

The Harbor Beach Pirates took home their second State championship in football. Never trailing in the game, they won 31-20 at Ford Field in Detroit, and, I might add, they had a perfect 14-0 season.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Coach Schelke and his talented young group of men on their incredible accomplishment at Ford Field. They have made Michigan's Ninth District proud. I really hope they cherish this memory and all of the hard work that they dedicated this season. I again congratulate the Harbor Beach Pirates.

#### HONORING FRED DURHAL, JR.

(Ms. TLAIB asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend, Fred Durhal, Jr. He was a former colleague and a remarkable public servant who devoted decades of his life to fighting for Detroiters.

Throughout his years in the Michigan statehouse and as the chair of the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus, Fred carried with him passion, courage, and a deep commitment to public service. He was so kindhearted.

From his advocacy for working families to his dedication to mentoring the next generation of leaders, Fred truly helped shape our communities and uplift countless lives. His impact can be seen in the people he guided, the change that he championed, and the lives he inspired.

I join our community in mourning his passing during this difficult time and send my deepest condolences to his family, his children, and all who were touched by his life.

Mr. Speaker, may his legacy continue to live in the city he loved so dearly, and may he rest in peace.

#### RECOGNIZING ARMY CONGRESSIONAL FELLOW ANDREW GEORGE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to recognize Army congressional fellow Captain Andrew "Andy" George for his service to America and the citizens of South Carolina.

Throughout his dedication to the office, Andy has been a valued team member for legislation supporting the military and veterans.

After graduating from Virginia Tech, Andy served in leadership positions within the 101st Airborne Division, including deployment to Syria with Operation Inherent Resolve. Andy later served as a special operational detachment commander for multinational exercises in Central and South America. Impressively, Andy is a White House military social aide.

The only unfortunate quality about this Massachusetts native is that he is a fan of the New England Patriots.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstituting peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting Trump, and mocking Trump envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner in Moscow today as Putin threatens expanded war in Europe.

□ 1210

#### GOBBLE AND WADDLE

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Thanksgiving brought families together to enjoy delicious meals and some of us are still recovering.

There were two fortunate turkeys, one named "Gobble," the other "Waddle," from Travis and Amanda Pittman's farm in Wayne County, North Carolina, and they were selected for a Presidential pardon.

They went on a journey from the East to the White House. They even stayed at The Willard InterContinental hotel and now at North Carolina State University.

Although, Gobble and Waddle survived the dinner table, they shine a light on the dedication of our agriculture community and the hard work that is taking place with companies such as Butterball and the National Turkey Federation.

Farmers allow for these longstanding traditions, and we must never forget it. Let us take a moment to recognize eastern North Carolina farmers and those across our country.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud to honor the Pittmans and Gobble and Waddle as they strut their stuff now with the Wolfpack.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by Speaker Johnson on Wednesday, December 3, 2025:

H.R. 970, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to periodically review the automatic maximum coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program and the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program, and for other purposes;

H.R. 983, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disapprove courses of education offered by a public institution of higher learning that does not charge the in-State tuition rate to a veteran using certain educational assistance under title 10 of such Code, and for other purposes;

H.R. 1912, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the repayment

by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of benefits misused by a fiduciary, and for other purposes;

H.J. Res. 130, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment".

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 3, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2702, I hereby appoint as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress the following person: Mr. Benjamin Francis-Fallon, Washington, DC.

With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,  
Clerk.

#### COMBATING THE LIES OF AUTHORITARIANS IN SCHOOL SYSTEMS ACT

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 916, I call up the bill (H.R. 1005) to prohibit elementary and secondary schools from accepting funds from or entering into contracts with the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 916, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Workforce, printed in the bill, is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 1005

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Combating the Lies of Authoritarians in School Systems Act" or the "CLASS Act".*

#### SEC. 2. DISCLOSURE OF FOREIGN FUNDING AND CONTRACTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on receipt of Federal financial assistance under any applicable program by a public elementary school or a public secondary school, the school, not later than 30 days after receiving funds in excess of \$10,000 in the aggregate from a foreign source, or entering into one or more contracts with an aggregate value in excess of \$10,000 with a foreign source, shall submit to the Secretary of Education a written disclosure that identifies—

(1) the name and country of origin of the foreign source;

(2) in a case in which a school receives funds from a foreign source—

(A) the amount of funds received from that source; and

(B) any terms or conditions applicable to the receipt of such funds; and

(3) in a case in which a school enters into a contract with a foreign source, the terms and conditions of such contract.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “applicable program” has the meaning given that term in section 400 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1221).

(2) The terms “elementary school” and “secondary school” have the meanings given those terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(3) The term “Federal financial assistance” has the meaning given that term in section 7501(a)(5) of title 31, United States Code.

