

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1687

To provide financial assistance to eligible local educational agencies to improve rural education, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 1993

Mr. WILLIAMS (for himself, Mr. DE LA GARZA, Mr. FAZIO, Mr. GUNDERSON, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. PARKER, Mr. WISE, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. VOLKMER, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. OLVER, and Mr. BOUCHER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To provide financial assistance to eligible local educational agencies to improve rural education, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Rural Schools of America (RSA) Act of 1993”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents is
7 as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. Statement of purpose.

TITLE I—RURAL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

- Sec. 101. Authorization.
- Sec. 102. Allotment of funds.
- Sec. 103. Application.
- Sec. 104. Planning period.
- Sec. 105. Uses of funds.
- Sec. 106. Accountability.
- Sec. 107. Incentive awards to exemplary programs.
- Sec. 108. Regulatory assessment.
- Sec. 109. Local advisory group.
- Sec. 110. Special rules.

TITLE II—SCHOOL BUILDING REPAIR AND RENOVATION

- Sec. 201. Purpose; authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 202. Allotment of funds.
- Sec. 203. Application.
- Sec. 204. Repair and renovation.
- Sec. 205. Environment and safety.
- Sec. 206. Waiver.
- Sec. 207. Application of the Davis-Bacon Act.

TITLE III—EVALUATION OF RESULTS

Subtitle A—Assistant Secretary

- Sec. 301. Assistant Secretary for rural education.

Subtitle B—Rural School Research and Evaluation

- Sec. 311. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 312. Establishment; operation; uses of funds.
- Sec. 313. Local rural school evaluation.
- Sec. 314. Local applications.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 401. Interagency Council and Rural Schools.
- Sec. 402. White House Conference on Rural Education.
- Sec. 403. Federal funds to supplement not supplant non-Federal funds.
- Sec. 404. Definitions.

1 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

2 The Congress finds that—

- 3 (1) the ability of America’s rural school systems
- 4 to meet the National Education Goals will contribute
- 5 to the economic competitiveness and academic stand-
- 6 ing of the Nation in the world community;

1 (2) the quality of public education in the rural
2 areas of the Nation has a direct effect on the eco-
3 nomic development of the rural communities of the
4 Nation;

5 (3) the success of rural schools in boosting the
6 achievement of minority youth attending such
7 schools will determine the ability of the Nation to
8 close the gap between the “haves and have-nots” in
9 society;

10 (4) the cost to America’s businesses to provide
11 remedial education to high school graduates is ap-
12 proximately \$30,000,000,000 per year;

13 (5) approximately one-third of the Nation’s
14 work force will be minority by the year 2000;

15 (6) rural schools enroll a disproportionately
16 large share of the Nation’s poor and “at-risk”
17 youth;

18 (7) approximately 60 percent of the Nation’s
19 public school districts are rural with a population of
20 less than 2,500;

21 (8) approximately one out of every four of
22 America’s rural children are living below the poverty
23 line;

1 (9) the academic performance of students in the
2 average rural school system is below that of students
3 in most other suburban school systems;

4 (10) rural preschoolers have less access to early
5 childhood development programs than other children;

6 (11) shortages of teachers for rural school sys-
7 tems is greater than in other kinds of school sys-
8 tems;

9 (12) a declining number of rural high school
10 graduates are pursuing postsecondary education op-
11 portunities;

12 (13) the average age of rural public school
13 buildings is more than 45 years old and are often in
14 serious disrepair, creating poor and demoralizing
15 working and learning conditions;

16 (14) solving the challenges facing the Nation's
17 rural schools will require the concerted and collabo-
18 rative efforts of all levels of government and all sec-
19 tors of the community;

20 (15) State and Federal funding of rural schools
21 has not adequately reflected need; and

22 (16) Federal funding that is well targeted, flexi-
23 ble and accountable would contribute significantly to
24 addressing the comprehensive needs of rural schools.

