

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2326

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish the National Education Innovation Network and the National Innovation Corps.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 23, 2011

Mrs. DAVIS of California (for herself and Mr. HOLT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish the National Education Innovation Network and the National Innovation Corps.

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 “Innovation in Edu-
5 cation Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The United States could greatly benefit by
9 investing in education research and development. In

1 fact, ample evidence shows that scientifically vali-
2 dated innovations in teaching and learning can re-
3 sult in significant improvements in student achieve-
4 ment and success.

5 (2) When understood as systematic innovation,
6 research and development can spur education im-
7 provement in scalable and sustainable ways.

8 (3) Education research and development should
9 be part of a strategy for innovation and ongoing im-
10 provement within individual classrooms, schools, and
11 other learning environments, as well as within spe-
12 cialized research and development units.

13 (4) The active involvement of teachers, prin-
14 cipals, local educational agency administrators, and
15 State school officers in knowledge and innovation ac-
16 tivities is essential to the effective application of re-
17 search-based knowledge to policy and practice.

18 (5) More instructional activities and practices
19 supported by scientifically valid research need to be
20 developed to meet the current and expected demands
21 of educators in schools.

22 (6) National leadership is needed to provide
23 targeted initiatives, collaboration, and coordination
24 of innovative best practices in teaching and learning
25 to ensure that classroom educators have access to,

1 and effectively use practices supported by, scientif-
2 ically valid research.

3 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL EDUCATION INNOVATION NETWORK.**

4 The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
5 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by inserting
6 after section 2422, the following:

7 **“SEC. 2423. NATIONAL EDUCATION INNOVATION NETWORK.**

8 “(a) **PURPOSE.**—It is the purpose of this section to
9 establish the National Education Innovation Network to
10 support the dissemination of promising educational sys-
11 tems, practices, and products to teachers and administra-
12 tors, and identify the best available evidence for such sys-
13 tems, practices, and products.

14 “(b) **ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL EDUCATION**
15 **INNOVATION NETWORK.**—

16 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—From the amounts appro-
17 priated under subsection (e), the Secretary shall, in
18 coordination with education research and assistance
19 entities, establish and maintain a National Edu-
20 cation Innovation Network (in this section referred
21 to as the ‘Network’).

22 “(2) **NETWORK REQUIREMENTS.**—The Network
23 shall be designed as an efficient system of profes-
24 sional exchange for educators and administrators
25 to—

1 “(A) assist teachers and other individuals
2 with the identification, transfer, and implemen-
3 tation of successful educational systems, prac-
4 tices, and products;

5 “(B) incorporate Web 2.0 technologies to
6 enhance creativity, information sharing, dis-
7 seminations, and collaboration among educators
8 within Web-based communities;

9 “(C) develop and maintain resource-rich,
10 easily accessible databases, and a rigorous, on-
11 going vetting process for ensuring the quality
12 and integrity of entries provided by the Net-
13 work; and

14 “(D) develop a system to market the avail-
15 ability of the Network to teachers, educators,
16 school administrators, State educational agen-
17 cies, local educational agencies, and other inter-
18 ested parties to ensure that the information is
19 broadly and well disseminated.

20 “(c) INFORMATION.—

21 “(1) CATEGORIES OF INFORMATION.—The Net-
22 work shall provide 3 categories of vetted information
23 with respect to the most promising practices and
24 strategies that may provide solutions to the most
25 persistent problems of practice in improving student

1 achievement on State assessments and academic
2 progress, and turning around low-performing
3 schools. Such categories of information are as fol-
4 lows:

5 “(A) Unrestricted.

6 “(B) Restricted.

7 “(C) Special Topics.

8 “(2) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—In es-
9 tablishing and maintaining the Network, the Sec-
10 retary shall carry out the following:

11 “(A) MOST PROMISING PRACTICES AND
12 STRATEGIES.—The Secretary shall disseminate,
13 through searchable databases or Internet Web
14 sites (including the Internet Web site of the De-
15 partment of Education entitled ‘Doing What
16 Works’) available under the Network, the re-
17 stricted and special topic information with re-
18 spect to the most promising practices and strat-
19 egies described paragraph (1). The databases or
20 Internet Web sites shall include, with respect to
21 each such practice or strategy—

22 “(i) a detailed description of the ele-
23 ments of instruction or administration the
24 practice or strategy is designed to improve,
25 including a detailed description of the core

1 or essential elements of the practice or
2 strategy in a manner comprehensible to,
3 and by—

4 “(I) educators in elementary
5 schools or secondary schools; or

6 “(II) local educational agencies;

7 “(ii) information showing how the
8 practice or strategy has been—

9 “(I) developed from the results of
10 educational research; and

11 “(II) thoroughly assessed by a
12 research-based evaluation processes;

13 “(iii) the contact information of a
14 knowledgeable individual whom an educa-
15 tor or administrator may contact for more
16 information on the practice or strategy;
17 and

18 “(iv) Internet links to similar or com-
19plementary practices and strategies avail-
20able in the database or Internet Web site
21that educators and administrators may
22wish to consider.

