

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2547

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 14, 2011

Mr. SARBANES (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. HOLT, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. OLVER, Mr. ELLISON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. FILNER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. FARR, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. POLIS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. CUMMINGS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “No Child Left Inside Act of 2011”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
 2 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. References.
- Sec. 4. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE I—ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PLANS

- Sec. 101. Development, approval, and implementation of State environmental literacy plans.

TITLE II—ESTABLISHMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION  
 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAMS

- Sec. 201. Environmental education professional development grant programs.

TITLE III—ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM TO  
 HELP BUILD NATIONAL CAPACITY

- Sec. 301. Environmental education grant program to help build national capacity.

3 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress makes the following findings:

5 (1) Environmental education is essential for—

6 (A) enhancing student learning and prob-  
 7 lem solving skills, especially in science;

8 (B) creating responsible and engaged citi-  
 9 zens; and

10 (C) producing graduates who are prepared  
 11 to address the challenges, adjustments, and op-  
 12 portunities that will be present in the life and  
 13 the workforce of the 21st century due to threats  
 14 to human health, economical development, bio-  
 15 logical diversity, and national security arising  
 16 from environmental stresses.

1           (2) Studies documenting the increasing indica-  
2           tors of nature deficit show that time spent out of the  
3           classroom for learning during the school day is crit-  
4           ical to the intellectual, emotional, and physical  
5           health of children and that providing students with  
6           quality opportunities to directly experience the nat-  
7           ural world can improve students' overall readiness to  
8           learn and academic performance, as well as self-es-  
9           teem, personal responsibility, community involve-  
10          ment, personal health (including child obesity  
11          issues), and understanding of nature.

12          (3) Fewer and fewer students are becoming in-  
13          volved in important environmental education  
14          courses, classwork, and field investigations as an un-  
15          intended consequence of the No Child Left Behind  
16          Act of 2001.

17          (4) Hands-on, experience-based environmental  
18          education as part of the school curriculum connects  
19          children to the natural world, and research supports  
20          that time spent outdoors lessens the symptoms of  
21          Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD),  
22          reduces stress and aggression, helps children sleep  
23          better, and improves physical health.

24          (5) Environmental education "in the field" as  
25          part of the regular school curriculum gets kids out-

1 side contributing to healthy lifestyles through out-  
2 door recreation, exercise, play and experience in the  
3 natural world that is critical to helping prevent obe-  
4 sity and address other related health problems.

5 (6) Environmental education for elementary  
6 and secondary school students is critical as our Na-  
7 tion transitions to a green economy where manufac-  
8 turing workers, as well as architects, engineers,  
9 planners, scientists, business managers, financial ex-  
10 perts, lawyers, entrepreneurs, political leaders, re-  
11 source managers, and others, must be environ-  
12 mentally literate to succeed in a green economy.

13 (7) Environmental education provides critical  
14 tools for a 21st century workforce by providing stu-  
15 dents with the skills to understand complex environ-  
16 mental issues so they may make informed decisions  
17 in their own lives and find solutions for real world  
18 challenges facing us as a nation. Business leaders  
19 also increasingly believe that an environmentally lit-  
20 erate workforce is critical to their long-term success.  
21 Environmental education helps prepare students for  
22 real world challenges.

23 **SEC. 3. REFERENCES.**

24 Except as otherwise specifically provided, whenever in  
25 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms

1 of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other  
2 provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to  
3 a section or other provision of the Elementary and Sec-  
4 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

5 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be ap-  
7 propriated to carry out section 5622(g) and part E of title  
8 II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
9 1965 such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012  
10 and each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.

11 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—With respect to any amount ap-  
12 propriated under subsection (a) for a fiscal year—

13 (1) not more than 70 percent of such amount  
14 shall be used to carry out section 5622(g) of the El-  
15 elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 for  
16 such fiscal year; and

17 (2) not less than 30 percent of such amount  
18 shall be used to carry out part E of title II of such  
19 Act for such fiscal year.

