

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 985

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure campus access  
at public institutions of higher education for religious groups.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 27, 2023

Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. ERNST, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. RUBIO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure  
campus access at public institutions of higher education  
for religious groups.

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 “Equal Campus Access  
5 Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. CAMPUS ACCESS FOR RELIGIOUS GROUPS.**

2 Part B of title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
3 (20 U.S.C. 1011 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
4 the following:

5 **“SEC. 124. CAMPUS ACCESS FOR RELIGIOUS GROUPS.**

6 “None of the funds made available under this Act  
7 may be provided to any public institution of higher edu-  
8 cation that denies to a religious student organization any  
9 right, benefit, or privilege that is otherwise afforded to  
10 other student organizations at the institution (including  
11 full access to the facilities of the institution and official  
12 recognition of the organization by the institution) because  
13 of the religious beliefs, practices, speech, leadership stand-  
14 ards, or standards of conduct of the religious student or-  
15 ganization.”.

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