(4) The term “foreign source” has the meaning given that term in section 117(h) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1011f(h)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Workforce or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 1005.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1005.

For much of the 20th century, the United States bravely confronted the threat of communism worldwide.

As the Soviet Union oppressed its own people and extended its influence abroad, countless Americans dedicated their lives to stopping the spread of repressive ideology.

In 1987, President Reagan famously called on Secretary Gorbachev to “tear down this wall” at the Brandenburg Gate. A few short years later, the Berlin Wall fell, the Soviet Union collapsed, and democracy gained ground across the globe.

In the years that followed, democracy and Western values flourished, but authoritarian regimes like the Chinese Communist Party have chosen repression over freedom, indoctrinating their citizens to embrace socialism and communism, ideals fundamentally opposed to American values of liberty, freedom, and self-determination.

Now, we are seeing those same authoritarian efforts reach into our classrooms. While some are now closed, the

CCP established Confucius Institutes on college campuses and Confucius classrooms in K–12 schools, funding programs with untold dollars. Marketed as cultural exchanges to teach Chinese language and culture, these classrooms are in reality beachheads in the war for young minds.

That is why I am proud to support H.R. 1005, the Combating the Lies of Authoritarians in School Systems, known as the CLASS Act, from Representative DAVID JOYCE and Representative MICHAEL RULLI. It is an important piece of legislation requiring schools to disclose any funding or contracts received from foreign entities above a nominal threshold.

For too long, schools have allowed foreign adversaries to funnel propaganda into classrooms, propaganda that rewrites history and undermines American values. These programs are funded and directed by the CCP’s propaganda arm, targeting children for indoctrination.

No lesson from an authoritarian regime comes without strings attached. The CCP seeks to shape American students’ views of communism and tyranny, softening opinions toward authoritarianism, and potentially fostering replication of those same ideas here.

Already, we see these influences on college campuses. Instead of free speech and open debate, we see censorship. Instead of independent thought, we see indoctrination.

This is why we must pass the CLASS Act. Confucius classrooms and similar programs pose real risks to both national and academic security while promoting authoritarianism over freedom and democracy.

As the saying goes, sunlight is the best disinfectant. Greater transparency in education will reveal where school funds come from and whether foreign adversaries are exploiting financial ties to influence students.

By requiring disclosure, we protect American values, strengthen national security, and ensure our children learn what is right, not what our adversaries dictate.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1220

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1005, the Combating the Lies of Authoritarians in School Systems Act.

This bill would compel schools to implement new reporting mechanisms, monitoring procedures, and compliance structures despite the complete absence of any factual verified threats.

Under current law, K–12 schools are not required to report funding from foreign governments or contracts with foreign entities, as most school funding comes from local property taxes, State formulas, and a little bit from the Federal Government. This bill would require schools to report funding from or contracts with a foreign source.

Let’s be clear. There is no evidence that K–12 schools are under any threat from misinformation or covert influence by authoritarian foreign governments in any measurable way.

If passed, school districts already facing shortages of teachers, counselors, and support staff now will have to divert critical time and resources from instruction to completing bureaucratic paperwork, like what qualifies as a foreign source and who qualifies as a foreign source. Schools have got to have professional development, so every school principal and superintendent knows exactly who needs to be reported and how.

Confucius Institutes were mentioned. We have got 15,000 school systems that will have to comply with this bill. Five Confucius Institute classrooms have been found to exist in the United States at last count. Mr. Speaker, 15,000 school systems are going to have to put up with this paperwork. This is the very definition of unfunded mandate and imposes obligations without offering the capacity or funding to meet the mandate.

Instead of strengthening our school system, it distracts from the urgent challenges our schools are facing, such as widening achievement gaps, as reflected in the latest National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, the NAEP scores, and the growing difficulty of recruiting and retaining quality educators.

Let me underscore the broader point. My colleagues across the aisle have remained silent as the administration has dismantled or is in the process of dismantling the Department of Education, undermining its legitimacy, capacity, and effectiveness. Most recently, the administration announced plans to move six interagency agreements which would offload core functions of the Department of Education and spread them across other Federal agencies.

Yet this bill assigns additional responsibilities to what is left of the Department of Education. It simply doesn’t add up. Who will be left in the Department of Education to enforce these mandates?

For these reasons, H.R. 1005 does nothing to improve our schools and everything to bog down schools in administrative red tape. I strongly recommend a “no” vote.

Mr. Speaker, I inform the chairman that I have no additional speakers. I reserve the balance of my time until closing.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RULLI), the bill’s co-lead. I say that as a gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. RULLI. Mr. Speaker, especially after last weekend, I take a second to thank the chairman for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, the CLASS Act prohibits K–12 schools from accepting funds or contracting with the People’s Republic of China or the CCP. Let’s just let that sink in for a second. My

honorable friend on the other side of the aisle is literally defending the Chinese to invade our schools. That is what this is about.

