

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4854

To amend title 36, United States Code, to repeal the Federal charter of the National Education Association.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Ms. LUMMIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 36, United States Code, to repeal the Federal charter of the National Education Association.

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 “National Education
5 Association Charter Repeal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 (1) The National Education Association (re-
8 ferred to in this section as the “NEA”) was char-
9 tered in 1906 by an Act of Congress for the purpose
10 “to elevate the character and advance the interests

1 of the profession of teaching; and to promote the
2 cause of education in the United States” and re-
3 mains the only labor union that has a Federal char-
4 ter.

5 (2) The NEA is expected to uphold the honor
6 and legitimacy that a Federal charter grants to an
7 organization.

8 (3) The NEA can no longer be considered a
9 public service worthy of its Federal charter as it has
10 drifted substantially from its core mission and has
11 become a massive political operation dedicated to im-
12 posing a radical progressive agenda on schools in the
13 United States.

14 (4) The NEA and its political agenda are often
15 at cross-purposes with parents, teachers, and stu-
16 dents, and the NEA no longer primarily serves the
17 purposes of advancing the profession of teaching or
18 promoting the cause of education in the United
19 States.

20 (5) According to disclosures made to the De-
21 partment of Labor’s Office of Labor-Management
22 Standards, from September 2019 through August
23 2021, the NEA spent over \$116,700,000 on political
24 activities and lobbying, and in the 2020 election
25 cycle, 95.7 percent of the candidate campaign con-

1 tributions made by the NEA went to candidates in
2 the Democratic party.

3 (6) In July 2021, the NEA adopted measures
4 to support critical race theory, calling it reasonable
5 and appropriate, and to spend \$56,500 on research-
6 ing and shaming organizations that are fighting the
7 inclusion of critical race theory in schools.

8 (7) In December 2021, NEA board member
9 Mollie Page Mumau published a social media post
10 calling for the death of individuals who decide not to
11 receive the COVID–19 vaccine.

12 (8) In July 2022, the NEA adopted measures
13 to spend \$140,000 to create an enemies list of par-
14 ents and groups that disagree with teaching gender
15 identity and sexual orientation in classrooms.

16 (9) The NEA and other teacher unions stood in
17 the way of reopening schools in 2020 and 2021 by
18 threatening strikes, lobbying to keep schools closed,
19 and influencing the Centers for Disease Control and
20 Prevention to make it harder for schools to reopen.

21 (10) In August 2022, the National Center for
22 Education Statistics (NCES) conducted a special ad-
23 ministration of the National Assessment of Edu-
24 cation Progress long-term trend reading and mathe-
25 matics assessments for age 9 students to examine

1 student achievement during the COVID–19 pan-
2 demic. The NCES reported the largest average score
3 decline in reading since 1990, and the first ever
4 score decline in mathematics.

5 **SEC. 3. REPEAL OF NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**
6 **CHARTER.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1511 of title 36, United
8 States Code, is repealed.

9 (b) TABLE OF CHAPTERS.—The table of chapters at
10 the beginning of part B of subtitle II of title 36, United
11 States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to
12 chapter 1511.

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