

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8708

To prohibit Federal funding for institutions of higher education that carry out diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 12, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Ms. LEE of Florida, and Mr. BAIRD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To prohibit Federal funding for institutions of higher education that carry out diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, 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 “Eliminate DEI in Col-
5 leges Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON FEDERAL FUNDING FOR INSTITU-**
2 **TIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT CARRY**
3 **OUT DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION INI-**
4 **TIATIVES.**

5 Part B of title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965
6 (20 U.S.C. 1011 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
7 the following:

8 **“SEC. 124. PROHIBITION ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND IN-**
9 **CLUSION INITIATIVES.**

10 “(a) RESTRICTION ON ELIGIBILITY.—Notwith-
11 standing any other provision of law, no institution of high-
12 er education shall be eligible to receive funds or any other
13 form of financial assistance under any Federal program,
14 including participation in any federally funded or guaran-
15 teed student loan program, unless the institution certifies
16 to the Secretary that the institution—

17 “(1) does not and will not carry out any pro-
18 gram, project, initiative, or other activity the pri-
19 mary purpose of which is to advocate, promote, or
20 otherwise support diversity, equity, and inclusion;
21 and

22 “(2) does not and will not maintain any office
23 or other entity within the institution to advocate,
24 promote, or otherwise support diversity, equity, and
25 inclusion.

1 “(b) INFORMATION AVAILABILITY.—Each institution
2 of higher education that provides the certification required
3 by subsection (a) shall, upon request, make available to
4 the Secretary any information needed by the Secretary to
5 verify the truth and accuracy of the certification.

6 “(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall publish
7 regulations to implement and enforce the provisions of this
8 section.

9 “(d) APPEALS.—Upon determination by the Sec-
10 retary to terminate financial assistance to any institution
11 of higher education under this section, the institution may
12 file an appeal with an administrative law judge before the
13 expiration of the 30-day period beginning on the date such
14 institution is notified of the decision to terminate financial
15 assistance under this section. Such judge shall hold a
16 hearing with respect to such termination of assistance be-
17 fore the expiration of the 45-day period beginning on the
18 date that such appeal is filed. Such judge may extend such
19 45-day period upon a motion by the institution concerned.
20 The decision of the judge with respect to such termination
21 shall be considered to be a final agency action.

22 “(e) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘diver-
23 sity, equity, and inclusion’ means the concept according
24 to which individuals are—

1 “(1) classified on basis of race, color, sex, na-
2 tional origin, gender identity, or sexual orientation;
3 and

4 “(2) afforded differential or preferential treat-
5 ment basis of such classification.”.

○