1 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

2 It is the purpose of this Act to provide financial as-
3 sistance for those rural schools most in need to encourage
4 the comprehensive restructuring of America's rural
5 schools, the appropriate use of telecommunications tech-
6 nologies for learning and to support innovative programs
7 which improve performance through programs and
8 projects designed to—

9 (1) assist rural schools in meeting National
10 Education Goals;

11 (2) encourage rural schools to engage in school
12 reform;

13 (3) develop pilot projects that experiment with
14 innovative ways to teach rural public school children
15 more effectively;

16 (4) improve the educational and social well
17 being of rural public school children;

18 (5) close the achievement gap between children
19 attending rural schools and other children, while im-
20 proving the achievement level of all children nation-
21 ally;

22 (6) renovate and repair aging rural school
23 buildings and facilities;

24 (7) conduct coordinated research on rural edu-
25 cation problems, solutions, promising practices, and
26 distance learning technologies;

1 (8) improve the Nation’s global economic and
2 educational competitiveness by improving the coun-
3 try’s rural schools;

4 (9) encourage community, parental and busi-
5 ness collaboration in the improvement of rural
6 schools;

7 (10) review regulations the simplification of
8 which might improve the achievement of rural school
9 children;

10 (11) encourage rural school consortia for the
11 purpose of increasing efficiency and course offerings;

12 (12) encourage a positive role for rural public
13 schools in local rural entrepreneurship and the iden-
14 tification of rural community economic development
15 opportunities;

16 (13) encourage “community as school” con-
17 cepts, which include the role public schools can play
18 to assist with rural community economic revitaliza-
19 tion; and

20 (14) provide meaningful inservice opportunities
21 for rural public school teachers.

1 **TITLE I—RURAL SCHOOL**
2 **IMPROVEMENT**

3 **SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 There are authorized to be appropriated
5 \$1,500,000,000 for 1994 and such sums as may be nec-
6 essary for each of the fiscal years 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998,
7 1999, and 2000 to carry out the provisions of this title.

8 **SEC. 102. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.**

9 (a) RESERVATION.—From the amount appropriated
10 or otherwise made available to carry out the provisions of
11 this title for any fiscal year after the first fiscal year in
12 which the Secretary awards allotments to State edu-
13 cational agencies under this title, the Secretary shall re-
14 serve 5 percent of such funds to provide competitive
15 awards in accordance with section 107.

16 (b) ALLOTMENTS.—

17 (1) FEDERAL ALLOTMENT.—From the remain-
18 der of the funds not reserved under subsection (a),
19 the Secretary shall allot to each State educational
20 agency with an approved application in each fiscal
21 year an amount which bears the same relationship to
22 such funds as the amount all eligible local edu-
23 cational agencies with approved applications in the
24 State were allocated under sections 1005 and 1006
25 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of

1 1965 in the preceding fiscal year bears to the total
2 amount received under such sections in such preced-
3 ing fiscal year by all eligible local educational agen-
4 cies with approved applications in all States.

5 (2) STATE ALLOTMENT.—

6 (A) RESERVATION.—From amounts re-
7 ceived pursuant to paragraph (1), each State
8 educational agency may reserve 1 percent of
9 such amount for administrative expenses.

10 (B) FORMULA.—From the remainder of
11 amounts received pursuant to paragraph (1) in
12 each fiscal year, each State educational agency
13 shall allot to each eligible local educational
14 agency with an approved application an amount
15 which bears the same relationship to such funds
16 as the amount such eligible local educational
17 agency was allocated under sections 1005 and
18 1006 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
19 cation Act of 1965 in the preceding fiscal year
20 bears to the total amount received under such
21 sections in such preceding fiscal year by all eli-
22 gible local educational agencies with approved
23 applications in the State.

24 (C) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more
25 than 5 percent of any eligible local educational

1 agency's allotment under this subsection may be
2 used for administrative costs.

3 (c) REALLOTMENT.—Any amounts available for real-
4 lotment pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) shall be real-
5 lotted in the same manner as the original allotments were
6 made.

