

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 597

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for core curriculum development.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 15, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY (for herself, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Mr. SARBANES) 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 provide grants for core curriculum development.

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 “Access to Complete
5 Education Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. NEW PART I (CORE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT).**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the Elementary and
8 Secondary Education Act of 1965 is amended by redesi-
9 gnating part I as J and inserting after part H the following:

1 **“PART I—CORE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

2 **“SEC. 1851. GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**

3 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to
4 support systemic, comprehensive education reform by
5 strengthening the instruction of music and arts, foreign
6 languages, civics and government, economics, history, ge-
7 ography, and physical education and health as an integral
8 part of the elementary and secondary school curriculum.

9 “(b) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary is authorized to
10 award grants to local educational agencies to promote and
11 strengthen one or more of the subjects specified in sub-
12 section (a) as an integral part of the elementary school
13 and secondary school curriculum.

14 “(c) APPLICATION.—To seek a grant under this sec-
15 tion, a local educational agency shall submit an application
16 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and con-
17 taining such information as the Secretary may require.

18 “(d) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants to local edu-
19 cational agencies under this section, the Secretary shall
20 give priority to local educational agencies with greater—

21 “(1) numbers of children who are counted
22 under section 1124(c); and

23 “(2) percentages of children from families below
24 the poverty line.

25 “(e) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds may be used to expand
26 access to the subjects specified in subsection (a) by—

1 “(1) expanding the amount of instructional
2 time on these subjects;

3 “(2) providing for curriculum development that
4 is aligned with State standards where relevant;

5 “(3) providing essential materials and text
6 books that are aligned with State standards where
7 relevant;

8 “(4) partnering with Federal, State, and com-
9 munity-based organizations and institutions to in-
10 crease student learning in these subjects;

11 “(5) providing professional development to en-
12 sure curricula are implemented effectively; and

13 “(6) creating and using formative assessments
14 where appropriate to advance student achievement
15 and improve instruction.

16 “(f) CONDITIONS.—As a condition of receiving assist-
17 ance made available under this section, the Secretary shall
18 require each local educational agency receiving such assist-
19 ance—

20 “(1) to coordinate, to the extent practicable,
21 each project or program carried out with such assist-
22 ance with appropriate activities of public or private
23 cultural agencies, institutions, and organizations, in-
24 cluding museums, education associations, libraries,
25 and theaters; and

1 “(2) to use such assistance only to supplement,
2 and not to supplant, any other assistance or funds
3 made available from non-Federal sources for the ac-
4 tivities assisted under this section.

5 “(g) EVALUATIONS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each local educational
7 agency that receives funds under this section shall
8 provide the Secretary, at the conclusion of every fis-
9 cal year during which the funds are received, with
10 an evaluation, in a form prescribed by the Secretary.

11 This evaluation shall include—

12 “(A) a description of the programs and ac-
13 tivities conducted by the local educational agen-
14 cy with funds received;

15 “(B) data on curriculum and partnerships
16 developed;

17 “(C) data on the amount of time spent on
18 subjects allowed for under the grant; and

19 “(D) other information as determined by
20 the Secretary.

21 “(2) USE OF EVALUATION.—An evaluation pro-
22 vided by a local educational agency shall be used by
23 the local educational agency and the State edu-
24 cational agency for improvement of programs and
25 activities.

1 “(h) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section,
2 the Secretary shall consult with relevant Federal and
3 State agencies or institutions, educators (including profes-
4 sional education associations), organizations representing
5 subjects funded under this part.

6 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
7 are authorized to be appropriated for grants under this
8 section the following:

9 “(1) \$250,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

10 “(2) \$300,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

11 “(3) \$350,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

12 “(4) \$400,000,000 for fiscal year 2013.

13 “(5) \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 2014.

14 “(6) \$500,000,000 for fiscal year 2015.”.

15 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The following pro-
16 visions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
17 of 1965 are each amended by striking “part I” and insert-
18 ing “part J”:

19 (1) Section 1304(c)(2) (20 U.S.C. 6394(c)(2)).

20 (2) Section 1415(a)(2)(C) (20 U.S.C.
21 6435(a)(2)(C)).

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