

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5349

To develop and disseminate a civic education curriculum and oral history resources regarding certain political ideologies, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

Ms. SALAZAR (for herself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mrs. SPARTZ, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. BOST, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. STEEL, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. FERGUSON, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. MCCORMICK, and Mr. SELF) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To develop and disseminate a civic education curriculum and oral history resources regarding certain political ideologies, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Crucial Communism  
5 Teaching Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

2 The purposes of this Act are the following:

3 (1) To help families, civic institutions, local  
4 communities, local educational agencies, high  
5 schools, and State educational agencies to prepare  
6 high school students to be civically responsible and  
7 knowledgeable adults.

8 (2) To ensure that high school students in the  
9 United States—

10 (A) learn that communism has led to the  
11 deaths of over 100,000,000 victims worldwide;

12 (B) understand the dangers of communism  
13 and similar political ideologies; and

14 (C) understand that 1,500,000,000 people  
15 still suffer under communism.

16 **SEC. 3. DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF CIVIC EDU-**  
17 **CATION CURRICULUM AND ORAL HISTORY**  
18 **RESOURCES.**

19 The independent entity created under section  
20 905(b)(1)(B) of the FRIENDSHIP Act (40 U.S.C. 1003  
21 note; 107 Stat. 2331 note), also known as the “Victims  
22 of Communism Memorial Foundation”, shall—

23 (1) develop a civic education curriculum for  
24 high school students that—

25 (A) includes a comparative discussion of  
26 certain political ideologies, including com-

1           munism and totalitarianism, that conflict with  
2           the principles of freedom and democracy that  
3           are essential to the founding of the United  
4           States;

5                   (B) is accurate, relevant, and accessible, so  
6           as to promote the understanding of such polit-  
7           ical ideologies; and

8                   (C) is compatible with a variety of courses,  
9           including social studies, government, history,  
10          and economics classes;

11          (2) develop oral history resources that may be  
12          used alongside the curriculum described in para-  
13          graph (1) and that include personal stories, titled  
14          “Portraits in Patriotism”, from diverse individuals  
15          who—

16                   (A) demonstrate civic-minded qualities;

17                   (B) are victims of the political ideologies  
18          described in paragraph (1)(A); and

19                   (C) are able to compare the political  
20          ideologies described in paragraph (1)(A) with  
21          the political ideology of the United States; and

22          (3) engage with State and local educational  
23          leaders to assist high schools in using the curriculum  
24          described in paragraph (1) and the resources de-  
25          scribed in paragraph (2).

1 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

2       The terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and  
3 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801) shall  
4 apply to this Act.

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