

HR 2479

Securing Our Schools Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Apr 3, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Apr 14, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/2479>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Weber, Randy K., Sr. [R-TX-14]

Party: Republican • State: TX • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Miller, Max L. [R-OH-7]	R · OH		Apr 17, 2023
Rep. Carter, John R. [R-TX-31]	R · TX		Jan 10, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Appropriations Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 3, 2023
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 3, 2023
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 14, 2023
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 3, 2023
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 3, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 5184	Related bill	Aug 11, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.
118 HR 2483	Related bill	Apr 6, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.
118 S 1082	Identical bill	Mar 30, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
118 S 1083	Related bill	Mar 30, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## Securing Our Schools Act of 2023

This bill provides funding and resources to (1) strengthen security on school premises, and (2) provide access to student mental health resources. It also generally prohibits the use of federal funding provided by this bill for abortions.

Specifically, the bill provides specified funds through FY2033 to the Department of Education (ED) for Student Support and Academic Enrichment grants. It also directs ED to use a portion of these funds to strengthen security on school premises.

The bill reauthorizes through FY2029 the Nonprofit Security Grant Program and revises the program, including by increasing grant amounts for administrative costs and technical assistance.

Further, the bill allows funds under the Community Oriented Policing Services grant program to be used to pay for school resource officers and improve physical security at schools.

Additionally, the bill transfers

- specified funds under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act to ED to establish the Student Access to Mental Health Program Fund, through which ED must award grants to states to support the salary of a mental health professional in eligible schools; and
- specified unobligated funds under the ARP Act to support certain mental health programs of ED, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The Government Accountability Office must conduct a study on mental health providers in schools.

The bill transfers specified unobligated funds that were provided to address COVID-19 to ED to carry out this bill.

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## Actions Timeline

- **Apr 14, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Apr 3, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 3, 2023:** Referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, the Judiciary, Energy and Commerce, and Appropriations, 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.