

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8433

To amend the Public Health Service Act to require the National Institutes of Health to select awardees based on merit, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 16, 2024

Ms. HAGEMAN (for herself, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. BURLISON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to require the National Institutes of Health to select awardees based on merit, and for other purposes.

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 “Abolishing Woke  
5 Awards for Research and Development Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING NIH TO SELECT AWARDEES BASED ON**  
7 **MERIT.**

8 Part A of title IV of the Public Health Service Act  
9 (42 U.S.C. 281 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
10 the following:

1 **“SEC. 404P. REQUIRING NIH TO SELECT AWARDEES BASED**  
2 **ON MERIT.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Institutes of  
4 Health (including any officer thereof)—

5 “(1) shall select the recipients of grants, con-  
6 tracts, cooperative agreements, or other awards  
7 based only on—

8 “(A) the merits of the proposals; and

9 “(B) the intrinsic research, development,  
10 and scientific benefits of the proposals; and

11 “(2) shall not mandate the use of diversity  
12 statements or any other diversity, equity, and inclu-  
13 sion material or documentation as a qualification  
14 for, or condition of receipt of, an award.

15 “(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
16 tion may be construed to prevent the National Institutes  
17 of Health from conducting or supporting the  
18 disaggregation of data by population for purposes of con-  
19 ducting research or developing products.

20 “(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘diver-  
21 sity statement’ means any written or oral statement dis-  
22 cussing—

23 “(1) the race, sex, color, ethnicity, gender iden-  
24 tity, or sexual orientation of the person making the  
25 statement;

1           “(2) the views of the person making the state-  
2           ment on, experience with, or contributions to—

3                   “(A) diversity, equity, and inclusion;

4                   “(B) marginalized groups;

5                   “(C) anti-racism;

6                   “(D) social justice;

7                   “(E) intersectionality;

8                   “(F) confessing one’s race-based privilege;

9                   or

10                   “(G) related concepts;

11           “(3) the views of the person making the state-  
12           ment on, experience with the race, sex, color, eth-  
13           nicity, gender identity, or sexual orientation of stu-  
14           dents and co-workers; or

15           “(4) the views of the person making the state-  
16           ment regarding any theory or practice that advo-  
17           cates for the differential treatment of any individual  
18           or groups of individuals based on race, sex, color,  
19           gender, ethnicity, gender identity, or sexual orienta-  
20           tion.”.

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