

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 985

To prohibit the use of Federal funds in any program, project, or activity of any agency in the Executive Branch to provide principles, resources, or specific suggestions for gender neutral or inclusive language or inclusive communication principles to help inform an inclusive approach to carrying out any such program, project, and activity.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 2023

Mr. NEHLS (for himself, Mr. GAETZ, and Mrs. BOEBERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability

A BILL

To prohibit the use of Federal funds in any program, project, or activity of any agency in the Executive Branch to provide principles, resources, or specific suggestions for gender neutral or inclusive language or inclusive communication principles to help inform an inclusive approach to carrying out any such program, project, and activity.

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 “Productivity Over Pro-
5 nouns Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR**
2 **GENDER NEUTRAL OR INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE**
3 **OR INCLUSIVE COMMUNICATION PRINCIPLES**
4 **TO HELP INFORM AN INCLUSIVE APPROACH**
5 **TO CARRYING OUT ANY SUCH PROGRAM,**
6 **PROJECT, AND ACTIVITY.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Amounts may not be appropriated
8 for use in any program, project, or activity of any agency,
9 and funds made available for any program, project, or ac-
10 tivity of any agency may not be obligated or expended,
11 to provide principles, resources, or specific suggestions for
12 gender neutral or inclusive language or inclusive commu-
13 nication principles to help inform an inclusive approach
14 to carrying out any such program, project, and activity.

15 (b) GENDER NEUTRAL OR INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE
16 AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNICATION PRINCIPLES.—For pur-
17 poses of this section, the term “gender neutral or inclusive
18 language and inclusive communication principles” in-
19 cludes—

20 (1) any form of communication that avoids
21 using words, expressions or assumptions that would
22 stereotype, demean or exclude people;

23 (2) language that avoids bias towards a par-
24 ticular sex or gender;

25 (3) preferred terms that attempt to represent
26 an ongoing shift toward non-stigmatizing language;

1 (4) language that emphasizes the importance of
2 addressing all people inclusively and respectfully;

3 (5) using an equity lens when framing informa-
4 tion about disparities among populations;

5 (6) any form of communication that classifies
6 people by pronouns;

7 (7) using preferred terms for select population
8 groups while recognizing that there isn't always
9 agreement on these terms; and

10 (8) considering how communications are devel-
11 oped and looking for ways to develop more inclusive
12 communications products.

13 (c) AGENCY.—For purposes of this section, the term
14 “agency” has the meaning given such term by section
15 551(1) of title 5, United States Code.

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