23 “(B) COMPLEMENTARY COMBINATIONS OF
24BEST PRACTICES AND STRATEGIES.—The Sec-
25retary shall disseminate through the searchable

1 databases or Internet Web sites described in
2 subparagraph (A), complementary combinations
3 of best practices and strategies, that shall in-
4 clude—

5 “(i) the core elements of instruction
6 or administration the best practices or
7 strategies are designed to improve;

8 “(ii) a detailed description of the best
9 practices or strategies in a manner com-
10 prehensible to, and by—

11 “(I) educators in elementary
12 schools or secondary schools; or

13 “(II) local educational agencies;

14 “(iii) a list of the promising practices
15 and strategies included in the databases or
16 Internet Web site and how such practices
17 and strategies interact and complement
18 each other; and

19 “(iv) Internet links to each of the in-
20 dividual practices and strategies included
21 in the innovation collaborative in order to
22 assist educators in learning learn more in-
23 formation about the component parts.

24 “(C) SYSTEM OR FORUM.—The Secretary
25 shall, under the searchable databases or Inter-

1 net Web sites described in subparagraph (A),
2 establish a system or forum through which edu-
3 cators and administrators may—

4 “(i) nominate new practices and strat-
5 egies for inclusion in the databases or
6 Internet Web sites;

7 “(ii) recommend improvements and
8 refinements to practices and strategies al-
9 ready included in the Network; and

10 “(iii) freely exchange ideas for prac-
11 tices and strategies with fellow educators
12 and administrators.

13 “(d) NOTIFICATION AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT.—
14 The Secretary shall—

15 “(1) notify educators and administrators in
16 schools and local educational agencies of the Net-
17 work, and the databases and Internet Web sites
18 available under the Network; and

19 “(2) in collaboration with the regional edu-
20 cational laboratories established under section 174
21 of the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20
22 U.S.C. 9564), the Comprehensive Centers estab-
23 lished under section 203 of the Educational Tech-
24 nical Assistance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9602), pro-
25 vide technical assistance to educators and adminis-

1 trators to assist the educators and administrators in
2 accessing the Network and the databases and Inter-
3 net Web sites available under the Network.

4 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
5 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section,
6 \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2012 and such sums as may
7 be necessary for each of the succeeding fiscal years.

8 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 “(1) EDUCATION RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE
10 ENTITY.—The term ‘education research and assist-
11 ance entity’ means an entity knowledgeable about
12 education research, including—

13 “(A) a national education, research, and
14 development center;

15 “(B) a regional educational laboratory; and

16 “(C) a comprehensive assistance center.

17 “(2) LOW-PERFORMING SCHOOL.—The term
18 ‘low performing school’ means a school that—

19 “(A) is receiving funds under part A of
20 title I and undergoing school improvement, cor-
21 rective action, or restructuring under section
22 1116, and is among the lowest-achieving schools
23 receiving funds under such part that is under-
24 going such school improvement, corrective ac-
25 tion, or restructuring; or

1 “(B) is eligible for, but does not receive,
2 funds under part A of title I and is among the
3 lowest-achieving schools in the State eligible for,
4 but not receiving, funds under such part.

5 “(3) UNRESTRICTED INFORMATION.—The term
6 ‘unrestricted information’ means a category of infor-
7 mation that—

8 “(A) covers information with respect to
9 new, high potential, and relatively untested
10 practices or strategies that have limited formal
11 evidence of statistically significant improvement
12 of student achievement; and

13 “(B) is shared by teachers, administrators,
14 officials of State educational agencies; relevant
15 educational organizations; and existing edu-
16 cation databases.