It will also prohibit any person or entity acting on behalf of other such governments or parties. It also requires K-12 schools to submit a report to the Secretary of Education with the name and country of origin, the amount of funds that are being put into our public schools, and any terms of that contract.

The CCP is anti-American to its core. We stand for freedom of speech, expression, and religion. They stand for none of our values. Confucius classrooms are propaganda, and they are often set up near our military bases, just to give it another layer.

There are CCP and Chinese affiliations in 143 schools throughout this country. Honorable Speaker, I was shocked myself to realize that one of them sits right outside our capital city of Columbus, Ohio. This is unacceptable.

They could be coming to a school near you very soon. That is why I urge a "yes" vote from all my colleagues, especially from the other side of the aisle. We do not want them to be labeled as pro-Chinese, but as pro-American.

This is not going to have a lot of cost that will be put onto a school district. I was a school board member. This bill contains very, very few requirements to actually log in and say where this money is coming from.

I urge a "yes" vote today on H.R. 1005, otherwise known as the CLASS Act.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE), the bill's sponsor. As a Member coming from the Wolverine State, I congratulate him on Saturday's victory.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I thank my distinguished colleague from the State of Michigan for yielding. He certainly is a class act.

I am proud to join my friend Representative RULLI in supporting this effort to protect our children and national security from dangerous foreign actors.

For years, China has been attempting to exert soft power over our country by forging ties with American schools and universities. In an attempt to influence our future generation, the People's Republic of China has been establishing Confucius classrooms in our K-12 public schools. Styled as language and cultural programs, these classes and their teachers are funded and vetted by the Chinese Government, a fact that is rarely disclosed to the parents.

A report from Parents Defending Education revealed that over 140 K-12 schools across the country had contracts with a Chinese Government entity. Attached to these contracts are a variety of incentives, including fully

funded teacher exchanges, Chinese language programs, and opportunities for American students to learn in China.

However, this funding comes with strings attached. These teachers could also be terminated if the CCP deems that they violate Chinese laws or go against the national interest of China.

The CLASS Act combats this foreign interference by preventing our public schools from accepting these funds. It also ensures that the Department of Education will be notified of these contracts.

As China seeks greater influence in education across the globe, we should take commonsense steps to protect our children and maintain the integrity of the U.S. system of schools.

These Confucius classrooms are just another example of the CCP trying to exert influence outside their borders. The fact that they are targeting our kids should be a significant cause for concern.

That is why I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and demonstrate that Congress will always fight to protect our children and national security.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is not limited to China. This bill says "foreign source," and under the definition of foreign source, it includes any individual who is not a U.S. citizen or national of the United States, so if you have a plumbing contract over \$10,000, you have got to check out the owner of the plumbing company's citizenship to know whether you have to document and report the contract.

Every one of the 15,000 school systems, every school, every contract over \$10,000, you have got to report, and you have to ascertain the citizenship of who you are contracting with. I don't know how you do that. If you order something over the internet, you have got to check out somebody's citizenship. I don't know how you comply, but that is just a little gap in the bill.

Every school system, every school would have to comply with this. It is just not China. It is any person who is not a citizen or national of the United States.

□ 1230

Mr. Speaker, there is actually no credible evidence that this bill is even needed. We are under no threat of misinformation or covert influence by authoritarian foreign governments.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the bill. This bill does nothing to improve our schools, close the achievement gaps, or increase teacher pay. It burdens schools with bureaucratic red tape due to imagined covert influence from foreign governments.

It is so broad that it covers every contract over \$10,000. If we don't know the citizenship of the other side, I don't know how we find out the citizenship of the other side.

We have real issues that we need to address, and we should address those

issues. For those reasons, I urge a "no" vote, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1005, the CLASS Act, is a critical step in limiting foreign influence in our classrooms. Too often, foreign funding comes with strings attached—maybe in every case—especially when those dollars come from adversaries like the Chinese Communist Party.

Students deserve strong education without indoctrination. I would hope my esteemed colleagues on the other side of the aisle would agree with me on that. Cultural exchange is valuable, but it should never mean sitting through lessons created by the CCP propagandists attempting to rewrite history and change our minds.

Our classrooms are becoming front lines in a battle of ideas, and the CLASS Act provides the transparency needed to protect our students and uphold American values. Students deserve better than indoctrination. That is why we must pass the CLASS Act, send it to the Senate, and, ultimately, to the President's desk, defending both our children and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Representatives JOYCE and RULLI, for their clear-eyed attention to this important and credible concern, and I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 916, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### TRANSPARENCY IN REPORTING OF ADVERSARIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION ACT

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, Pursuant to House Resolution 916, I call up the bill (H.R. 1049) to ensure that parents are aware of foreign influence in their child's public school, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 916, the