1           **TITLE I—ENVIRONMENTAL**  
2                           **LITERACY PLANS**

3   **SEC. 101. DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL, AND IMPLEMENTA-**  
4                           **TION OF STATE ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY**  
5                           **PLANS.**

6           Part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) is amended  
7 by adding at the end the following:

8           **“Subpart 22—Environmental Literacy Plans**

9   **“SEC. 5621. ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PLAN REQUIRE-**  
10                           **MENTS.**

11           “In order for any State educational agency, or a local  
12 educational agency served by a State educational agency,  
13 to receive grant funds, either directly or through participa-  
14 tion in a partnership with a recipient of grant funds,  
15 under this subpart or part E of title II, the State edu-  
16 cational agency shall meet the requirements regarding an  
17 environmental literacy plan under section 5622.

18   **“SEC. 5622. STATE ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PLANS.**

19           “(a) SUBMISSION OF PLAN.—

20                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
21 the date of enactment of the No Child Left Inside  
22 Act of 2011, a State educational agency subject to  
23 the requirements of section 5621 shall, in consulta-  
24 tion with State environmental agencies and State

1 natural resource agencies, and with input from the  
2 public—

3 “(A) submit an environmental literacy plan  
4 for prekindergarten through grade 12 to the  
5 Secretary for peer review and approval that will  
6 ensure that elementary and secondary school  
7 students in the State are environmentally lit-  
8 erate; and

9 “(B) begin the implementation of such  
10 plan in the State.

11 “(2) EXISTING PLANS.—A State may satisfy  
12 the requirement of paragraph (1)(A) by submitting  
13 to the Secretary for peer review an existing State  
14 plan that has been developed in cooperation with a  
15 State environmental or natural resource manage-  
16 ment agency, if such plan complies with this section.

17 “(b) PLAN OBJECTIVES.—A State environmental lit-  
18 eracy plan shall meet the following objectives:

19 “(1) Prepare students to understand, analyze,  
20 and address the major environmental challenges fac-  
21 ing the students’ State and the United States.

22 “(2) Provide field experiences as part of the  
23 regular school curriculum and create programs that  
24 contribute to healthy lifestyles through outdoor  
25 recreation and sound nutrition.

1           “(3) Create opportunities for enhanced and on-  
2           going professional development for teachers that im-  
3           proves the teachers’—

4                   “(A) environmental subject matter knowl-  
5                   edge; and

6                   “(B) pedagogical skills in teaching about  
7                   environmental issues, including the use of—

8                           “(i) interdisciplinary, field-based, and  
9                           research-based learning; and

10                           “(ii) innovative technology in the  
11                           classroom.

12           “(c) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—A State environmental  
13           literacy plan shall include each of the following:

14                   “(1) A description of how the State educational  
15                   agency will measure the environmental literacy of  
16                   students, including—

17                           “(A) relevant State academic content  
18                           standards and content areas regarding environ-  
19                           mental education, and courses or subjects where  
20                           environmental education instruction will be in-  
21                           tegrated throughout the prekindergarten to  
22                           grade 12 curriculum; and

23                           “(B) a description of the relationship of  
24                           the plan to the secondary school graduation re-  
25                           quirements of the State.



1           “(2) A description of programs for professional  
2           development for teachers to improve the teachers’—

3                   “(A) environmental subject matter knowl-  
4           edge; and

5                   “(B) pedagogical skills in teaching about  
6           environmental issues, including the use of—

7                           “(i) interdisciplinary, field-based, and  
8           research-based learning; and

9                           “(ii) innovative technology in the  
10          classroom.

11           “(3) A description of how the State educational  
12          agency will implement the plan, including securing  
13          funding and other necessary support.

14          “(d) PLAN UPDATE.—The State environmental lit-  
15          eracy plan shall be revised or updated by the State edu-  
16          cational agency and submitted to the Secretary not less  
17          often than every 5 years or as appropriate to reflect plan  
18          modifications.

