

June 6, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
Chairwoman, Committee on Education & the Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson and Chairwoman Foxx:

We write to express our support for the EDUCATE Act (Embracing anti-Discrimination, Unbiased Curricula, and Advancing Truth in Education Act) and request that the Committee on Education & the Workforce mark up and advance this important bill without delay.

On March 7, Higher Education and Workforce Development Subcommittee Chair Burgess Owens held an important [hearing](#) on the corrosive effect of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) ideology has on college campuses. Witnesses testified about the danger of allowing rebranded racial discrimination to influence undergraduate and medical school curriculum.

On March 19, Representative Greg Murphy and 40 colleagues [introduced](#) the EDUCATE Act—a bill that seeks to eliminate divisive, race-based diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programming and practices in our nation’s medical schools. Prioritizing the teaching of the political and social ideology at the heart of DEI, to the exclusion or expense of academic excellence, has life and death consequences for millions of patients. This bill takes a critical first step in reorienting medical education towards its noble, life-saving mission.

Our organizations represent a broad coalition of Americans who want to put an end to the dangerous erosion of academic excellence and confidence in our medical education system.

Medical schools increasingly advance the narrative that healthcare is systemically racist and call for medical reparations. A part of this effort includes implementing fundamental changes in medical education that place DEI practices at the forefront of training America’s future physicians. This ideology compromises the quality of medical professionals we produce and undermines the importance of scientific expertise and patient care. With swift action we can restore confidence in medical professionals and roll back the negative consequences of DEI through a renewed focus on academic and professional excellence in medical schools, hospitals, doctors’ offices, and clinics across the country.

The EDUCATE Act directly addresses these concerns. It requires a return to academic excellence and patient care that is free from any form of politically-motivated discrimination. The bill prevents any discrimination against students on the basis of race, color, or ethnicity. It ensures critical coursework hours are not diverted to advancing certain ideological tenets. Importantly, the bill requires accreditation agencies to ensure that their standards do not mandate adherence to any particular ideology while still allowing for instruction about medical issues related to race, such as the higher prevalence of a certain disease among an ethnic group, and data collection based on race for demographic purposes.

We, the undersigned, urge you to ensure that the EDUCATE Act receives a markup without delay. There is no mission more critical than ensuring the safety of American patients and the comprehensive training of well-qualified doctors.

Sincerely,

The Honorable J. Kenneth Blackwell
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