

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3707

To require the Secretary of State to submit annual reports reviewing the educational material used by the Palestinian Authority in schools, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 31, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. PAUL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of State to submit annual reports reviewing the educational material used by the Palestinian Authority in schools, 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 “Peace and Tolerance  
5 in Palestinian Education Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) In 2016 and 2017, the Palestinian Author-  
2           ity published modified curricula for school-aged chil-  
3           dren in grades 1 through 11.

4           (2) Textbooks used by the Palestinian Author-  
5           ity in the West Bank and Gaza include graphics por-  
6           traying violence against Israeli soldiers, positive por-  
7           trayals of individuals who have committed attacks  
8           against citizens of Israel, and references to Pales-  
9           tinian efforts to target the “Zionists”.

10          (3) Palestinian Authority textbooks are used at  
11          schools sponsored by the United Nations Relief and  
12          Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near  
13          East because the schools use the textbooks of the  
14          host government.

15          (4) On April 26, 2018, the Government Ac-  
16          countability Office published a report that found the  
17          following:

18                (A) Textbooks in schools in areas con-  
19                trolled by the Palestinian Authority feature in-  
20                accurate and misleading maps of the region and  
21                include militaristic, adversarial imagery and  
22                content that incite hatred.

23                (B) The Department of State raised with  
24                Palestinian officials the objectionable content in  
25                the textbooks, including a specific math prob-

1           lem using the number of Palestinian casualties  
2           in the First and Second Intifadas.

3                   (C) The United Nations Relief and Works  
4           Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near  
5           East, in its review of the textbooks, identified  
6           content not aligned with United Nations values,  
7           the majority of which content related to neu-  
8           trality or bias issues, including issues related to  
9           maps and references to Jerusalem as the cap-  
10          ital of Palestine.

11 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

12          It is the sense of Congress that the Palestinian Au-  
13          thority has not sufficiently eliminated content encouraging  
14          violence or intolerance toward other countries or ethnic  
15          groups from the curriculum used in schools in areas con-  
16          trolled by the Palestinian Authority.

17 **SEC. 4. REPORTS REQUIRED.**

18          (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
19          date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter  
20          for 2 years in accordance with subsection (c), the Sec-  
21          retary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign  
22          Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign  
23          Affairs of the House of Representatives a report reviewing  
24          curriculum used in schools in areas controlled by the Pal-

1 estinian Authority or located in Gaza and controlled by  
2 any other entity.

3 (b) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by subsection  
4 (a) shall include the following:

5 (1) A determination of whether the curriculum  
6 reviewed contains content encouraging violence or in-  
7 tolerance toward other countries or ethnic groups,  
8 and a detailed explanation of the reasons for reach-  
9 ing such determination.

10 (2) An assessment of the steps the Palestinian  
11 Authority is taking to reform curriculum containing  
12 such content at schools to conform with standards of  
13 peace and tolerance in the Declaration of Principles  
14 on Tolerance adopted by Member States of the  
15 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural  
16 Organization on November 16, 1995.

17 (3) A determination of whether United States  
18 foreign assistance is used, directly or indirectly, to  
19 fund the dissemination of such curriculum by the  
20 Palestinian Authority.

21 (4) A detailed report on how United States as-  
22 sistance is being used to address curriculum that en-  
23 courages violence or intolerance toward other nations  
24 or ethnic groups.

1           (5) A detailed report on United States diplo-  
2           matic efforts, during the 5-year period preceding the  
3           date on which the report is submitted, to encourage  
4           peace and tolerance in Palestinian education.

5           (6) If any diplomatic efforts referred to in para-  
6           graph (5) were stopped by the Secretary of State,  
7           the reasons for such stoppages.

8           (c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of State  
9           shall post on a publicly available website of the Depart-  
10          ment of State each report required by subsection (a).

11          (d) SUBSEQUENT DEADLINES.—Each report re-  
12          quired by subsection (a), other than the first such report,  
13          shall be submitted not later than 90 days after the date  
14          on which a new school year begins for schools in areas  
15          controlled by the Palestinian Authority.

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