17 “(4) RESTRICTED INFORMATION.—The term
18 ‘restricted information’ means a category of infor-
19 mation that—

20 “(A) covers information with stronger evi-
21 dence of statistically significant improvement on
22 student achievement than the unrestricted in-
23 formation category; and

24 “(B) is shared by teachers, administrators,
25 officials of State educational agencies, relevant

1 educational organizations, and existing edu-
2 cation databases.

3 “(5) SPECIAL TOPICS.—The term ‘special top-
4 ics’ means a category of information—

5 “(A) that covers information that is con-
6 sistent with evidence validated under the Inter-
7 net Web site of the Department of Education
8 entitled the What Works Clearinghouse; and

9 “(B) includes online materials and support
10 systems that teachers and others may use to
11 improve educational practices available under
12 the Internet Web site of the Department of
13 Education entitled ‘Doing What Works’.

14 “(6) WEB 2.0 TECHNOLOGIES.—The term ‘Web
15 2.0 technologies’ means commonly used Web appli-
16 cations that facilitate interactive information shar-
17 ing, interoperability, user-centered design, and col-
18 laboration on the World Wide Web by allowing its
19 users to interact with other users or to change site
20 content, in contrast to non-interactive sites where
21 users are limited to the passive viewing of informa-
22 tion that is provided to them. Such technologies in-
23 clude Web-based communities, hosted services, Web
24 applications, social-networking sites, video-sharing
25 sites, wikis, and blogs.”.

1 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL EDUCATION INNOVATION CORPS.**

2 Part A of title VI of the Elementary and Secondary
3 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7301 et seq.) is amend-
4 ed by adding at the end the following:

5 **“Subpart 5—National Education Innovation Corps**

6 **“SEC. 6171. NATIONAL EDUCATION INNOVATION CORPS.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated
8 under subsection (e), the Secretary shall, in coordination
9 with education research and assistance entities, establish
10 the National Education Innovation Corps.

11 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the National Edu-
12 cation Innovation Corps (in this section referred to as the
13 ‘Corps’) is to enable State educational agencies to work
14 in collaboration with education research entities to address
15 the critical problems of practice in chronically low-per-
16 forming schools. Under the Corps, a corps of knowledge
17 brokers and practice experts will connect educators and
18 administrators with high quality, evidence-based, relevant
19 solutions for the most critical problems of practice in local
20 educational agencies and chronically low-performing
21 schools.

22 “(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL EDU-
23 CATION INNOVATION CORPS.—

24 “(1) ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARY.—From
25 the amounts appropriated under subsection (e), the

1 Secretary shall, in coordination with education re-
2 search and assistance entities, where appropriate—

3 “(A) coordinate with State educational
4 agencies in participating States to establish the
5 Corps in such States; and

6 “(B) provide the necessary technical assist-
7 ance to such agencies.

8 “(2) ACTIVITIES OF STATE EDUCATIONAL
9 AGENCIES.—A State educational agency in a partici-
10 pating State shall coordinate the activity of knowl-
11 edge brokers and practice experts within the State
12 to accommodate and ensure alignment with the
13 State educational agency’s reforms, standards, and
14 assessment systems, in addition to Federal require-
15 ments, with respect to education.

16 “(3) ACTIVITIES OF KNOWLEDGE BROKERS.—
17 Under the Corps, a knowledge broker shall carry out
18 activities that include—

19 “(A) identifying local educational agency
20 needs and research-based solutions relevant to
21 such needs;

22 “(B) developing effective induction and on-
23 going professional development experiences for
24 teachers;

1 “(C) supporting innovations in elementary
2 school and secondary school curricula;

3 “(D) fostering the effective use of tech-
4 nology-based applications in classrooms; and

5 “(E) building professional performance as-
6 sessment systems that—

7 “(i) focus on the most important com-
8 petencies for student success; and

9 “(ii) provide useful feedback to facili-
10 tate instructional improvements.

11 “(4) ACTIVITIES OF PRACTICE EXPERTS.—

12 Under the Corps, a practice expert shall carry out
13 activities that include—

14 “(A) helping teachers use multiple forms
15 of assessment, including formative and
16 summative tests, to guide instructional decision
17 making;

18 “(B) assisting teachers in efforts to im-
19 prove student achievement in, and across con-
20 tent areas, such as math, science, social studies,
21 and English language arts;

22 “(C) training teachers to use data that is
23 based on scientifically valid research to improve
24 instruction;

1 “(D) developing and implementing dif-
2 ferentiated instruction to serve the needs of the
3 full range of learners; and

4 “(E) employing best practices in engaging
5 teachers and other education staff to change
6 school cultures to serve all students across all
7 core academic subjects; and

8 “(F) support the support described in sub-
9 paragraphs (A) through (E) by phone, online,
10 and in-person.

