



# Harvard Model Congress Boston 2024

## House #2

**February 24, 2024**

*Presiding:  
June Park and Christine Li*

*H.B. 4 - Homeschool Equality and Analysis Act*

*H.B. 5 - Funding for Civics Act*

*H.B. 6 - US-India Security Enhancement Act*

*H.B. 7 - Safe Social Media Act*



## H.B. 4 Homeschool Equality and Analysis Act

WHEREAS IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PREVENT EDUCATIONAL NEGLECT, ENSURING THAT EVERY CHILD HAS A FAIR OPPORTUNITY TO QUALITY EDUCATION; THEREFORE,

*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 “Homeschool Equality and Analysis Act.”

### SEC. 2. HOMESCHOOLING REGULATIONS.

- (a) Each homeschooled student shall participate in a biannual private consultation with a designated, local public school professional (e.g. a school counselor) to discuss their learning environment and any other aspects relevant to their educational experience:
  - (i) These consultations will be held in private between the student and the professional to encourage open communication about the student's emotional and educational welfare, including the identification of potential neglect or abuse, which shall be reported to relevant social service agencies as required.
- (b) Each homeschooled student shall be assessed annually to ensure they are receiving a foundational and quality education;
  - (i) The student may elect to demonstrate their learning through one of the following methods: a project, an essay, or an exam.
- (c) Students with learning disabilities shall be provided alternatives to standardized testing as a means of assessment.
- (d) Assessment materials, including project guidelines, essay prompts, and test questions, shall be developed by the Department of Education, adhering to the basic educational standards outlined by the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED).
- (e) This bipartisan act acknowledges the right of homeschooling families to include religious instruction in their curriculum, affirming the diversity of educational values and beliefs among homeschooled students.

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

*Educational Neglect* – when a caretaker fails to meet their child’s educational needs, categorized as a form of child abuse.

*Basic Education* – the act or process of acquiring adequate knowledge and skills to meaningfully contribute to society in adulthood.

**ENFORCEMENT:** This bill will be enforced by the Department of Education.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

**FUNDING:** This bill will be funded by appropriations allocated to the Department of Education.

**AUTHORS:** NC-12, FL-06, CA-10, CT-02

**COSPONSORS:** NC-01, FL-24, WI-03, PA-06, TX-08, WA-09, PA-11, LA-04, UT-04, NC-05, NY-16, RI-01



## **H.B. 5 Funding for Civics Act**

WHEREAS THERE IS A NEED TO INCREASE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CIVIC EDUCATION NATIONWIDE;  
THEREFORE,

*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 “Funding for Civics Act.”

### **SEC. 2. REDEFINING CIVIC EDUCATION.**

- (a) The definition of “civic education” shall be amended from the definition outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act:
  - (i) To be eligible to receive grants, and be in alignment with the new definition of “civic education,” an activity must focus on civic knowledge, civic disposition, and/or civic skills.
- (b) A new subcommittee in the Department of Education shall be established to analyze whether each state’s education system complies with this new definition of civic education.

### **SEC. 3. FUNDING CUTS FOR BOOK BANS.**

- (a) All states that have banned any books from public libraries shall receive a 5% cut in federal education funding, educational facilities including, but not limited to:
  - (i) Public high schools, middle schools, and elementary schools are exempt from this regulation.
- (b) All schools must implement a specific community outreach program that fits the needs of their students in addition to the state set curriculum.

### **SEC. 4. INCENTIVIZING EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS.**

- (a) Establish an incentive of 5% increase in public school funding to districts that develop and implement programming in civic education for teachers.

### **SEC. 5. FUNDING CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

- (a) \$1 billion shall be allocated to support civic education in public schools nationwide:
  - (i) Funding shall be allocated to a national civics exam to ensure students are properly educated in the function of their government and role in their communities; and,
  - (ii) Funding shall be allocated to public messaging about voter registration in schools.



**DEFINITIONS:**

*Civic education* - an activity with a focus on civic knowledge, civic disposition, and/or civic skills.

*Civic knowledge* - focus on fundamental functions of the United States government on all three levels

*Civic disposition* - interpersonal, and intrapersonal values, virtues and behaviors of citizens

*Civic skills* - citizen's ability to analyze, evaluate, take and defend positions on public issues

**ENFORCEMENT:** This bill will be enforced by the Department of Education.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

**FUNDING:** This bill will be funded by the Committee on Ways and Means.

**AUTHORS:** FL-10, MD-07, OH-13, VA-11.

**COSPONSORS:** VT-AL, OH-11, FL-23, AK-AL, DC-AL, NM-01.



## **H.B. 6 US-India Security Enhancement Act**

WHEREAS THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND AROUND THE WORLD AND A NEED TO PROTECT AMERICAN CONSUMERS; THEREFORE,

*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 “US-India Security Enhancement Act.”

