

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 706

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 7, 2019

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. CASEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, 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 “Report and Educate
5 About Campus Hazing Act” or the “REACH Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF HAZING INCIDENTS IN ANNUAL SE-**
7 **CURITY REPORTS.**

8 Section 485(f)(1)(F) of the Higher Education Act of
9 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(1)(F)) is amended—

1 (1) in clause (i)(IX), by striking “and” after
2 the semicolon;

3 (2) in clause (ii), by striking “and” after the
4 semicolon;

5 (3) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the
6 end and inserting “; and”; and

7 (4) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(iv) of hazing incidents that were re-
9 ported to a campus official.”.

10 **SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF HAZING.**

11 Section 485(f)(6)(A) of the Higher Education Act of
12 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)) is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating clauses (iii) through (v) as
14 clauses (iv) through (vi), respectively; and

15 (2) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

16 “(iii) The term ‘hazing’ means any inten-
17 tional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a
18 student, or a former student, of an institution
19 of higher education, whether individually or in
20 concert with other persons, against another stu-
21 dent (regardless of that student’s willingness to
22 participate), that—

23 “(I) was committed in connection with
24 an initiation into, an affiliation with, or
25 the maintenance of membership in, any or-

1 organization that is affiliated with such insti-
 2 tution of higher education (including any
 3 athletic team affiliated with that institu-
 4 tion); and

5 “(II) contributes to a substantial risk
 6 of physical injury, mental harm, or deg-
 7 radation or causes physical injury, mental
 8 harm, or personal degradation.”.

9 **SEC. 4. RECORDING OF HAZING INCIDENTS.**

10 Section 485(f)(7) of the Higher Education Act of
 11 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(7)) is amended by inserting after
 12 the second sentence the following: “For hazing incidents,
 13 such statistics shall be compiled in accordance with the
 14 definition of that term in paragraph (6)(A)(iii).”.

15 **SEC. 5. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM ON HAZING.**

16 Section 487(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
 17 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)) is amended by adding at the end the
 18 following:

19 “(30) The institution shall provide a com-
 20 prehensive program to prevent hazing (as defined in
 21 section 485(f)(6)(A)(iii)). The program shall—

22 “(A) be a campus-wide program for stu-
 23 dents, staff, faculty, and other campus stake-
 24 holders (such as alumni and families of stu-
 25 dents);

1 “(B) be a research-based program;

2 “(C) be designed and implemented in part-
3 nership with a broad coalition of campus stake-
4 holders, including leadership of the institution,
5 faculty, staff, students, alumni, and families of
6 students;

7 “(D) include information on hazing aware-
8 ness, hazing prevention, the institution’s poli-
9 cies on hazing, how to report hazing, and the
10 process used to investigate hazing; and

11 “(E) include skill building for bystander
12 intervention, information about ethical leader-
13 ship, and the promotion of strategies for build-
14 ing group cohesion without hazing.”.

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