

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 866

To establish a grant program to assist States to establish universal
prekindergarten in public schools and public charter schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2013

Ms. NORTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To establish a grant program to assist States to establish
universal prekindergarten in public schools and public
charter schools.

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 “Universal Prekindergarten and Early Childhood Education Act of 2013.”

6 **SEC. 2. UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN AND EARLY**
7 **CHILDHOOD EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

8 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION.—From amounts ap-
9 propriated under section 3, the Secretary of Education is
10 authorized to award grants, on a competitive basis, to

1 States to pay the Federal share of carrying out full-day
2 prekindergarten programs.

3 (b) STATE APPLICATION.—To receive a grant under
4 this Act, a State shall submit to the Secretary an applica-
5 tion at such time, in such manner, and containing such
6 information as the Secretary may require.

7 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—A State that receives a grant
8 under this Act shall use such grant funds to carry out
9 a prekindergarten program that, at a minimum—

10 (1) is located at a public school in the State;

11 (2) permits each 4-year old child in the State
12 to be voluntarily enrolled by the child’s parent, re-
13 gardless of income, in the program at a school in
14 which the child may be enrolled for kindergarten;

15 (3) is a full-day program that runs the length
16 of the regular school year;

17 (4) is taught by teachers who possess equivalent
18 or similar qualifications to the qualifications of
19 teachers of other grades in the school involved; and

20 (5) meets any other criteria that the Secretary
21 may require.

22 (d) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of a grant
23 under this Act shall be not more than 80 percent of the
24 costs of carrying out the activities described in subsection
25 (c).

1 (e) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Grant funds re-
2 ceived under this Act shall be used to supplement and not
3 supplant other Federal early childhood education funds in
4 the State.

5 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
7 this Act such sums as are necessary for fiscal years 2014
8 through 2019.

9 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

10 In this Act:

11 (1) FULL-DAY.—The term “full-day” used with
12 respect to a program, means a program with a min-
13 imum of a 6-hour schedule per day.

14 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
15 the Secretary of Education.

16 (3) STATE.—The term “State” has the mean-
17 ing given the term in section 9101 of the Elemen-
18 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
19 U.S.C. 7801).

20 (4) PARENT.—The term “parent” has the
21 meaning given the term in section 9101 of the Ele-
22 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
23 U.S.C. 7801).

24 (5) PUBLIC SCHOOL.—The term “public
25 school” has the meaning given the term “elementary

1 school” or “secondary school” in section 9101 of the
2 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
3 (20 U.S.C. 7801), except that the term does not in-
4 clude private schools.

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