

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8715

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Education to make public a plan for the continuation of education during a public health emergency.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 30, 2020

Mr. PAYNE (for himself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MFUME, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Education to make public a plan for the continuation of education during a public health emergency.

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 “Pandemic Planning
5 and Response For Schools Act of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. PLAN FOR CONTINUATION OF EDUCATION DURING**
2 **PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.**

3 Not later than 30 days after the date on which the
4 Secretary of Health and Human Services determines, pur-
5 suant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42
6 U.S.C. 247d), that a public health emergency exists, such
7 Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Edu-
8 cation, shall provide to the Congress, the States, and the
9 public a clear and concise plan containing guidance on—

10 (1) best practices for keeping students and fac-
11 ulty safe during the public health emergency;

12 (2) best practices for keeping schools func-
13 tioning to the maximum extent possible, consistent
14 with public health requirements and recommenda-
15 tions; and

16 (3) establishing priorities for cohorts of stu-
17 dents who, consistent with public health require-
18 ments and recommendations, should receive—

19 (A) an education program based entirely
20 on online delivery of instruction;

21 (B) an education program which occurs
22 under direct instructor supervision at a school
23 or other location away from home; and

24 (C) a hybrid or blended learning program,
25 which occurs under direct instructor supervision
26 at a school or other location away from home

- 1 and, at least in part, through online delivery of
- 2 instruction.

