

SRES 425

A resolution recognizing the importance of protecting freedom of speech, thought, and expression at institutions of higher education.

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Oct 20, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text: CR S7128-7129)

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text: CR S7128-7129) (Oct 20, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-resolution/425>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]

Party: Republican • **State:** TN • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Braun, Mike [R-IN]	R · IN		Oct 20, 2021
Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]	R · AR		Oct 20, 2021
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		Oct 20, 2021
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Oct 20, 2021
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Oct 20, 2021
Sen. Hawley, Josh [R-MO]	R · MO		Oct 20, 2021
Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK]	R · OK		Oct 20, 2021
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Oct 20, 2021
Sen. Scott, Tim [R-SC]	R · SC		Oct 20, 2021
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		Oct 20, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 20, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Oct 20, 2021)

This resolution addresses free speech issues at institutions of higher education (IHEs).

Specifically, the resolution recognizes that free speech zones and restrictive speech codes of IHEs are inherently at odds with the freedom of speech guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution. In addition, the resolution urges (1) IHEs to facilitate and recommit themselves to protecting the free and open exchange of ideas; (2) the Department of Education to promote policies that foster debate, academic freedom, intellectual curiosity, and viewpoint diversity on campuses of public IHEs; and (3) the Department of Justice to defend and protect the First Amendment across public IHEs.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 20, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
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