

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3374

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a grant program for early childhood STEAM activities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 16, 2023

Ms. KUSTER (for herself, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. ROSS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. TONKO, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. TRONE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. TITUS, Ms. BROWN, Ms. CARAVEO, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. NADLER, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. MULLIN, and Mrs. HAYES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a grant program for early childhood STEAM activities.

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 “Early STEAM
5 Achievement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From the amounts ap-
3 propriated to carry out this Act, the Secretary of Health
4 and Human Services shall award grants, on a competitive
5 basis, to eligible entities to assist such entities in carrying
6 out early childhood STEAM programs and activities.

7 (b) REQUIREMENTS FOR AWARDING GRANTS.—In
8 awarding grants under this Act, the Secretary shall—

9 (1) give priority to eligible entities that seek to
10 use such grant to carry out the activities described
11 in subsection (d)(3);

12 (2) award not less than one-third of the funds
13 appropriated for a fiscal year under subsection (e) to
14 eligible entities in rural communities; and

15 (3) award not less than one-quarter of the
16 funds appropriated for a fiscal year under subsection
17 (e) to eligible entities that are nonprofit organiza-
18 tions.

19 (c) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity desiring to re-
20 ceive a grant under this section shall submit an application
21 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and con-
22 taining such information as the Secretary may request.

23 (d) USES OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives
24 a grant under this section shall use the grant to carry
25 out at least one of the following:

1 (1) Professional development relating to early
2 childhood STEAM activities for teachers of early
3 childhood education programs.

4 (2) Materials and equipment necessary to carry
5 out such early childhood STEAM activities.

6 (3) Establishing partnerships between the eligi-
7 ble entity and an institution of higher education to
8 provide training in early childhood STEAM activities
9 for teachers of early childhood education programs.

10 (4) Establishing partnerships between the eligi-
11 ble entity and an arts agency, a community arts
12 partner, or a museum to provide training in early
13 childhood STEAM activities for teachers of early
14 childhood education programs.

15 (5) The provision of professional development
16 programs for teachers of early childhood education
17 program by institutions of higher education.

18 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may nec-
20 essary to carry out this Act for each of fiscal years 2024
21 through 2028.

22 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

23 (1) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term
24 “nonprofit organization” means an organization de-
25 scribed in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue

1 Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under sec-
2 tion 501(a) of such Code.

3 (2) EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PRO-
4 GRAM.—The term “early childhood education pro-
5 gram” has the meaning given the term in section
6 103(8) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
7 U.S.C. 1003), except that such term includes pro-
8 grams described in paragraph (8)(C) of such section
9 103 that serve children from birth through age
10 eight.

11 (3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
12 ty” means an early childhood education program.

13 (4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
14 term “institution of higher education” has the
15 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher
16 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

17 (5) STEAM.—The term “STEAM” means
18 science (including computer science), technology, en-
19 gineering, art, and mathematics.

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