7 (d) RESERVATION FOR COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANI-
8 ZATIONS AND NONPROFIT PARTNERSHIPS.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts allotted
10 under subsection (b)(2) for any fiscal year, each eli-
11 gible local educational agency shall reserve not more
12 than 5 percent to make as many grants as prac-
13 ticable for activities in accordance with the National
14 Education Goals and described in section 105 to—

15 (A) community-based organizations; or

16 (B) nonprofit partnerships among the eligi-
17 ble local educational agency, local colleges or
18 universities, or area-wide collaboratives with
19 private sector businesses who enter into a writ-
20 ten agreement with the eligible local educational
21 agency.

22 (2) SPECIAL RULE.—Grants awarded pursuant
23 to paragraph (1) shall be of sufficient size, scope
24 and quality to be effective.

1 **SEC. 103. APPLICATION.**

2 (a) STATE APPLICATION.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State educational
4 agency desiring to receive an allotment in any fiscal
5 year to carry out the provisions of this title shall
6 submit an application to the Secretary at such time,
7 in such manner, and accompanied by such informa-
8 tion as the Secretary may reasonably require.

9 (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
10 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—

11 (A) contain such information as the Sec-
12 retary may reasonably require in order to make
13 the allotment described in section 102(b)(1);

14 (B) inform the Secretary regarding any eli-
15 gible local educational agency that fails to com-
16 ply with the provisions of this title; and

17 (C) contain such other information or as-
18 surances as the Secretary determines necessary
19 to ensure compliance with the provisions of this
20 title.

21 (b) LOCAL APPLICATION.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Any eligible local educational
23 agency desiring to receive an allotment to carry out
24 the provisions of this title, shall—

1 (A) develop and prepare an application
2 with the local advisory group in accordance with
3 section 109 of this Act;

4 (B) submit the application described in
5 subparagraph (A) to the State educational
6 agency at such time, in such manner and ac-
7 companied by such information as the State
8 educational agency may reasonably require.

9 (2) CONTENTS OF LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-
10 CY APPLICATION.—Each application submitted by an
11 eligible local educational agency pursuant to para-
12 graph (1) shall include a description of—

13 (A) the ranking of all schools in the eligi-
14 ble local educational agency by achievement,
15 poverty, and racial isolation and how such
16 schools will be served in accordance with section
17 110(a);

18 (B) the community served by the eligible
19 local educational agency and the effects of the
20 community on the educational conditions within
21 the schools served by the eligible local edu-
22 cational agency;

23 (C) the collaboration in program planning
24 with the local advisory group described in sec-
25 tion 109;

1 (D) the goals selected by the eligible local
2 educational agency pursuant to section 106(b),
3 the rationale for choosing such goals over oth-
4 ers, and a description of whether the goals se-
5 lected differ between elementary and secondary
6 schools in the district;

7 (E) how funds received under this title will
8 be used to meet the National Educational Goals
9 selected by the eligible local educational agency;

10 (F) how promising or successful models or
11 programs will be replicated in designing activi-
12 ties assisted under this title;

13 (G) which federally funded programs and
14 activities are being expanded under this title;
15 and

16 (H) the statistical indicators and other cri-
17 teria that the eligible local educational agency
18 will use to measure progress toward meeting
19 National Education Goals, and a description of
20 what the local educational agency has done to
21 ensure that any assessments used to measure
22 such progress will not have a negative effect on
23 minority or language minority students;

1 (3) DURATION.—Except as provided in section
2 106, the application described in paragraph (1) may
3 be for a period of not more than 3 years.

4 (c) COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-
5 PROFIT PARTNERSHIPS.—Any community-based organiza-
6 tion or nonprofit partnership described in section 102(d)
7 desiring to receive a grant from an eligible local edu-
8 cational agency pursuant to such section shall—

9 (1) prepare an application for approval by the
10 local advisory group described in section 109 and
11 submit such application to the eligible local edu-
12 cational agency;

13 (2) describe in the application the collaborative
14 efforts undertaken with the eligible local educational
15 agency in designing a program to meet the purposes
16 of the Act; and

17 (3) describe in the application how funds will be
18 used to help meet the education goals selected by the
19 eligible local educational agency pursuant to sub-
20 section (b) of this section.

