

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9681

To direct the Department of Education to conduct a study on Holocaust education efforts in public elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 22, 2022

Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, Ms. MANNING, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To direct the Department of Education to conduct a study on Holocaust education efforts in public elementary and secondary schools, 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 “Holocaust Education  
5 and Antisemitism Lessons Act” or the “HEAL Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY AND REPORT ON HOLOCAUST EDUCATION.**

7 (a) STUDY.—Beginning not later than 180 days after  
8 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the

1 Institute of Education Sciences of the Department of Edu-  
2 cation (referred to in this Act as the “Director”) shall con-  
3 duct a study on Holocaust education efforts in public ele-  
4 mentary and secondary schools.

5 (b) ELEMENTS.—In conducting the study under sub-  
6 section (a), the Director shall—

7 (1) identify States and local educational agen-  
8 cies that require Holocaust education as part of the  
9 curriculum taught in public elementary and sec-  
10 ondary schools;

11 (2) identify States and local educational agen-  
12 cies that do not require Holocaust education as part  
13 of the curriculum taught in public elementary and  
14 secondary schools;

15 (3) assess the quality of Holocaust education  
16 provided by public elementary and secondary  
17 schools, including through the qualitative and quan-  
18 titative analysis of such indicators as—

19 (A) in-class discussion;

20 (B) educational activities conducted out-  
21 side the classroom, including homework assign-  
22 ments; and

23 (C) project based learning;

1           (4) assess the types and quality of instructional  
2 materials used to teach students about the Holo-  
3 caust;

4           (5) examine the duration and comprehensive-  
5 ness of any Holocaust-related courses or lessons pro-  
6 vided by public elementary and secondary schools;  
7 and

8           (6) analyze the approaches used by such schools  
9 to assess students' knowledge of the Holocaust, in-  
10 cluding the use of traditional and nontraditional as-  
11 sessments.

12 (c) REPORT.—

13           (1) IN GENERAL.—Following the completion of  
14 the study under subsection (a), the Director shall  
15 prepare and submit to Congress a report on the re-  
16 sults of the study.

17           (2) DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL.—The report  
18 under paragraph (1) shall be submitted not later  
19 than the earlier of—

20                   (A) 180 days after the completion of the  
21 study under subsection (a); or

22                   (B) three years after the date of the enact-  
23 ment of this section.

24 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

1           (1) ESEA TERMS.—The terms “elementary  
2 school”, “local educational agency”, “secondary  
3 school”, and “State” have the meanings given those  
4 terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-  
5 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

6           (2) HOLOCAUST.—The term “Holocaust” has  
7 the meaning given that term in section 3 of the  
8 Never Again Education Act (Public Law 116–141;  
9 36 U.S.C. 2301 note).

10          (3) HOLOCAUST EDUCATION.—The term “Holo-  
11 caust education” means educational activities that  
12 are specifically intended—

13           (A) to improve students’ awareness and  
14 understanding of the Holocaust;

15           (B) to educate students on the lessons of  
16 the Holocaust as a means to raise awareness  
17 about the importance of preventing genocide,  
18 hate, and bigotry against any group of people;  
19 and

20           (C) to study the history of antisemitism,  
21 its deep historical roots, the use of conspiracy  
22 theories and propaganda that target the Jewish  
23 people, and the shape-shifting nature of anti-  
24 semitism over time.

1           (4) PROJECT BASED LEARNING.—The term  
2           “project based learning” means a teaching method  
3           through which students learn by actively engaging in  
4           real-world and personally meaningful projects.