19          “(e) PEER REVIEW AND SECRETARIAL APPROVAL.—  
20          The Secretary shall—

21                   “(1) establish a peer review process to assist in  
22          the review of State environmental literacy plans;

23                   “(2) appoint individuals to the peer review  
24          process who—

1           “(A) are representative of parents, teach-  
2           ers, State educational agencies, State environ-  
3           mental agencies, State natural resource agen-  
4           cies, local educational agencies, and nongovern-  
5           mental organizations; and

6           “(B) are familiar with national environ-  
7           mental issues and the health and educational  
8           needs of students;

9           “(3) include, in the peer review process, appro-  
10          priate representatives from the Department of Com-  
11          merce, Department of Interior, Department of En-  
12          ergy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and  
13          other appropriate Federal agencies, to provide envi-  
14          ronmental expertise and background for evaluation  
15          of the State environmental literacy plan;

16          “(4) approve a State environmental literacy  
17          plan not later than 120 days after the plan’s sub-  
18          mission unless the Secretary determines that the  
19          State environmental literacy plan does not meet the  
20          requirements of this section;

21          “(5) immediately notify the State if the Sec-  
22          retary determines that the State environmental lit-  
23          eracy plan does not meet the requirements of this  
24          section, and state the reasons for such determina-  
25          tion;

1           “(6) not decline to approve a State environ-  
2           mental literacy plan before—

3                   “(A) offering the State an opportunity to  
4                   revise the State environmental literacy plan;

5                   “(B) providing technical assistance in  
6                   order to assist the State to meet the require-  
7                   ments of this section; and

8                   “(C) providing notice and an opportunity  
9                   for a hearing; and

10           “(7) have the authority to decline to approve a  
11           State environmental literacy plan for not meeting  
12           the requirements of this part, but shall not have the  
13           authority to require a State, as a condition of ap-  
14           proval of the State environmental literacy plan, to—

15                   “(A) include in, or delete from, such State  
16                   environmental literacy plan 1 or more specific  
17                   elements of the State academic content stand-  
18                   ards under section 1111(b)(1); or

19                   “(B) use specific academic assessment in-  
20                   struments or items.

21           “(f) STATE REVISIONS.—The State educational  
22           agency shall have the opportunity to revise a State envi-  
23           ronmental literacy plan if such revision is necessary to sat-  
24           isfy the requirements of this section.

25           “(g) GRANTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—

1           “(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts  
2           appropriated for this subsection, the Secretary shall  
3           award grants, through allotments in accordance with  
4           the regulations described in paragraph (2), to States  
5           to enable the States to award subgrants, on a com-  
6           petitive basis, to local educational agencies and eligi-  
7           ble partnerships (as such term is defined in section  
8           2502) to support the implementation of the State  
9           environmental literacy plan.

10           “(2) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall pro-  
11           mulgate regulations implementing the grant pro-  
12           gram under paragraph (1), which regulations shall  
13           include the development of an allotment formula  
14           that best achieves the purposes of this subpart.

15           “(3) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—A State re-  
16           ceiving a grant under this subsection may use not  
17           more than 2.5 percent of the grant funds for admin-  
18           istrative expenses.

19           “(h) REPORTING.—

20           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years  
21           after approval of a State environmental literacy  
22           plan, and every 2 years thereafter, the State edu-  
23           cational agency shall submit to the Secretary a re-  
24           port on the implementation of the State plan.

1           “(2) REPORT REQUIREMENTS.—The report re-  
2           quired by this subsection shall be—

3                   “(A) in the form specified by the Sec-  
4           retary;

5                   “(B) based on the State’s ongoing evalua-  
6           tion activities; and

7                   “(C) made readily available to the public.”.

8   **TITLE II—ESTABLISHMENT OF**  
9       **ENVIRONMENTAL                   EDU-**  
10      **CATION PROFESSIONAL DE-**  
11      **VELOPMENT GRANT PRO-**  
12      **GRAMS**

13   **SEC. 201. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL**  
14                   **DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAMS.**

15           Title II (20 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.) is amended by add-  
16   ing at the end the following:

17   **“PART E—ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PRO-**  
18      **FESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PRO-**  
19      **GRAMS**

20   **“SEC. 2501. PURPOSE.**

21           “The purpose of this part is to ensure the academic  
22   achievement of students in environmental literacy through  
23   the professional development of teachers and educators.

