



## READ Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 (H.R.7240/ S.3928)

**The Problem:** Currently, **58 million primary school-aged children globally do not attend school and 260 million do not have access to quality education.** Gender discrimination in school contributes to the illiteracy of over **500 million women** in adulthood as well. These issues, along with frequent global conflicts, undermine the benefits of education. The negative secondary consequences of COVID-19 have exacerbated these barriers over the last three years as well.

**The Solution:** On Sep. 8, 2017, the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development (READ) Act was signed into law. The READ Act **emphasizes the value of education for economic growth and social mobility** as it promotes educational programs around the world. Through the READ Act, partnerships for educational development will have greater oversight, coordination and a renewed focus on retention. **H.R.7240/ S.3928 reauthorizes the READ Act for an additional five years continuing such as work as:**

- **Leveraging U.S. capabilities** through technical assistance, training and research;
- Appointing a USAID employee to the role of Senior Coordinator of United States International Basic Education Assistance. The Senior Coordinator is responsible for **strategic development, coordination and oversight of programs and activities that promote international basic education;**
- **Improving the quality of basic education** by supporting educational goals in lower-income countries, replicating successful education interventions and measuring learning outcomes in students, especially for girls and young women;
- Amending previous goals of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 in order to develop a coordinated, sustainable and aid-effective plan with partner countries, donors, multilateral institutions, the private sector and nongovernmental and civil society organizations to promote quality basic education through programs that:
  - **Respond to the needs of countries** to achieve improvements in literacy
  - **Strengthen education systems** and expand access to safe learning
  - **Promote education** as a foundation for sustained economic growth

Education can **reduce poverty, increase incomes and economic growth, foster peace, reduce child marriage and maternal death, decrease violence and extremism, promote gender equality and save lives.**

**Supporters:** U.S. Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), along with Reps. Karen Bass (D-CA) and Chris Smith introduced the bipartisan legislation to reauthorize the READ Act on March 28, 2022.