21 **SEC. 104. PLANNING PERIOD.**

22 Any eligible local educational agency requiring addi-
23 tional planning efforts to meet the provisions of this title
24 may use the first 6 months of the initial program year
25 for planning purposes, subject to approval by the State

1 educational agency, except that no more than 15 percent
2 of the first year's allotment shall be used for such pur-
3 poses. A written report of the results of the plan shall be
4 submitted to the State educational agency.

5 **SEC. 105. USES OF FUNDS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Funds allotted under section
7 102(b)(2) shall be used by eligible local educational agen-
8 cies, or community-based organizations or nonprofit part-
9 nerships described in section 102(d) to meet national edu-
10 cation goals through programs designed to—

11 (1) increase the academic achievement of rural
12 school children to at least the national average, in-
13 cluding such education reform initiatives as—

14 (A) effective schools programs;

15 (B) tutoring, mentoring, and other activi-
16 ties to improve academic achievement directly;

17 (C) supplementary academic instruction;

18 (D) efforts to improve problem-solving and
19 higher-order critical thinking skills;

20 (E) programs to increase student motiva-
21 tion for learning;

22 (F) efforts to lengthen the school day,
23 school year or reduce class sizes; and

1 (G) encouraging the establishment of rural
2 school consortia to increase efficiency and
3 course offerings; and

4 (2) ensure the readiness of all rural children for
5 school, including—

6 (A) full workday, full calendar-year com-
7 prehensive early childhood development pro-
8 grams;

9 (B) parenting classes and parent involve-
10 ment activities;

11 (C) activities designed to coordinate pre-
12 kindergarten and child care programs;

13 (D) efforts to integrate developmentally
14 appropriate prekindergarten services into the
15 overall school program;

16 (E) upgrading the qualifications of early
17 childhood education staff and standards for
18 programs;

19 (F) collaborative efforts with health and
20 social service agencies to provide comprehensive
21 services and to facilitate the transition from
22 home to school;

23 (G) establishment of comprehensive child
24 care centers in high schools for student-parents
25 and their children; and

1 (H) augmenting early childhood develop-
2 ment programs to meet the special educational
3 and cultural needs of limited-English proficient
4 and migrant preschool children;

5 (3) increase the graduation rates of rural stu-
6 dents to at least the national average, including—

7 (A) dropout prevention activities and sup-
8 port services for students at-risk of dropping
9 out of school;

10 (B) re-entry, outreach and support activi-
11 ties to recruit students who have dropped out of
12 school to return to school;

13 (C) development of systemwide policies and
14 practices that encourage students to stay in
15 school;

16 (D) efforts to provide individualized stu-
17 dent support, such as mentoring programs;

18 (E) collaborative activities between schools,
19 parents, community groups, agencies and insti-
20 tutions of higher education aimed at preventing
21 individuals from dropping out of school;

22 (F) programs to increase student attend-
23 ance; and

24 (G) alternative programs for students, es-
25 pecially bilingual, special education and migrant

1 students, who have dropped out of school or are
2 at-risk of dropping out of school;

3 (4) prepare rural school graduates to enter
4 higher education, pursue careers and exercise their
5 responsibilities as citizens, including—

6 (A) activities designed to increase the
7 number and percentages of students, enrolling
8 in postsecondary educational institutions after
9 graduation from secondary schools;

10 (B) in-school youth employment, vocational
11 education, and career education programs that
12 improve the transition from school to work;

13 (C) activities designed in collaboration with
14 colleges and universities to assist rural school
15 graduates in completing higher education;

16 (D) activities designed in conjunction with
17 community colleges to provide a K-14 experi-
18 ence for rural school secondary school students;

19 (E) efforts to increase voter registration
20 among eligible high school students attending
21 schools served by eligible local educational agen-
22 cies;

23 (F) activities designed to promote commu-
24 nity service and volunteerism among students,
25 parents, teachers, and the community;

1 (G) civic education, law-related education
2 and other programs designed to enhance re-
3 sponsible citizenship and understanding of the
4 political process; and

5 (H) encouraging a positive role for rural
6 public schools in local rural entrepreneurship
7 and the identification of rural community eco-
8 nomic development opportunities;