11 “(d) ALLOCATIONS TO PARTICIPATING STATE EDU-
12 CATIONAL AGENCIES.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appro-
14 priated under subsection (e), the Secretary shall
15 award grants to State educational agencies to estab-
16 lish the Corps in the States of such agencies.

17 “(2) ALLOCATIONS.—For each fiscal year, the
18 Secretary shall allocate such grants among State
19 educational agencies in proportion to the funds re-
20 ceived by the State educational agencies under part
21 A of title I for the fiscal year.

22 “(3) REALLOCATIONS.—If a State educational
23 agency chooses not to apply to receive the amount
24 allocated to such agency under paragraph (2), or if
25 such agency’s application under paragraph (5) is

1 disapproved by the Secretary, the Secretary shall re-
2 allocate such amount to other State educational
3 agencies in the same proportion funds are allocated
4 under paragraph (2).

5 “(4) GRANT DURATION.—A grant under this
6 subsection may be awarded for a period of 3 years.

7 “(5) APPLICATION.—A State educational agen-
8 cy desiring to receive a grant under this subsection
9 shall submit an application to the Secretary at such
10 time, in such manner, and containing the informa-
11 tion the Secretary may require, which shall in-
12 clude—

13 “(A) a list of the lowest-performing schools
14 targeted for support under the Corps to be es-
15 tablished in such State;

16 “(B) a description of how knowledge bro-
17 kers and practice experts will be recruited, se-
18 lected, and trained under the Corps;

19 “(C) a description of the nature of services
20 to be provided in the schools designated for
21 support under the Corps (such as through the
22 combining of resources into school support
23 teams or by providing on-line ‘ask the expert’
24 advice); and

1 “(D) how the State educational agency will
2 evaluate the effectiveness of the services pro-
3 vided.

4 “(6) REPORTING.—A State educational agency
5 receiving a grant under this subsection shall submit
6 to the Secretary a report on the use of such funds,
7 at such time, in such manner, and containing such
8 information as the Secretary may require.

9 “(7) BIA AS SEA.—For purposes of this section
10 the Bureau of Indian Affairs shall be treated as a
11 State educational agency.

12 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
13 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section,
14 \$80,000,000 for fiscal year 2012 and such sums as may
15 be necessary for each of the succeeding fiscal years.

16 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 “(1) CHRONICALLY LOW-PERFORMING
18 SCHOOL.—The term ‘chronically low-performing
19 school’ has the meaning given the term ‘low-per-
20 forming school’ in section 2423(f).

21 “(2) EDUCATION RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE
22 ENTITY.—The term ‘education research and assist-
23 ance entity’ has the meaning given such term in sec-
24 tion 2423(f).

1 “(3) KNOWLEDGE BROKER.—The term ‘knowl-
2 edge broker’ means a professional who has—

3 “(A) prior experience in a school, local
4 educational agency, or State educational agency
5 setting;

6 “(B) research experience and an advanced
7 degree with a concentration in research analysis
8 or research design;

9 “(C) a strong background in quantitative
10 analysis;

11 “(D) expertise and experience in the proc-
12 ess of implementation of innovations; and

13 “(E) extensive experience in managing ac-
14 tivities similar to the activities carried out
15 under this section.

16 “(4) PARTICIPATING STATE.—The term ‘par-
17 ticipating State’ means a State that elects to estab-
18 lish the Corps in such State.

19 “(5) PRACTICE EXPERT.—The term ‘practice
20 expert’ means a professional who has—

21 “(A) previous teaching experience with a
22 proven track record of success in raising stu-
23 dent achievement in core academic subjects
24 where there is a need to improve student
25 achievement or student growth; and

1 “(B) previous teaching experience and has
2 demonstrated proficiency in at least one core
3 academic subject.”.

4 **SEC. 5. CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.**

5 The table of contents in section 2 of the Elementary
6 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 is amended—

7 (1) by inserting after the item related to section
8 2422, the following:

 “Sec. 2423. National Education Innovation Network.”;

9 and

10 (2) by inserting after the item related to section
11 6164, the following:

 “SUBPART 5—NATIONAL EDUCATION INNOVATION CORPS

 “Sec. 6171. National Education Innovation Corps.”.

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