

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2081

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a partnership between the Department of Education and the National Park Service to provide educational opportunities for students and teachers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2009

Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. POLIS of Colorado, Mr. KIND, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. INSLEE, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. SESTAK, and Mrs. CAPPS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a partnership between the Department of Education and the National Park Service to provide educational opportunities for students and teachers.

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 “National Park Edu-
5 cational Partnership Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL PARK RANGER SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 (a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Part D of title V of the Ele-
5 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
6 U.S.C. 7241 et seq.) is amended by adding at the
7 end the following:

8 “SUBPART 22—NATIONAL PARK RANGER SCHOOL
9 PARTNERSHIPS

10 **“SEC. 5621. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation
12 with the Director of the National Park Service, may award
13 grants, on a competitive basis, to schools and local edu-
14 cational agencies to carry out the authorized activities de-
15 scribed in subsection (b).

16 “(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—A school or local
17 educational agency shall use funds provided under this
18 subpart to enter into a partnership with the National Park
19 Service, in cooperation where appropriate with a not-for-
20 profit partner of the National Park Service, to carry out
21 both of the following activities:

22 “(1) Providing, for students in kindergarten
23 through grade 12, educational programs (including
24 programs under which instruction is provided by Na-
25 tional Park Service Rangers) that emphasize science,

1 the environment, natural resources, mathematics,
2 civics, and history.

3 “(2) Providing, for educators of students in
4 kindergarten through grade 12, professional develop-
5 ment opportunities (such as summer institutes) that
6 emphasize science, the environment, natural re-
7 sources, mathematics, civics, and history.

8 “(c) GRANTS.—Each grant under this subpart shall
9 be for a period of 3 years, and for an aggregate amount
10 of not more than \$25,000.

11 “(d) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant
12 under this subpart, a school or local educational agency
13 shall—

14 “(1) either—

15 “(A) have a partnership or be capable of
16 partnering with a unit of the National Park
17 Service or a Research and Learning Center of
18 the National Park Service; or

19 “(B) have, or demonstrate that it will de-
20 velop, a technology-based distance learning link
21 to the National Park Service;

22 “(2) be identified for improvement under title I;
23 and

24 “(3) have a significant percentage of low-in-
25 come students.

1 “(e) CRITERIA.—Grants under this subpart shall be
2 awarded on a competitive basis using criteria established
3 jointly by the Secretary and the Director of the National
4 Park Service.

5 “(f) REPORTS BY GRANTEES.—At the end of the
6 grant term, the school or local educational agency receiv-
7 ing the grant shall submit to the Secretary a report that—

8 “(1) identifies the number of students partici-
9 pating in the activities described in subsection (b)(1)
10 that were carried out under the grant and the
11 achievement attained by those students in mathe-
12 matics, science, and any other academic areas rel-
13 evant to the activities carried out under the grant as
14 measured against—

15 “(A) statewide scores for students on the
16 academic assessments in mathematics or
17 science under section 1111(b)(3); and

18 “(B) other benchmarks established by the
19 Secretary, in coordination with the National
20 Park Service; and

21 “(2) identifies the number of educators partici-
22 pating in the activities described in subsection (b)(2)
23 that were carried out under the grant and the pro-
24 fessional development received by those educators in
25 mathematics, science, and any other academic areas

1 relevant to the activities carried out under the
2 grant.”.

3 (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
4 Section 5401 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 7241) is
5 amended—

6 (A) by striking “There are” and inserting
7 the following:

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are”; and

9 (B) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(b) NATIONAL PARK RANGER SCHOOL PARTNER-
11 SHIPS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry
12 out subpart 22, such sums as may be necessary for fiscal
13 year 2010 and each of the 5 succeeding fiscal years.”.

14 (3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
15 tents in section 2 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 6301 note)
16 is amended by adding after the items relating to
17 subpart 21 of part D of title V the following:

“SUBPART 22—NATIONAL PARK RANGER SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

“Sec. 5621. Program authorized.”.

18 (b) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ELIGIBILITY FOR CER-
19 TAIN PROGRAMS.—

20 (1) MATH AND SCIENCE PARTNERSHIPS.—Sec-
21 tion 2201(b)(1)(B) of the Elementary and Sec-
22 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
23 6661(b)(1)(B)) is amended—

1 (A) by redesignating clauses (iii) and (iv)
2 as clauses (iv) and (v), respectively; and

3 (B) by adding after clause (ii) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(iii) the National Park Service;”.

6 (2) TEACHING OF TRADITIONAL AMERICAN HIS-
7 TORY.—Section 2351(b) of that Act (20 U.S.C.
8 6721(b)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(4) An educational service agency, including a
11 Federal agency that serves as an educational service
12 provider.”.

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