Bureau of
2 the Census.

3 “(d) **HIRING.**—The Attorney General, acting through
4 the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, shall
5 hire 56 investigative agents to carry out this section.

6 “(e) **DEFINITION.**—In this section:

7 “(1) **FOREIGN GOVERNMENT.**—The term ‘for-
8 eign government’ includes the People’s Republic of
9 China or any component thereof, including the Chi-
10 nese Communist Party, the Central Committee of
11 the Communist Party of China, the Central Military
12 Commission of China, the Chinese People’s Political
13 Consultative Conference, the National People’s Con-
14 gress of China, or the State Council of China.

15 “(2) **HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The term ‘institu-
16 tion of higher education’ has the meaning given the
17 term in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act
18 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

19 “(3) **NATIONAL ACADEMIES.**—The term ‘Na-
20 tional Academies’ means the National Academies of
21 Science, Engineering, and Medicine.”.

22 (b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections
23 for chapter 33 of title 28, United States Code, is amended
24 by adding at the end the following:

“540D. Higher Education Initiative.”.