9 (5) recruit and retain qualified teachers, includ-
10 ing—

11 (A) school-based management projects and
12 activities;

13 (B) programs designed to increase the sta-
14 tus of the teaching profession;

15 (C) alternative routes to certification for
16 qualified individuals from business, the military
17 and other fields;

18 (D) efforts to recruit and retain teachers
19 in critical shortage areas, including early child-
20 hood teachers, mathematics and science teach-
21 ers, and special education and bilingual teach-
22 ers;

23 (E) upgrading the skills of existing class-
24 room teachers through the use of year-round,

1 systematic, comprehensive inservice training
2 programs;

3 (F) upgrading the skills of teacher aides
4 and paraprofessionals to assist such individuals
5 in becoming certified teachers;

6 (G) efforts specifically designed to increase
7 the number of minority teachers in rural
8 schools;

9 (H) programs designed to “grow your
10 own” teachers;

11 (I) incentives for teachers to work in rural
12 schools;

13 (J) collaborative activities with colleges
14 and universities to revise and upgrade teacher
15 training programs to meet the needs of rural
16 school students; and

17 (K) training activities for the purpose of
18 incorporating distance learning technologies;

19 (6) decrease the use of drugs and alcohol
20 among rural students, and to enhance the physical
21 and emotional health of such students, including—

22 (A) activities designed to improve the self-
23 esteem and self-worth of rural students;

1 (B) the provision of health care services
2 and other social services and the coordination of
3 such services with other health care providers;

4 (C) programs designed to improve safety
5 and discipline and reduce in-school violence and
6 vandalism;

7 (D) activities that begin in the early
8 grades and are designed to prevent drug and al-
9cohol abuse and smoking among students;

10 (E) collaborative activities with other agen-
11cies, businesses, and community groups to dis-
12courage the advertisement and glorification of
13drugs and alcohol;

14 (F) efforts to enhance health education
15and nutrition education; and

16 (G) alternative schools, and schools-within-
17schools programs, including bilingual, migrant
18and special education programs for students
19with special needs.

20 (b) SPECIAL RULE.—Funds allotted under section
21 102(b)(2) may be used by eligible local educational agen-
22cies, community-based organizations, or nonprofit partner-
23ships described in section 102(d) for the planning, devel-
24opment, operation, or expansion of programs and activities

1 which are designed to assist rural schools in meeting Na-
2 tional Education Goals, and may include—

3 (1) training of teachers and other educational
4 personnel in subject areas, or instructional tech-
5 nology and methods that would improve the delivery
6 of services in rural settings in any of the National
7 Education Goal areas, including staff development
8 efforts which emphasize multicultural, gender and
9 disability bias-free curricula;

10 (2) coordination and collaboration with other
11 rural agencies, including State rural development
12 councils, child care organizations, universities or the
13 private sector;

14 (3) parental involvement and outreach efforts
15 and other activities designed to enhance parental en-
16 couragement of student learning;

17 (4) guidance counseling, psychological, social
18 work, and other support services that contribute to
19 progress in achieving national education goals;

20 (5) efforts to acquire and improve access to
21 educational technology, including distance learning
22 technologies;

23 (6) programs to serve homeless children, deseg-
24 regating children, immigrants, migrants, or other
25 highly mobile populations, even if such individuals

1 do not attend a rural project school assisted under
2 this title;

3 (7) efforts to improve, reform and strengthen
4 the curriculum, especially efforts to enhance critical
5 thinking skills among rural students, and efforts to
6 coordinate services across grade levels; and

7 (8) other activities designed to assist in achiev-
8 ing the national education goals.

9 (c) PRIORITY.—Each local educational agency sub-
10 mitting an application under this section shall give priority
11 in designing the program assisted under this title to activi-
12 ties that replicate successful efforts in other local edu-
13 cational agencies or expand successful programs within
14 the eligible local educational agency.

