

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6458

To terminate the Office for Elementary and Secondary Education of the Department of Education and provide block grants to States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 21, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To terminate the Office for Elementary and Secondary Education of the Department of Education and provide block grants to States.

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 “Effective Money for
5 Pupils: Overcoming Washington’s Educational Regulation
6 Act” or the “EMPOWER Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF THE OFFICE FOR ELEMENTARY**
8 **AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.**

9 The Department of Education Organization Act (20
10 U.S.C. 3401 et seq.) is amended—

- 1 (1) in section 202(b)(1)—
2 (A) by striking subparagraph (A); and
3 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B)
4 through (F) as subparagraphs (A) through (E),
5 respectively; and
6 (2) by repealing section 204.

7 **SEC. 3. REPEAL AND BLOCK GRANTS.**

8 (a) **REPEAL OF APPLICABLE STATUTES AND PRO-**
9 **GRAMS.**—Each applicable program and each provision in
10 an applicable statute with respect to an applicable pro-
11 gram is repealed.

12 (b) **BLOCK GRANTS TO STATES.**—Beginning with fis-
13 cal year 2024 and each succeeding fiscal year, the Sec-
14 retary of Education shall award block grants to each State
15 to make allocations to local educational agencies based on
16 the relative number of children aged 5 to 17, inclusive,
17 in the school district of each local educational agency.

18 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

19 In this Act:

20 (1) **APPLICABLE PROGRAM.**—The term “appli-
21 cable program” any program with respect to elemen-
22 tary or secondary education which the Secretary or
23 the Department of Education has administrative re-
24 sponsibility as provided by law or by delegation of
25 authority pursuant to law.

1 (2) APPLICABLE STATUTE.—The term “applica-
2 ble statute means”—

3 (A) the Act or the title, part, section, or
4 any other subdivision of an Act, as the case
5 may be, that authorizes the appropriation for
6 an applicable program; and

7 (B) any other statute that by its terms ex-
8 pressly controls the administration of an appli-
9 cable program.

10 (3) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
11 the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Com-
12 monwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the
13 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,
14 Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands.

15 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

16 This Act, and the amendments made by this Act,
17 shall take effect beginning on October 1, 2023.

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