Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H. R. 3659, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

116TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. R. 3659

To establish an Anti-Bullying Roundtable to study bullying in elementary and secondary schools in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 9, 2019

Mr. ROSE of New York (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. REED, and Ms. STEVENS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To establish an Anti-Bullying Roundtable to study bullying in elementary and secondary schools in the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as “Danny’s Law”.

(b) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:
(1) This Act is named in honor of Daniel Fitzpatrick, who, in August 2016, when he was 13 years old, tragically took his own life as a direct result of bullying.

(2) According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, bullying is among the most commonly reported discipline problems in public schools.

(3) Potential effects of bullying include social and emotional distress, physical injury, and increased risk for lowering academic achievement.

SEC. 2. ANTI-BULLYING ROUNDTABLE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an independent commission to be known as the “Anti-Bullying Roundtable” (in this Act referred to as the “Roundtable”).

(b) DUTIES.—The duties of the Roundtable shall be to study and report on bullying in elementary schools and secondary schools in the United States by consulting with State educational agencies and local educational agencies regarding—

(1) current policies on bullying;

(2) teacher education on bullying and bullying prevention policies;
(3) parent and student education on bullying and bullying prevention policies;

(4) instances of student violence as a result of bullying;

(5) instances of student self-harm as a result of bullying;

(6) preventative measures in place at State and local levels; and

(7) instances of cyberbullying and practices for addressing cyberbullying.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Roundtable shall be composed of 15 members, appointed as follows:

(A) 3 members shall be appointed by the Secretary of Education, and those 3 members shall represent 3 different categories of stakeholders described in paragraph (2).

(B) 6 members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, 3 of whom shall be appointed on the recommendation of the majority leader of the House of Representatives, and 3 of whom shall be appointed on the recommendation of the minority leader of the House of Representatives. The Speaker, the majority leader, and the minority leader of
the House of Representatives shall each select
individuals who represent at least 3 different
categories of stakeholders described in para-
graph (2).

(C) 6 members shall be appointed by the
President pro tempore of the Senate, 3 of whom
shall be appointed on the recommendation of
the majority leader of the Senate, and 3 of
whom shall be appointed on the recommenda-
tion of the minority leader of the Senate. The
President pro tempore, the majority leader, and
the minority leader of the Senate shall each se-
lect individuals who represent at least 3 dif-
ferent categories of stakeholders described in
paragraph (2).

(D) In appointing members of the Round-
table, the Secretary of Education, the Speaker
of the House of Representatives, and the Presi-
dent pro tempore of the Senate, to the extent
practicable, shall take into account all the other
nominees to the Roundtable to ensure as many
as possible of the categories of stakeholders de-
scribed in paragraph (2) are represented.
(2) REPRESENTATION.—The members of the Roundtable shall include, to the extent practicable, at least one representative of each of the following:

(A) Teachers.

(B) School leaders.

(C) Parents of schoolchildren.

(D) Individuals who are at least 16 years of age and who have experienced bullying.

(E) Physicians.

(F) Child psychologists.

(G) Paraprofessionals.

(H) School resource officers or other appropriate professionals responsible for school security.

(I) Specialized instructional support personnel.

(J) Other staff.

(K) Other individuals with expertise working with bullied youth.

(3) CHAIR.—The members of the Roundtable shall elect one individual to serve as chair.

(4) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for the duration of the existence of the Roundtable.

(5) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Roundtable shall be filled in the manner in which the original
appointment was made under paragraph (1) and in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (2).

(6) Pay.—Members of the Roundtable shall serve without pay.

(d) Time Frame for Formation.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the designated Members of Congress and the Secretary shall appoint the members described in subsection (c)(1).

(e) Powers of Roundtable.—

(1) Hearings and Sessions.—The Roundtable may, for the purpose of carrying out this section, hold hearings, sit and act at times and places, take testimony, and receive evidence as the Roundtable considers appropriate.

(2) Obtaining Official Data.—Upon request of the chair of the Roundtable, the Secretary of Education shall work with the heads of appropriate departments or agencies to furnish requested information to the Roundtable.

(3) Mails.—The Roundtable may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(4) Administrative Support Services.—Upon request of the Roundtable, the Secretary of
Education shall provide to the Roundtable the administrative support services necessary for the Roundtable to carry out its responsibilities under this Act.

(f) Reports.—

(1) Best practices report.—Not later than 270 days after the date on which the Roundtable has been formed, the Roundtable shall submit to the Secretary of Education, and the Secretary shall make public, a report on best practices concerning bullying, including cyberbullying, in elementary schools and secondary schools in the United States that contains, among other items—

(A) recommendations for how to prevent bullying;

(B) recommendations for how to best educate educators, administrators, and all relevant school staff on recognizing bullying;

(C) recommendations for how parents can best address and discuss with their children the early warning signs of bullying;

(D) recommendations for addressing underlying causes of bullying behavior;
(E) recommendations to address bullying of at-risk students, including students who are at greater risk of self-harm; and

(F) examples of successful evidence-based bullying prevention programming.

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Roundtable has been formed, the Roundtable shall transmit a final report to the Secretary of Education and the Congress containing—

(A) a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the Roundtable; and

(B) recommendations for lawmakers regarding effective bullying prevention policies.

(g) TERMINATION.—The Roundtable shall terminate upon submission of the final report pursuant to subsection (f)(2).

(h) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—No data obtained under this Act from State educational agencies, local educational agencies, Federal departments or agencies, or other sources, including information described in subsection (e)(2), shall include or reveal personally identifiable information about any individual.

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act, the terms “elementary school”, “local educational agency”, “paraprofes-
sional”, “parent”, “other staff”, “school leader”, “sec-
ondary school”, “Secretary”, “specialized instructional
support personnel”, and “State educational agency” have the meaning given those terms, respectively, under section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).