15 **SEC. 106. ACCOUNTABILITY.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The State educational agency
17 may award an allotment under this title to an eligible local
18 educational agency to enable such an agency to operate
19 a program under this title for a period of not more than
20 3 years. If an eligible local educational agency receiving
21 an allotment under this title meets the accountability re-
22 quirements described in subsection (b) at the end of 3
23 years and the requirements described in subsection (c) at
24 the end of each year, as determined by the State edu-
25 cational agency, such agency shall be eligible to continue

1 the project with funds under this title for an additional
2 3 years if such agency so desires.

3 (b) REQUIREMENTS TO MOVE TOWARD NATIONAL
4 EDUCATION GOALS.—

5 (1) PROGRAM CONTINUATION.—If, after 3 years
6 of receiving an allotment under this title, an eligible
7 local educational agency is able to demonstrate to
8 the satisfaction of the State educational agency that
9 it has increased the achievement within the lowest 2
10 quartiles of students in schools assisted under this
11 title as measured by the statistical indicators and
12 other criteria specified in the application in compari-
13 son to the year prior to the initiation of the project,
14 then such agency shall be eligible to continue the
15 project with funds under this title for an additional
16 3 years upon reapplication under section 103.

17 (2) SPECIAL RULE.—If, after 3 years of receiv-
18 ing an allotment under this title, an eligible local
19 educational agency is able to demonstrate progress
20 on meeting at least 3 other National Education
21 Goals as measured by the criteria described in para-
22 graph (3), then such agency shall be deemed to have
23 met the requirements of paragraph (1) so long as
24 the average achievement level of the schools assisted

1 under this title did not decline in any of the 3 pre-
2 vious school years.

3 (3) CRITERIA.—For purposes of paragraph (2),
4 the criteria are:

5 (A) The number or percentage of preschool
6 children served by the eligible local educational
7 agency is greater than the average such number
8 or percentage in the 3 previous school years.

9 (B) The secondary school graduation rate
10 in the eligible local educational agency is great-
11 er than the average such rate for the 3 previous
12 school years.

13 (C) The percentage of secondary school
14 graduates in the eligible local educational agen-
15 cy enrolled in postsecondary education is great-
16 er than such percentage for the 3 previous
17 school years.

18 (D) The incidence of discipline, drug-relat-
19 ed or in-school crime in the eligible local edu-
20 cational agency is less than the average such in-
21 cidence in the 3 previous school years.

22 (c) COLLECTION OF DATA AND CERTIFICATION.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible local edu-
24 cational agency, community-based organization, or
25 nonprofit partnership described in section 102(d) re-

1 ceiving an allotment under this title shall annually
2 collect and submit to the State educational agency
3 data based on the statistical indicators and other
4 criteria described in the application submitted by
5 such eligible local educational agency for the pur-
6 poses of monitoring progress in achieving the Na-
7 tional Education Goals in accordance with para-
8 graph (2). Such data shall include multiple measures
9 or indicators of each variable, and may take into
10 consideration the mobility of students in the schools
11 served under this title or other special factors.

12 (2) CERTIFICATION.—

13 (A) Each eligible local educational agency
14 receiving an allotment pursuant to section
15 102(b)(2) shall annually certify to the State
16 educational agency that such eligible local edu-
17 cational agency has—

18 (i) complied with the provisions of sec-
19 tion 106(c); and

20 (ii) made progress toward meeting na-
21 tional education goals and the goals de-
22 scribed in section 103(b)(2)(D).

23 (B) The certification described in subpara-
24 graph (A) shall be reviewed by an independent

1 educational performance auditor for compliance
2 with clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A).

3 **SEC. 107. INCENTIVE AWARDS TO EXEMPLARY PROGRAMS.**

4 From amounts reserved pursuant to section 102(a)
5 or otherwise made available, the Secretary is authorized
6 to make competitive awards to eligible local educational
7 agencies on behalf of individual schools participating in
8 a program assisted under this title which demonstrate to
9 the satisfaction of the Secretary at least 3 of the following:

10 (1) Unusual or exemplary progress in achieving
11 the National Education Goals through programs de-
12 scribed in section 105.

13 (2) Exemplary or unusually effective collabo-
14 rative arrangements between the schools, commu-
15 nity-based organizations, agencies, parent groups,
16 colleges and businesses.

