

□ 1250

My Democrat colleagues are correct that the known number of Confucius classrooms has declined after attention from media and advocacy groups increased, including from Congress, but that doesn't prove the CCP threat is gone.

There are 500 Chinese Communist Party-affiliated Chinese nationals—I say “affiliated” because they are required when coming over to work in a new production center in my district that will be opened up very soon by a major corporation. These 500 employees have signed a contractual agreement with the Chinese Communist Party to provide any information back to China that they come up with. Who knows what type of influence will take place within 15 minutes of a National Guard base and a key drone wing of the United States military.

These are concerns that we ought to have, but this doesn't prove that we have done enough yet. I think what we have seen causes us to be concerned about what is taking place. It may be that the CCP has found more covert ways to influence our schools. Schools may still be making contracts with CCP entities. If not, great. We will find that out, just without easily identifiable keywords such as “Confucius,” but what else will take place. That is why we need these bills.

Under these bills, schools must avoid contracting with the CCP or its agents. Schools must report gifts from or contracts with foreign governments, and resources must be available for parents to review.

We know this can go on right now. We know contracts are undertaken with all of our school districts now. We know that the lawyers on staff have means by which to make sure that the appropriate t's are crossed and i's are dotted. They can follow the law. We must do that.

Advocacy groups, such as Defending Education, have done tremendous work to ensure we know about the CCP's influence, but it shouldn't take a third-party nonprofit to tell us who is teaching our children.

The CCP remains a threat to American interests. I have no doubt that they would still like to indoctrinate American children and teachers, and that is why we must be vigilant and pass these bills.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MOOLENAAR), who is also the chairman of the Select Committee on the CCP.

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for this time.

China is our Nation's greatest adversary, and it seeks to harm our country on a daily basis. It thrives in the shadows. It uses fantanyl precursors, predatory trade practices, and cyberattacks to hurt us.

China also uses informational warfare, and it would love to influence what American students learn in classrooms, from kindergarten through college.

The CCP uses our free and open society against us, bankrolling civil organizations with nice-sounding names to sponsor exchange programs and curriculums that hide the truth about China.

Earlier this year, my committee highlighted how Montgomery County in Maryland has sent 31 students to China on a trip paid for by the People's Republic of China. That is just one example of why the legislation the House is considering this week is urgently needed.

The CCP does not want Americans to learn about the horrific Cultural Revolution in their history classes. It does not want young Americans to know that it slaughtered innocent students at Tiananmen Square, nor does it want students to learn about the CCP's ongoing Uyghur genocide and the slave labor that affects the supply chains of clothes and other products they use every day.

Parents may think the Chinese Communist Party isn't interested in what their kids are learning, but the CCP wants to influence every American.

These bills will empower parents, protect students from Chinese propaganda, and shine a light on how China tries to influence our education system.

I thank my colleagues for their work on this legislation and my good friend Chairman WALBERG from Michigan for moving the bills through the committee and bringing them to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for the bills.

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

Mr. Speaker, if there was real evidence of influence, I think we would have heard specifically what that evidence is. We haven't.

My colleagues keep talking about China, about the Confucius Institute. At last count, there were only five active programs in 15,000 school divisions. There used to be more. There are only about five now.

This bill is going to be hard to manage. It is difficult, if not impossible, to easily access the most recent list of foreign entities of concern.

As we have pointed out, this bill doesn't talk about China. It talks about foreign entities of concern. That list can change without notice. In fact, the most recent list from the Department of State has 91 listings, 12 added since Labor Day of this year. Good luck to those 15,000 superintendents who have to keep up with that list, with the added problem that the Departments of Energy and the Treasury also keep separate lists. Those 15,000 superintendents have to keep up with those lists, too.

At its core, this is just another unfunded mandate, where you have to train 15,000 superintendents and unlimited numbers of principals so they will know what a foreign entity of concern is and how to deal with it with this new legislation. It burdens our already

overstretched schools with new reporting requirements, new paperwork, and new bureaucratic hurdles, all without adding a single dollar to help them meet their obligations. Our educators deserve meaningful support, not legislative gestures that create more problems than they solve.

For these reasons, I will be voting “no” and urge my colleagues to reject this measure and refocus our efforts on policies that will actually strengthen our public schools.

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

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

H.R. 1049, the TRACE Act, sends a clear message: Parents have a right to know what their children are learning, especially when curricula are funded by authoritarian regimes.

Foreign influence in classrooms not only undermines our cherished American values but also our national security. The TRACE Act allows parents to review foreign-funded materials and raise concerns when needed. Concerned parents should not be labeled as terrorists, domestic or otherwise, or treated like criminals when they stand up for their children.

By empowering parents, we strengthen student outcomes and protect our schools, which should be in the business of public service to our homes, our families, our children, and our parents.

