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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To require institutions of higher education to disseminate information on the rights of, and accommodations and resources for, pregnant students, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. HINSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require institutions of higher education to disseminate information on the rights of, and accommodations and resources for, pregnant students, 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 “Pregnant Students’
5 Rights Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Female students enrolled at institutions of
2 higher education and experiencing an unplanned
3 pregnancy may face pressure that their only option
4 is to receive an abortion or risk academic failure.

5 (2) Almost 30 percent of all abortions in the
6 United States are performed on women of college
7 age, between the ages of 20 and 24, according to a
8 2021 report by the Centers for Disease Control and
9 Prevention.

10 (3) A significant proportion of abortions in the
11 United States are performed on women of college
12 age who may be unaware of their rights to accom-
13 modation and prohibitions against discrimination
14 due to pregnancy under title IX of the Education
15 Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) or
16 deprived of information about abortion alternatives.

17 (4) Additionally, women on college campuses
18 may fear institutional reprisal, loss of athletic schol-
19 arship, and possible negative impact on academic op-
20 portunities during the pregnancy and after child-
21 birth.

22 (5) An academic disparity exists because of the
23 lack of resources, support, and notifications available
24 for female college students who do not wish to re-

1 ceive an abortion or who carry their unborn babies
2 to term.

3 **SEC. 3. NOTICE OF PREGNANT STUDENT RIGHTS, ACCOM-**
4 **MODATIONS, AND RESOURCES.**

5 Section 485 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
6 U.S.C. 1092) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(n) PREGNANT STUDENTS’ RIGHTS, ACCOMMODA-
9 TIONS, AND RESOURCES.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each institution of higher
11 education participating in any program under this
12 title shall carry out the information dissemination
13 activities described in paragraph (3) for prospective
14 and enrolled students (including those attending or
15 planning to attend less than full time) regarding the
16 information described in paragraph (2) on the rights
17 of, and resources (including protections and accom-
18 modations) for, pregnant students and students who
19 may become pregnant while enrolled at such institu-
20 tion of higher education.

21 “(2) INFORMATION CONTENT.—The informa-
22 tion on the rights of, and resources (including pro-
23 tections and accommodations) for, pregnant students
24 and students who may become pregnant described in
25 this paragraph shall include—

1 “(A) a list of resources on campus and in
2 the community that exist to help a pregnant
3 student in carrying the baby to term and caring
4 for the baby after birth;

5 “(B) information about the accommoda-
6 tions available to help a pregnant student carry
7 the baby to term and parent the baby after
8 birth; and

9 “(C) information on how to file a com-
10 plaint with—

11 “(i) the Department of Education, if
12 a student believes there was a violation by
13 the institution of title IX of the Education
14 Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et
15 seq.) on account of such student’s preg-
16 nancy, including a failure to accommodate
17 such pregnancy, or childbirth; and

18 “(ii) the institution, if a student be-
19 lieves the student has been discriminated
20 against in violation of such title IX on ac-
21 count of the student’s pregnancy or child-
22 birth.

23 “(3) INFORMATION DISSEMINATION ACTIVI-
24 TIES.—The information dissemination activities de-
25 scribed in this paragraph shall include—

1 “(A) an email to each enrolled student at
2 the start of each period of study during an aca-
3 demic year; and
4 “(B) the provision of information—
5 “(i) in student handbooks, if any;
6 “(ii) at each orientation for enrolled
7 students;
8 “(iii) at student health or counseling
9 centers, if any; and
10 “(iv) on the publicly available website
11 of the institution of higher education.”.