

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 6055

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for communicating threats that target schools.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 25, 2023

Mr. LAWLER (for himself, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. BALDERSON, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. D'ESPOSITO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for communicating threats that target schools.

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 “Schools Want Account-  
5 ability for Threats Act” or the “SWAT Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. THREATS INVOLVING FIRE OR EXPLOSIVES.**

7 Section 844(e) of title 18, United States Code, is  
8 amended—

9 (1) by striking “(e)” and inserting “(e)(1)”;

10 and

1 (2) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(2) Whoever violates paragraph (1) by making a  
3 threat against, or maliciously conveying false information  
4 with respect to, a public, private, or religious school that  
5 provides early childhood, elementary, secondary, postsec-  
6 ondary, or career and technical education, as determined  
7 under State law, shall be imprisoned for not more than  
8 20 years or fined under this title, or both.”.

9 **SEC. 3. THREATS THROUGH THE MAIL OR INTERSTATE**  
10 **COMMUNICATIONS.**

11 Chapter 41 of title 18, United States Code, is amend-  
12 ed—

13 (1) in section 875 by adding at the end the fol-  
14 lowing:

15 “(e) Whoever violates any other provision of this sec-  
16 tion by making a threat against a public, private, or reli-  
17 gious school that provides early childhood, elementary,  
18 secondary, postsecondary, or career and technical edu-  
19 cation, as determined under State law, shall be imprisoned  
20 for not more than 20 years or fined under this title, or  
21 both.”; and

22 (2) in section 876 by adding at the end the fol-  
23 lowing:

24 “(e) Whoever violates any other provision of this sec-  
25 tion by making a threat against a public, private, or reli-

1 gious school that provides early childhood, elementary,  
2 secondary, postsecondary, or career and technical edu-  
3 cation, as determined under State law, shall be imprisoned  
4 for not more than 20 years or fined under this title, or  
5 both.”.

6 **SEC. 4. FALSE INFORMATION AND HOAXES.**

7 Section 1038(a)(1) of title 18, United States Code,  
8 is amended—

9 (1) in subparagraph (B) by striking “and”;

10 (2) in subparagraph (C) by striking the period  
11 and inserting “; and”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(D) if the information indicates that the  
14 activity has taken, is taking, or will take place  
15 in a public, private, or religious school that pro-  
16 vides early childhood, elementary, secondary,  
17 postsecondary, or career and technical edu-  
18 cation, as determined under State law, be fined  
19 under this title or imprisoned not more than 20  
20 years, or both.”.

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