### **SEC. 2. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR).**

- (a) A bilateral task force shall be established to find common ground between the Republic of India and the US to enhance intellectual property protection in areas such as patent protection, copyright enforcement, and licensing;
- (b) A centralized IPR oversight agency shall be established to determine common values and implement them in India’s IPR regulations, using information from the bilateral task force.

### **SEC. 3. MILITARIZATION.**

- (a) Congress shall establish a cooperative weapons force shared by the United States and India which shall:
  - (i) Benefit both countries and provide additional security against Iran;
  - (ii) Donate vital resources to India to increase cross-country solidarity;
  - (iii) Strive to strengthen ties to lessen reliance on ties with Iran; and,
  - (iv) Strengthen bilateral defense policy so that regional and international protection is guaranteed for the US and India, which allows for progress in their IPR, military, and international relationships.

### **SEC. 4. REGIONAL SECURITY DIALOGUE.**

- (a) Congress shall convene a committee annually to strengthen regional security dialogue involving US, India, and other key partners in the Indo-Pacific region to address common security challenges and establish Joint Counterterrorism Initiatives;
  - (i) Joint Counterterrorism Initiatives shall:
    - (1) Enhance joint counterterrorism efforts, intelligence sharing, and defense collaboration;
    - (2) Maintain stability in the region’s relations with India; and,
    - (3) Maintain and strengthen the trust and handling of IPR.



**SEC. 5. FUNDING.**

- (a) 50 million dollars shall be allocated from the Department of Defense budget to support the initiatives enumerated in this Act.

**SEC. 6. RE-EVALUATION.**

- (a) This plan and budget for these initiatives shall be evaluated every two years by the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

**DEFINITIONS:**

*Counterterrorism* – political or military activities designed to prevent terrorism

*Intellectual property rights* – intellectual property rights are the rights given to persons over the creations of their minds

**ENFORCEMENT:** This bill will be enforced by the U.S. Foreign Affairs Committee.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

**FUNDING:** This bill will be funded by the Department of Defense.

**AUTHORS:** PA-10, WY-AL, AK-02, WI-09, NY-17, NY-22.

**COSPONSORS:** LA-04, MI-04, AS-AL, KY-06, TX-01, FL-06, LA-04, CA-40, FL-21, OH-08.



## H.B. 7 Safe Social Media Act

WHEREAS THERE IS AN INCREASE IN TERRORIST THREATS TO AMERICAN DEMOCRACY ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS, THEREFORE;

*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 “Safe Social Media Act.”

### SEC. 2. REGULATING IDENTIFICATION.

- (a) Congress shall establish a committee in the National Security Administration (NSA) that shall:
  - (i) Obtain information from INTERPOL;
  - (ii) Consist of 50 representatives of the NSA elected by the House Select Committee on Intelligence; and,
  - (iii) Make rulings based on INTERPOL data concerning terroristic content on social media platforms:
    - (1) Rulings on whether cases constitute terroristic content will be decided by the committee enumerated in section 2a;
    - (2) Consequences for violating these rules shall include but are not limited to: banning the account of the offender; blocking any future posts by the offender; and flagging future posts and content of the offender as potentially terroristic.

### SEC. 3. SOCIAL MEDIA COMPLIANCE.

- (a) Social media companies shall be required to submit quarterly reports outlining their findings on what they constitute terroristic content:
  - (i) The newly established subdivision of the NSA shall review these findings and proceed with consequences enumerated in Section 2.a.iii.2.

### SEC. 4. CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE OF SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANIES.

- (a) Should social media companies fail to comply with this bill after its enactment, these firms shall be liable for perpetuating terrorism.

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

*INTERPOL* – International Criminal Police Organization

*Terroristic content* – use of fear or intentional violence over social media for political gain



*Social Media* – websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking

**ENFORCEMENT:** This bill will be enforced by the House Select Committee on Intelligence.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

**FUNDING:** This bill will be funded by the House Appropriations Committee.

**AUTHORS:** UT-02, CA-07, PA-06, AZ-06

**COSPONSORS:** AK-AL, VI-AL, LA-04, AL-01, VA-07, CA-08, AK-01, CA-14, CA-34, CA-06, WI-12, AK-04, AZ-5, CA-09