

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6848

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit institutions of higher education from requiring ideological oaths or similar statements, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 19, 2023

Mr. CRENSHAW introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit institutions of higher education from requiring ideological oaths or similar statements, 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. PROHIBITION RELATING TO IDEOLOGICAL**
4 **OATHS AND SIMILAR STATEMENTS.**

5 Section 487(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
6 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)) is amended by adding at the end the
7 following:

8 “(30)(A) The institution will not—

1 “(i) compel, require, induce, or solicit a
2 student enrolled at the institution, an employee
3 or contractor of the institution, or an applicant
4 for admission to or employment or contracting
5 at the institution to—

6 “(I) endorse an ideology that pro-
7 motes the differential treatment of an indi-
8 vidual or group of individuals based on
9 race, color, or ethnicity; or

10 “(II) provide a statement indicating
11 the person’s—

12 “(aa) race, color, ethnicity, or na-
13 tional origin, except to the minimum
14 extent needed record any necessary
15 demographic information;

16 “(bb) views on, experience with,
17 or past or planned contributions to ef-
18 forts involving diversity, equity, and
19 inclusion, marginalized groups,
20 antiracism, social justice,
21 intersectionality, or related concepts;
22 or

23 “(cc) views on or experience with
24 race, color, ethnicity, national origin,
25 or other immutable characteristics; or

1 “(ii) provide preferential consideration to a
2 student enrolled at the institution, an employee
3 or contractor of the institution, or an applicant
4 for admission to or employment or contracting
5 at the institution on the basis of the person’s
6 unsolicited statement in support of an ideology
7 described in clause (i)(I).

8 “(B) Nothing in this paragraph may be
9 construed—

10 “(i) to restrict academic research or
11 coursework;

12 “(ii) to prevent a person from providing to
13 an institution of higher education the informa-
14 tion described in subparagraph (A) on the per-
15 son’s own initiative separate from any specific
16 requirement or request from the institution; or

17 “(iii) to prevent an institution from requir-
18 ing an applicant for admission to or employ-
19 ment or contracting at the institution to—

20 “(I) disclose or discuss the content of
21 the applicant’s research or artistic cre-
22 ations;

23 “(II) certify compliance with State
24 and Federal antidiscrimination law; or

1 “(III) discuss pedagogical approaches
2 or experience with students with learning
3 disabilities.”.

○