

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3663

To amend the SOAR Act.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2023

Mr. MOOLENAAR (for himself and Mr. SESSIONS) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability

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## A BILL

To amend the SOAR Act.

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 “SOAR Permanent Au-  
5 thorization Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE SOAR ACT.**

7 The Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act  
8 (division C of Public Law 112–10) is amended—

9 (1) in section 3007 (sec. 38–1853.07 D.C. Offi-  
10 cial Code)—

11 (A) in subsection (a)(5)(A)(i), by striking  
12 subclause (I) and inserting the following:

1                   “(I) is fully accredited by an ac-  
2                   crediting body with jurisdiction in the  
3                   District of Columbia or that is recog-  
4                   nized by the Student and Visitor Ex-  
5                   change English Language Program  
6                   administered by U.S. Immigration  
7                   and Customs Enforcement; or”;

8                   (B) by striking subsection (e) and redesign-  
9                   nating subsection (d) as subsection (c);

10                  (C) in subsection (b)—

11                   (i) in the subsection heading, by strik-  
12                   ing “AND PARENTAL ASSISTANCE” and in-  
13                   serting “, PARENTAL ASSISTANCE, AND  
14                   STUDENT ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE”;

15                   (ii) in the matter preceding paragraph  
16                   (1), by striking “\$2,000,000” and insert-  
17                   ing “\$2,200,000”; and

18                   (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
19                   lowing:

20                  “(3) The expenses of providing tutoring service  
21                  to participating eligible students that need additional  
22                  academic assistance. If there are insufficient funds  
23                  to provide tutoring services to all such students in  
24                  a year, the eligible entity shall give priority in such  
25                  year to students who previously attended an elemen-

1 tary school or secondary school identified as one of  
2 the lowest-performing schools under the District of  
3 Columbia’s accountability system.”; and

4 (D) in subsection (c), as redesignated by  
5 subparagraph (B)—

6 (i) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking  
7 “subsections (b) and (c)” and inserting  
8 “subsection (b)”; and

9 (ii) in paragraph (3), by striking  
10 “subsections (b) and (c)” and inserting  
11 “subsection (b)”; and

12 (2) in section 3008(h) (sec. 38–1853.08(h)  
13 D.C. Official Code)—

14 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “section  
15 3009(a)(2)(A)(i)” and inserting “section  
16 3009(a)”; and

17 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-  
18 ing the following:

19 “(2) ADMINISTRATION OF TESTS.—The Insti-  
20 tute of Education Sciences may administer assess-  
21 ments to students participating in the evaluation  
22 under section 3009(a) for the purpose of conducting  
23 the evaluation under such section.”; and

24 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “the na-  
25 tionally norm-referenced standardized test de-

1 scribed in paragraph (2)” and inserting “a na-  
2 tionally norm-referenced standardized test”;

3 (3) in section 3009(a) (sec. 38–1853.09(a) D.C.  
4 Official Code)—

5 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “an-  
6 nually” and inserting “regularly”;

7 (B) in paragraph (2)—

8 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
9 clause (i) and inserting the following:

10 “(i) is rigorous; and”; and

11 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
12 “impact of the program” and all that fol-  
13 lows through the end of the subparagraph  
14 and inserting “impact of the program on  
15 academic progress and educational attain-  
16 ment.”;

17 (C) in paragraph (3)—

18 (i) in the paragraph heading, by strik-  
19 ing “ON EDUCATION” and inserting “OF  
20 EDUCATION”;

21 (ii) in subparagraph (A)—

22 (I) by inserting “the academic  
23 progress of” after “assess”; and

24 (II) by striking “in each of  
25 grades 3” and all that follows through

1 the end of the subparagraph and in-  
2 serting “; and”;

3 (iii) by striking subparagraph (B);

4 and

5 (iv) by redesignating subparagraph  
6 (C) as subparagraph (B); and

7 (D) in paragraph (4)—

8 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

9 (I) by striking “A comparison of  
10 the academic achievement of partici-  
11 pating eligible students who use an  
12 opportunity scholarship on the meas-  
13 urements described in paragraph  
14 (3)(B) to the academic achievement”  
15 and inserting “The academic progress  
16 of participating eligible students who  
17 use an opportunity scholarship com-  
18 pared to the academic progress”; and

19 (II) by inserting “, which may in-  
20 clude students” after “students with  
21 similar backgrounds”;

22 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
23 “increasing the satisfaction of such parents  
24 and students with their choice” and insert-

1           ing “those parents’ and students’ satisfac-  
2           tion with the program”;

3           (iii) by striking subparagraph (D)  
4           through (F) and inserting the following:

5           “(D) The high school graduation rates,  
6           college enrollment rates, college persistence  
7           rates, and college graduation rates of partici-  
8           pating eligible students who use an opportunity  
9           scholarship compared with the rates of public  
10          school students described in subparagraph (A),  
11          to the extent practicable.

12          “(E) The college enrollment rates, college  
13          persistence rates, and college graduation rates  
14          of students who participated in the program as  
15          the result of winning the Opportunity Scholar-  
16          ship Program lottery compared to the enroll-  
17          ment, persistence, and graduation rates for stu-  
18          dents who entered but did not win such lottery  
19          and who, as a result, served as the control  
20          group for previous evaluations of the program  
21          under this division. Nothing in this subpara-  
22          graph may be construed to waive section  
23          3004(a)(3)(A)(iii) with respect to any such stu-  
24          dent.

1           “(F) The safety of the schools attended by  
2 participating eligible students who use an op-  
3 portunity scholarship compared with the schools  
4 attended by public school students described in  
5 subparagraph (A), to the extent practicable.”;  
6 and

7           (iv) in subparagraph (G), by striking  
8 “achievement” and inserting “progress”;  
9 and

10           (4) in section 3014 (sec. 38–1853.14, D.C. Of-  
11 ficial Code)—

12           (A) in subsection (a), in the matter pre-  
13 ceding paragraph (1), by striking “\$60,000,000  
14 for fiscal year 2012 and for each fiscal year  
15 through fiscal year 2023” and inserting  
16 “\$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2024 and for each  
17 succeeding fiscal year”; and

18           (B) in subsection (b), by striking  
19 “\$60,000,000” and inserting “\$75,000,000”.

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