

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To develop and disseminate a civic education curriculum and oral history resources regarding certain political ideologies, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. KENNEDY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To develop and disseminate a civic education curriculum and oral history resources regarding certain political ideologies, 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 “Crucial Communism
5 Teaching Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

7 The purposes of this Act are the following:

8 (1) To help families, civic institutions, local
9 communities, local educational agencies, high
10 schools, and State educational agencies to prepare

1 high school students to be civically responsible and
2 knowledgeable adults.

3 (2) To ensure that high school students in the
4 United States—

5 (A) learn that communism has led to the
6 deaths of more than 100,000,000 victims world-
7 wide;

8 (B) understand the dangers of communism
9 and similar political ideologies; and

10 (C) understand that 1,500,000,000 people
11 still suffer under communism.

12 **SEC. 3. DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF CIVIC EDU-**
13 **CATION CURRICULUM AND ORAL HISTORY**
14 **RESOURCES.**

15 The independent entity created under section
16 905(b)(1)(B) of the FRIENDSHIP Act (Public Law 103-
17 199; 107 Stat. 2331), also known as the “Victims of Com-
18 munism Memorial Foundation”, shall—

19 (1) develop a civic education curriculum for
20 high school students that—

21 (A) includes a comparative discussion of
22 certain political ideologies, including com-
23 munism and totalitarianism, that conflict with
24 the principles of freedom and democracy that

1 are essential to the founding of the United
2 States;

3 (B) is accurate, relevant, and accessible, so
4 as to promote the understanding of such polit-
5 ical ideologies; and

6 (C) is compatible with a variety of courses,
7 including social studies, government, history,
8 and economics classes;

9 (2) develop oral history resources that may be
10 used alongside the curriculum described in para-
11 graph (1) and that include personal stories, titled
12 “Portraits in Patriotism”, from diverse individuals
13 who—

14 (A) demonstrate civic-minded qualities;

15 (B) are victims of the political ideologies
16 described in paragraph (1)(A); and

17 (C) are able to compare the political
18 ideologies described in paragraph (1)(A) with
19 the political ideology of the United States; and

20 (3) engage with State and local educational
21 leaders to assist high schools in using the curriculum
22 described in paragraph (1) and the resources de-
23 scribed in paragraph (2).

1 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

2 The terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and
3 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801) shall
4 apply to this Act.