1 **“SEC. 2502. GRANTS FOR ENHANCING EDUCATION**  
2 **THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.**

3 “(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.—In  
4 this section, the term ‘eligible partnership’ means a part-  
5 nership that—

6 “(1) shall include a local educational agency;  
7 and

8 “(2) may include—

9 “(A) the teacher training department of an  
10 institution of higher education;

11 “(B) the environmental department of an  
12 institution of higher education;

13 “(C) another local educational agency, a  
14 public charter school, a public elementary  
15 school or secondary school, or a consortium of  
16 such schools;

17 “(D) a Federal, State, regional, or local  
18 environmental or natural resource management  
19 agency that has demonstrated effectiveness in  
20 improving the quality of environmental edu-  
21 cation teachers; or

22 “(E) a nonprofit organization that has  
23 demonstrated effectiveness in improving the  
24 quality of environmental education teachers.

25 “(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

1           “(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts  
2           appropriated for this subsection, the Secretary shall  
3           award grants, through allotments in accordance with  
4           the regulations described in paragraph (2), to States  
5           whose State environmental literacy plan has been  
6           approved under section 5622, to enable the States to  
7           award subgrants under subsection (c).

8           “(2) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall pro-  
9           mulgate regulations implementing the grant pro-  
10          gram under paragraph (1), which regulations shall  
11          include the development of an allotment formula  
12          that best achieves the purposes of this subpart.

13          “(3) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—A State re-  
14          ceiving a grant under this subsection may use not  
15          more than 2.5 percent of the grant funds for admin-  
16          istrative expenses.

17          “(c) SUBGRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

18                 “(1) SUBGRANTS TO ELIGIBLE PARTNER-  
19                 SHIPS.—From amounts made available to a State  
20                 educational agency under subsection (b)(1), the  
21                 State educational agency shall award subgrants, on  
22                 a competitive basis, to eligible partnerships serving  
23                 the State, to enable the eligible partnerships to carry  
24                 out the authorized activities described in subsection

1 (e) consistent with the approved State environmental  
2 literacy plan.

3 “(2) DURATION.—The State educational agency  
4 shall award each subgrant under this part for a pe-  
5 riod of not more than 3 years beginning on the date  
6 of approval of the State’s environmental literacy  
7 plan under section 5622.

8 “(3) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds  
9 provided to an eligible partnership under this part  
10 shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, funds  
11 that would otherwise be used for activities author-  
12 ized under this part.

13 “(d) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible partnership  
15 desiring a subgrant under this part shall submit an  
16 application to the State educational agency, at such  
17 time, in such manner, and accompanied by such in-  
18 formation as the State educational agency may re-  
19 quire.

20 “(2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted  
21 under paragraph (1) shall include—

22 “(A) the results of a comprehensive assess-  
23 ment of the teacher quality and professional de-  
24 velopment needs, with respect to the teaching  
25 and learning of environmental content;



1           “(B) an explanation of how the activities  
2           to be carried out by the eligible partnership are  
3           expected to improve student academic achieve-  
4           ment and strengthen the quality of environ-  
5           mental instruction;

6           “(C) a description of how the activities to  
7           be carried out by the eligible partnership—

8                   “(i) will be aligned with challenging  
9                   State academic content standards and stu-  
10                  dent academic achievement standards in  
11                  environmental education, to the extent  
12                  such standards exist, and with the State’s  
13                  environmental literacy plan under section  
14                  5622; and

15                   “(ii) will advance the teaching of  
16                   interdisciplinary courses that integrate the  
17                   study of natural, social, and economic sys-  
18                   tems and that include strong field compo-  
19                   nents in which students have the oppor-  
20                   tunity to directly experience nature;

21           “(D) a description of how the activities to  
22           be carried out by the eligible partnership will  
23           ensure that teachers are trained in the use of  
24           field-based or service learning to enable the  
25           teachers—

1                   “(i) to use the local environment and  
2                   community as a resource; and

3                   “(ii) to enhance student under-  
4                   standing of the environment and academic  
5                   achievement;

6                   “(E) a description of—

7                   “(i) how the eligible partnership will  
8                   carry out the authorized activities de-  
9                   scribed in subsection (e); and

10                  “(ii) the eligible partnership’s evalua-  
11                  tion and accountability plan described in  
12                  subsection (f); and

13                  “(F) a description of how the eligible part-  
14                  nership will continue the activities funded under  
15                  this part after the grant period has expired.

