

by the Congress of the United States. It is in a beautiful building, and it served the function of trying to bring people together.

In February, President Trump issued an executive order dismantling the United States Institute of Peace. Subsequently, law enforcement removed the president of the United States Institute of Peace forcibly from his office, and then the Trump administration fired every employee and dismantled the office.

A district court has ruled that he acted improperly because the Congress created the United States Institute of Peace and the President didn't have the authority to dismantle it.

Today, I have learned that President Trump has had his name in massive letters put over the United States Institute of Peace calling it the Donald J. Trump Peace Institute, none of which is legal.

Will his ego stop staining this city by putting his name and his picture all over banners contemporaneous or similar to Teddy Roosevelt at the Department of Labor and others?

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Randall Holstead, one of his secretaries.

PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE OVERSIGHT TO ELIMINATE COMMUNIST TEACHINGS FOR OUR KIDS ACT

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 916, I call up the bill (H.R. 1069) to prohibit the availability of Federal education funds for elementary and secondary schools that receive direct or indirect support from the Government of the People's Republic of China, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS). 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. 1069

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

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Promoting Responsible Oversight To Eliminate Communist Teachings for Our Kids Act" or the "PROTECT Our Kids Act".

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.

(a) *PROHIBITION.*—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds may be made available under an applicable program to any elementary school or secondary school that—

(1) *has a partnership in effect with a cultural or language institute directly or indirectly fund-*

ed by the Government of the People's Republic of China, including a Confucius Institute;

(2) *operates a learning center directly or indirectly supported by the Government of the People's Republic of China (commonly referred to as a "Confucius Classroom"); or*

(3) *otherwise receives support from an individual or entity acting directly or indirectly on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of China, including support in the form of teaching materials, personnel, funds, or other resources.*

(b) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—The prohibition under subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) *CONTRACTS MADE PRIOR TO DATE OF ENACTMENT.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—

(A) *WAIVER REQUEST SUBMISSION.*—In the case of an elementary school or a secondary school that is a party to a contract described in paragraph (2), the school timely shall submit to the Secretary a request for a waiver of the prohibition under subsection (a) that includes—

(i) *the complete and unredacted text of the contract, and if the contract is not in English, a translated copy of the text into English; and*

(ii) *a statement demonstrating that the contract is for the benefit of the school's mission and students and will promote the security, stability, and economic vitality of the United States.*

(B) *WAIVER ISSUANCE.*—The Secretary, upon receipt of a request submitted under subparagraph (A), may issue a waiver to the school for a period beginning on the effective date specified in subsection (b) and ending the date on which the contract terminates.

(2) *CONTRACTS DESCRIBED.*—A contract is described in this paragraph if the contract—

(A) *takes effect before the date of the enactment of this Act;*

(B) *continues to be effective after the effective date specified in subsection (b); and*

(C) *relates to at least one of the circumstances described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (a).*

(d) *NOTICE TO AFFECTED SCHOOLS.*—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide notice to elementary and secondary schools of the requirements of this section together with guidance for achieving compliance with such requirements.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) *APPLICABLE PROGRAM.*—The term "applicable program" has the meaning given that term in section 400(c)(1) of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1221(c)(1)).

(2) *ESEA TERMS.*—The terms "elementary school", "secondary school", and "Secretary" have the meanings given those terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

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. 1069.

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. 1069. American classrooms are becoming battlegrounds for foreign influence. For years, my colleagues and I have sounded the alarm about adversaries exploiting our education system. Malign foreign entities like the Chinese Communist Party are working to undermine American values not just on college campuses but across our K-12 schools, as well. This is not only an attack on education and academic integrity, it is a threat to our national security.

□ 0930

Across U.S. colleges, the CCP established Confucius Institutes to push false narratives, whitewash history, and endear American students to the CCP while obscuring its brutal human rights abuses. However, these propaganda operations didn't stop at higher education. In K-12 schools, Confucius classrooms sprang up, aiming to shape the minds of our youngest learners.

At a 2023 Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education hearing, Defending Education highlighted a report exposing nearly two decades of CCP efforts to influence thousands of children. At one point, more than 500 schools hosted Confucius classrooms, many located on U.S. military bases. That is no coincidence. Those programs are a deliberate attempt to undermine American values and compromise our security.

That is why I proudly support H.R. 1069, the Promoting Responsible Oversight To Eliminate Communist Teachings for Our Kids, or the PROTECT Act, from Representative KEVIN HERN and Representative KEVIN KILEY. This legislation prohibits Federal funds from going to any school that also accepts funding from the Chinese Communist Party. It also sets a clear precedent: The U.S. will not allow a foreign regime to dictate what our children learn.

When schools accept CCP funding, they are effectively letting a totalitarian government decide their curriculum. In China, students are taught only what the Communist Party allows. America must never cede that authority. Confucius classrooms have never been reciprocated in China, where U.S.-style cultural exchanges on this scale are forbidden.

The CCP is not interested in genuine cultural exchange or open dialogue. Its goal is indoctrination, teaching students that China is benevolent, while erasing events like the Tiananmen Square massacre and ignoring the ongoing Uyghur genocide and other human rights abuses. By accepting CCP funding, schools shield students from the truth because the party does not want them to know it.