

HR 691

CHOICE Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Jan 24, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel. (Feb 17, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/691>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Rokita, Todd [R-IN-4]

Party: Republican • State: IN • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Gowdy, Trey [R-SC-4]	R · SC		Jan 24, 2017
Rep. Messer, Luke [R-IN-6]	R · IN		Jan 24, 2017
Rep. Banks, Jim [R-IN-3]	R · IN		Feb 13, 2017
Rep. DeSantis, Ron [R-FL-6]	R · FL		Mar 16, 2017
Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2]	R · NE		Apr 14, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 17, 2017
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 24, 2017
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 24, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 235	Identical bill	Jan 24, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## **Creating Hope and Opportunity for Individuals and Communities through Education Act or the CHOICE Act**

This bill amends the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act to include among the eligibility criteria for opportunity scholarships, a requirement that a student in Washington, DC is enrolled, or will be enrolled for the next school year, in a public or private elementary or secondary school. (Opportunity scholarships are provided to low-income DC students to enable them to attend a participating private school of their choice.)

The bill also amends the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to allow states that have established a program which allows the parents of disabled children to use public or private funds for assistance with the cost of their children attending a private school, to supplement those funds with their allocation of federal special education funds.

The bill authorizes grants to support the design and initial implementation of state programs that allow the parents of a disabled child to make a choice of the appropriate public or private school for their child.

The Department of Defense (DOD) must carry out a five-year pilot program to award scholarships to enable military dependent students who live on military installations to attend the public or private elementary or secondary schools their parents choose. DOD must select at least five military installations to participate in the program and choose those where military students would benefit from expanded education options.

The Department of Education must return to the Treasury specified amounts made available for salaries and expenses.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Feb 17, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Jan 24, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 24, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.