16                  “(e) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—An eligible partner-  
17                  ship shall use the subgrant funds provided under this part  
18                  for 1 or more of the following activities related to elemen-  
19                  tary schools or secondary schools:

20                  “(1) Creating opportunities for enhanced and  
21                  ongoing professional development of teachers that  
22                  improves the environmental subject matter knowl-  
23                  edge of such teachers.

24                  “(2) Creating opportunities for enhanced and  
25                  ongoing professional development of teachers that

1 improves teachers' pedagogical skills in teaching  
2 about the environment and environmental issues, in-  
3 cluding in the use of—

4 “(A) interdisciplinary, research-based, and  
5 field-based learning; and

6 “(B) innovative technology in the class-  
7 room.

8 “(3) Establishing and operating environmental  
9 education summer workshops or institutes, including  
10 follow-up training, for elementary and secondary  
11 school teachers to improve their pedagogical skills  
12 and subject matter knowledge for the teaching of en-  
13 vironmental education.

14 “(4) Developing or redesigning more rigorous  
15 environmental education curricula that—

16 “(A) are aligned with challenging State  
17 academic content standards in environmental  
18 education, to the extent such standards exist,  
19 and with the State environmental literacy plan  
20 under section 5622; and

21 “(B) advance the teaching of interdiscipli-  
22 nary courses that integrate the study of nat-  
23 ural, social, and economic systems and that in-  
24 clude strong field components.

1           “(5) Designing programs to prepare teachers at  
2 a school to provide mentoring and professional devel-  
3 opment to other teachers at such school to improve  
4 teacher environmental education subject matter and  
5 pedagogical skills.

6           “(6) Establishing and operating programs to  
7 bring teachers into contact with working profes-  
8 sionals in environmental fields to expand such teach-  
9 ers’ subject matter knowledge of, and research in,  
10 environmental issues.

11           “(7) Creating initiatives that seek to incor-  
12 porate environmental education within teacher train-  
13 ing programs or accreditation standards consistent  
14 with the State environmental literacy plan under  
15 section 5622.

16           “(8) Promoting outdoor environmental edu-  
17 cation activities as part of the regular school cur-  
18 riculum and schedule in order to further the knowl-  
19 edge and professional development of teachers and  
20 help students directly experience nature.

21           “(f) EVALUATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN.—

22           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible partnership  
23 receiving a subgrant under this part shall develop an  
24 evaluation and accountability plan for activities as-

1       sisted under this part that includes rigorous objec-  
2       tives that measure the impact of the activities.

3               “(2) CONTENTS.—The plan developed under  
4       paragraph (1) shall include measurable objectives to  
5       increase the number of teachers who participate in  
6       environmental education content-based professional  
7       development activities.

8               “(g) REPORT.—Each eligible partnership receiving a  
9       subgrant under this part shall report annually, for each  
10      year of the subgrant, to the State educational agency re-  
11      garding the eligible partnership’s progress in meeting the  
12      objectives described in the accountability plan of the eligi-  
13      ble partnership under subsection (f).”.

14   **TITLE            III—ENVIRONMENTAL**  
15   **EDUCATION       GRANT       PRO-**  
16   **GRAM       TO       HELP       BUILD       NA-**  
17   **TIONAL       CAPACITY**

18   **SEC. 301. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM**  
19               **TO HELP BUILD NATIONAL CAPACITY.**

20       Part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) (as amend-  
21      ed by section 101) is further amended by adding at the  
22      end the following:



1           “(D) a Federal, State, regional, or local  
2 environmental or natural resource management  
3 agency, or park and recreation department,  
4 that has demonstrated effectiveness, expertise,  
5 and experience in the development of the insti-  
6 tutional, financial, intellectual, or policy re-  
7 sources needed to help the field of environ-  
8 mental education become more effective and  
9 widely practiced; and

10           “(E) a nonprofit organization that has  
11 demonstrated effectiveness, expertise, and expe-  
12 rience in the development of the institutional,  
13 financial, intellectual, or policy resources needed  
14 to help the field of environmental education be-  
15 come more effective and widely practiced.

