

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6841

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to improve the preparation and representation of certain students in aviation-related fields, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2022

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. COHEN, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BASS, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. TITUS, Ms. ROSS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. MENG, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. KEATING, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. KAHELE, Ms. BOURDEAUX, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to improve the preparation and representation of certain students in aviation-related fields, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Minorities in Aviation
3 Education Act of 2022”.

4 **SEC. 2. BESSIE COLEMAN AVIATION EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation
6 shall establish the Bessie Coleman Aviation Education
7 Program to provide grants to eligible entities to improve
8 the preparation and representation of students, particu-
9 larly women and minorities, in aviation-related fields.

10 (b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—A grant awarded
11 under this section may only be used for activities that in-
12 crease exposure and access to aviation-related education
13 and jobs through such means as—

14 (1) internships, apprenticeships, or scholarships
15 that offer students experience in the aviation indus-
16 try;

17 (2) programs that introduce students to un-
18 manned aircraft systems (as the term is defined in
19 section 44801 of title 49, United States Code);

20 (3) career exploration and educational programs
21 that teach technical skills used in aviation mainte-
22 nance, or to improve existing such programs; and

23 (4) programs to increase the recruitment and
24 retention of underrepresented minorities in postsec-
25 ondary aviation degree programs.

26 (c) APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity seeking a
2 grant under this section shall submit an application
3 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
4 containing such information as the Secretary may
5 require, including a description of how grant funds
6 will be used to increase exposure and access to avia-
7 tion-related education and jobs.

8 (2) PRIORITY.—In reviewing and selecting ap-
9 plications for grants under this section, the Sec-
10 retary shall give priority to applicants that propose
11 to use grant funds to encourage the participation of
12 women, minorities, and individuals in rural and
13 urban areas in the aviation industry.

14 (3) PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER ENTITIES.—An
15 eligible entity may enter into a partnership agree-
16 ment with an institution of higher education, a non-
17 profit organization, or another entity, to carry out
18 activities with a grant awarded under this section.

19 (d) GRANT AMOUNT.—The maximum amount of a
20 grant awarded under this section in a fiscal year shall be
21 \$500,000.

22 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the following
23 definitions apply:

24 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
25 ty” means—

- 1 (A) a local educational agency;
2 (B) a State educational agency; and
3 (C) a State or local government.

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

8 (3) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
9 “local educational agency” has the meaning given
10 the term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-
11 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

12 (4) STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
13 “State educational agency” has the meaning given
14 the term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-
15 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

16 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
17 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
18 \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022, 2023, 2024,
19 2025, and 2026.

○