

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6428

To require the Secretary of State to submit a report on participation in educational and cultural exchange programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 4, 2025

Mr. BERA (for himself and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of State to submit a report on participation in educational and cultural exchange programs.

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. PROMOTING UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL**
4 **AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.**

5 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
6 gress that—

7 (1) Congress recognizes the critical role of
8 international exchange and study abroad programs
9 in advancing United States national security inter-
10 ests, strengthening diplomatic ties, and fostering

1 global leadership skills among emerging leaders, par-
2 ticularly in regions vital to United States strategic
3 interests;

4 (2) educational and cultural exchange programs
5 are critical soft power tools for building influence
6 with the next generation of leaders in partner na-
7 tions;

8 (3) the People's Republic of China is actively
9 deploying such programs to expand its influence;
10 and

11 (4) the United States must expand and
12 strengthen its own exchange programs to maintain
13 and advance United States strategic interests glob-
14 ally.

15 (b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and
18 every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary of State shall
19 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
20 a report that includes—

21 (A) a list, disaggregated by country, of the
22 number of individuals who participated in edu-
23 cational or cultural exchange programs spon-
24 sored or funded by the People's Republic of
25 China in the previous year;

1 (B) a list, disaggregated by country, of the
2 number of individuals who participated in a
3 program described in paragraph (2) in the pre-
4 vious year;

5 (C) in coordination with the Monitoring,
6 Evaluation, Learning, and Innovation Unit, for
7 each program described in paragraph (2)—

8 (i) the amount of funds provided by
9 the United States for the program;

10 (ii) the number of participants in the
11 program;

12 (iii) the number of cohorts in the pro-
13 gram;

14 (iv) the countries of origin of the par-
15 ticipants in the program;

16 (v) the ages of the participants in the
17 program;

18 (vi) the percent of participants in the
19 program who reported a more favorable
20 opinion of the United States Government
21 following participation in the program;

22 (vii) the percent of foreign partici-
23 pants who traveled to the United States
24 for the first time during the program;

1 (viii) the percent of foreign partici-
2 pants who reported that they are more
3 likely to recommend the United States as
4 a good place to study following participa-
5 tion in the program;

6 (ix) the percent of foreign participants
7 who reported a more favorable opinion of
8 United States citizens following participa-
9 tion in the program;

10 (x) the percent of foreign participants
11 who reported an increased understanding
12 of United States culture and values as a
13 result of participation in the program;

14 (xi) the percent of participants who
15 agreed with statements in support of
16 democratic values following participation in
17 the program;

18 (xii) the percent of foreign partici-
19 pants who reported an increased network
20 of United States citizens as a result of par-
21 ticipation in the program; and

22 (xiii) the percent of participants who
23 reported that they understand that the
24 program they participated in is a Depart-
25 ment of State program;

1 (D) an assessment of trends of participa-
2 tion in the programs described in subparagraph
3 (A) and paragraph (2) and an analysis of the
4 implications of such trends for United States
5 diplomatic and strategic interests; and

6 (E) an analysis of the impact of such pro-
7 grams on the diplomatic standing and strategic
8 influence of the United States and the People's
9 Republic of China in each respective country.

10 (2) PROGRAMS DESCRIBED.—The programs de-
11 scribed in this paragraph are the following:

12 (A) The Fulbright Program.

13 (B) The Young African Leaders Initiative,
14 including the Mandela Washington Fellowship.

15 (C) The Young Southeast Asian Leaders
16 Initiative.

17 (D) The Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange
18 and Study Program.

19 (E) The Future Leaders Exchange Pro-
20 gram.

21 (F) Any educational or cultural exchange
22 program sponsored or funded by the United
23 States that was previously included in a report
24 required by paragraph (1).

1 (G) In the case of any report required by
2 paragraph (1) submitted after the first such re-
3 port, not fewer than 10 educational or cultural
4 exchange programs sponsored or funded by the
5 United States that have not been included in a
6 previous such report.

7 (3) FORM.—The reports required in this sub-
8 section shall be submitted in an unclassified form,
9 but may include a classified annex.

10 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
11 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
12 sional committees” means—

13 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
14 House of Representatives; and

15 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
16 Senate.

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