16           “(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

17           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized  
18 to award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible  
19 partnerships to enable the eligible partnerships to  
20 pay the Federal share of the costs of activities under  
21 this subpart.

22           “(2) DURATION.—Each grant under this sub-  
23 part shall be for a period of not less than 1 year and  
24 not more than 3 years.

1 **“SEC. 5633. APPLICATIONS.**

2 “Each eligible partnership desiring a grant under this  
3 subpart shall submit to the Secretary an application that  
4 contains—

5 “(1) a plan to initiate, expand, or improve envi-  
6 ronmental education programs in order to make  
7 progress toward meeting—

8 “(A) challenging State academic content  
9 standards and student academic achievement  
10 standards in environmental education, to the  
11 extent such standards exist; and

12 “(B) academic standards that are aligned  
13 with the State’s environmental literacy plan  
14 under section 5622; and

15 “(2) an evaluation and accountability plan for  
16 activities assisted under this subpart that includes  
17 rigorous objectives that measure the impact of ac-  
18 tivities funded under this subpart.

19 **“SEC. 5634. USE OF FUNDS.**

20 “Grant funds made available under this subpart shall  
21 be used for 1 or more of the following:

22 “(1) Developing and implementing State cur-  
23 riculum frameworks for environmental education  
24 that meet—

25 “(A) challenging State academic content  
26 standards and student academic achievement



1 standards for environmental education, to the  
2 extent such standards exist; and

3 “(B) academic standards that are aligned  
4 with the State’s environmental literacy plan  
5 under section 5622.

6 “(2) Replicating or disseminating information  
7 about proven and tested model environmental edu-  
8 cation programs that—

9 “(A) use the environment as an integrating  
10 theme or content throughout the curriculum; or

11 “(B) provide integrated, interdisciplinary  
12 instruction about natural, social, and economic  
13 systems along with field experience that pro-  
14 vides students with opportunities to directly ex-  
15 perience nature in ways designed to improve  
16 students’ overall academic performance, per-  
17 sonal health (including addressing child obesity  
18 issues), and understanding of nature.

19 “(3) Developing and implementing new ap-  
20 proaches to advancing environmental education and  
21 the adoption and use of environmental content  
22 standards at the State and local levels.

23 **“SEC. 5635. REPORTS.**

24 “(a) ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP REPORT.—In order to  
25 continue receiving grant funds under this subpart after

1 the first year of a multiyear grant under this subpart, the  
2 eligible partnership shall submit to the Secretary an an-  
3 nual report that—

4           “(1) describes the activities assisted under this  
5 subpart that were conducted during the preceding  
6 year;

7           “(2) demonstrates that progress has been made  
8 in helping schools to meet the State academic stand-  
9 ards for environmental education described in sec-  
10 tion 5634(1); and

11           “(3) describes the results of the eligible part-  
12 nership’s evaluation and accountability plan.

13           “(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2 years  
14 after the date of enactment of the No Child Left Inside  
15 Act of 2011 and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall  
16 submit a report to Congress that—

17           “(1) describes the programs assisted under this  
18 subpart;

19           “(2) documents the success of such programs in  
20 improving national and State environmental edu-  
21 cation capacity; and

22           “(3) makes such recommendations as the Sec-  
23 retary determines appropriate for the continuation  
24 and improvement of the programs assisted under  
25 this subpart.

1 **“SEC. 5636. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

2 “(a) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of a  
3 grant under this subpart shall not exceed—

4 “(1) 90 percent of the total costs of the activi-  
5 ties assisted under the grant for the first year for  
6 which the program receives assistance under this  
7 subpart; and

8 “(2) 75 percent of such costs for each of the  
9 second and third years.

10 “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than  
11 7.5 percent of the grant funds made available to an eligible  
12 partnership under this subpart for any fiscal year may be  
13 used for administrative expenses.

14 “(c) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts made  
15 available to the Secretary to carry out this subpart shall  
16 remain available until expended.

17 **“SEC. 5637. SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.**

18 “Funds made available under this subpart shall be  
19 used to supplement, and not supplant, any other Federal,  
20 State, or local funds available for environmental education  
21 activities.”.

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