I urge my colleagues to support the TRACE Act and stand with families in defending the integrity of American education from foreign tyranny.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and 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.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 1 p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KNOTT) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

- Passage of H.R. 2965;
- Passage of H.R. 4305; and
- Passage of H.R. 1005.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY
REDUCTION ACT OF 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 2965) to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to ensure that the small business regulatory budget for a small business concern in a fiscal year is not greater than zero, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 223, nays 190, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 310]

YEAS—223

Aderholt	Cuellar	Gosar
Alford	Davidson	Gottheimer
Allen	Davis (NC)	Gray
Amodei (NV)	De La Cruz	Griffith
Arrington	DesJarlais	Grothman
Bacon	Diaz-Balart	Guest
Baird	Donalds	Guthrie
Barr	Downing	Hageman
Baumgartner	Dunn (FL)	Hamadeh (AZ)
Bean (FL)	Edwards	Haridopolos
Begich	Ellzey	Harrigan
Bentz	Emmer	Harris (MD)
Bergman	Estes	Harris (NC)
Bice	Evans (CO)	Harshbarger
Biggs (AZ)	Ezell	Hern (OK)
Biggs (SC)	Fallon	Higgins (LA)
Bilirakis	Fedorchak	Hill (AR)
Boebert	Feenstra	Hinson
Bost	Fine	Houchin
Brecheen	Finstad	Hudson
Bresnahan	Fischbach	Huizenga
Burchett	Fitzgerald	Hunt
Burlison	Fitzpatrick	Hurd (CO)
Calvert	Fleischmann	Issa
Cammack	Flood	Jack
Carey	Fong	Jackson (TX)
Carter (GA)	Fox	James
Carter (TX)	Franklin, Scott	Johnson (LA)
Ciscomani	Fry	Johnson (SD)
Cline	Fulcher	Jordan
Cloud	Garbarino	Joyce (OH)
Clyde	Gill (TX)	Joyce (PA)
Cole	Gillen	Kean
Collins	Gimenez	Kelly (MS)
Comer	Golden (ME)	Kennedy (UT)
Crane	Goldman (TX)	Kiggans (VA)
Crank	Gonzales, Tony	Kiley (CA)
Crawford	Gonzalez, V.	Kim
Crenshaw	Gooden	Knott

Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Landsman
Langworthy
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Mackenzie
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCaul
McClintock
McCormick
McDonald Rivet
McDowell
McGuire
Messmer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Min

Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Murphy
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ogles
Onder
Owens
Palmer
Patronis
Perez
Pfluger
Reschenthaler
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Scallise
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Shreve
Simpson

NAYS—190

Adams
Aguilar
Amo
Ansari
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragan
Beatty
Bell
Bera
Beyer
Bishop
Bonamici
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bynum
Carbajal
Carson
Carter (LA)
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crow
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dexter
Dingell
Doggett
Elfreh
Escobar
Espaillat
Evans (PA)
Fields
Figures
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Friedman

Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strong
Stutzman
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner (OH)
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Whitesides
Wied
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

Velázquez
Vindman
Walkinshaw

Wasserman
Schultz
Waters

Watson Coleman
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—19

Babin	Garamendi	Perry
Balderson	Graves	Pettersen
Barrett	Greene (GA)	Strickland
Buchanan	Kelly (PA)	Swalwell
Casar	McClain	Williams (TX)
Crockett	Nadler	
Foushee	Nehls	

□ 1632

Ms. DEGETTE changed her vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I missed a vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 310.

DESTROYING UNNECESSARY, MIS-
ALIGNED, AND PROHIBITIVE RED
TAPE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 4305) to direct the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration to establish a Red Tape Hotline to receive notifications of burdensome agency rules, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 269, nays 146, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 311]

YEAS—269

Aderholt	Comer	Garbarino
Alford	Correa	Gill (TX)
Allen	Costa	Gillen
Amodei (NV)	Courtney	Gimenez
Arrington	Crane	Golden (ME)
Bacon	Crank	Goldman (TX)
Baird	Crawford	Gonzales, Tony
Barr	Crenshaw	Gonzalez, V.
Baumgartner	Cuellar	Gooden
Bean (FL)	Davidson	Goodlander
Begich	Davis (NC)	Gosar
Bentz	De La Cruz	Gottheimer
Bera	DesJarlais	Graves
Bergman	Diaz-Balart	Gray
Bice	Donalds	Griffith
Biggs (AZ)	Downing	Grothman
Biggs (SC)	Dunn (FL)	Guest
Bilirakis	Edwards	Guthrie
Boebert	Ellzey	Hageman
Bost	Emmer	Hamadeh (AZ)
Brecheen	Estes	Haridopolos
Bresnahan	Evans (CO)	Harrigan
Budzinski	Ezell	Harris (MD)
Burchett	Fallon	Harris (NC)
Bynum	Fedorchak	Harshbarger
Calvert	Feenstra	Hern (OK)
Cammack	Fine	Higgins (LA)
Carbajal	Finstad	Hill (AR)
Carey	Fischbach	Himes
Carter (GA)	Fitzgerald	Hinson
Carter (TX)	Fitzpatrick	Horsford
Ciscomani	Fleischmann	Houchin
Cline	Flood	Houlihan
Cloud	Fong	Hudson
Clyde	Foster	Huizenga
Cole	Fox	Hunt
Collins	Franklin, Scott	Hurd (CO)
	Fry	Issa
	Fulcher	Jack