17 (3) Identification, review and removal of poten-
18 tial barriers to student performance in the National
19 Education Goal areas, such as suspensions and ex-
20 pulsions, in-grade retentions, ability grouping, and
21 lack of access to course offerings in prealgebra, in-
22 troductory algebra, higher mathematics, science, for-
23 eign languages, and critical thinking skills.

1 (4) Substantial expansion of the hours schools
2 assisted under this title remain open for community
3 use or student after-school recreation.

4 **SEC. 108. REGULATORY ASSESSMENT.**

5 (a) REPORT ON RURAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—In order
6 to assist eligible local educational agencies under this Act
7 in improving the performance of the school children en-
8 rolled in the schools served by such agencies, the Secretary
9 shall, not later than January 1, 1995, prepare a report
10 on the impact of Federal regulations, guidelines and poli-
11 cies on rural public schools.

12 (b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report shall ana-
13 lyze the impact of Federal legal, regulatory, policy and or-
14 ganizational requirements on the time and resources that
15 eligible local educational agencies assisted under this Act
16 have for educating students, including fiscal resources,
17 staff time, facilities, instructional equipment, and services.
18 The report shall make recommendations on how best to
19 simplify Federal regulations, guidelines and policies so
20 that more resources can be devoted to improving rural
21 school performance. The report shall also identify the reg-
22 ulations whose waiver might be used as incentives or re-
23 wards for unusual progress toward meeting National Edu-
24 cation Goals.

1 (c) SPECIFIC ISSUES FOR ANALYSIS.—In preparing
2 the report required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall
3 analyze—

4 (1) the effect of regulatory requirements on
5 local program flexibility and management within eli-
6 gible local educational agencies;

7 (2) the effect of regulatory requirements on the
8 size, cost and composition of administrative practices
9 within eligible local educational agencies;

10 (3) the extent to which regulatory requirements
11 are duplicative or contradictory;

12 (4) the amount of time and resources that
13 school administrators and teachers must spend re-
14 sponding to data requests and reporting require-
15 ments pursuant to Federal law;

16 (5) the extent to which regulatory requirements
17 are related to instructional rather than
18 noninstructional practices in eligible local edu-
19 cational agencies;

20 (6) the relationship between specific regulatory
21 requirements and the educational performance of
22 rural students; and

23 (7) how the waiver or simplification of regu-
24 latory requirements could enhance the performance

1 of rural school children and the progress of rural
2 schools in meeting National Education Goals.

3 (d) **SAMPLE DATA.**—The Secretary may, in develop-
4 ing the report described in subsection (a), use appropriate
5 sampling techniques.

6 (e) **CONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS.**—The Sec-
7 retary shall consult with the Committee on Education and
8 Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee
9 on Labor and Human Resources of the Senate concerning
10 the design of the report described in this section.

11 **SEC. 109. LOCAL ADVISORY GROUP.**

12 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Any eligible local educational
13 agency desiring to receive an allotment under this Act
14 shall form a local advisory group.

15 (b) **COMPOSITION.**—

16 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Each local advisory group
17 described in subsection (a) shall be composed of rep-
18 resentatives of groups such as—

19 (A) local government agencies;

20 (B) community-based organizations;

21 (C) service providers;

22 (D) teachers;

23 (E) parents;

24 (F) colleges and universities;

25 (G) businesses;

1 (H) principals, other school administrators
2 and school personnel, including the local voca-
3 tional education administrator;

4 (I) counselors, school psychologists and so-
5 cial workers;

6 (J) students;

7 (K) State educational agencies and State
8 boards of education;

9 (L) labor;

10 (M) offices of the Mayor;

11 (N) religious leaders; and

12 (O) organizations with an interest in im-
13 proving rural education and expertise in the de-
14 livery of services needed by the schools selected
15 to participate in a program assisted under this
16 Act.

17 (2) APPOINTMENT.—The superintendent of
18 schools and the president of the board of education
19 of the eligible rural local educational agency apply-
20 ing for funds under this title shall appoint the mem-
21 bers of the local advisory group, in consultation with
22 teachers from the eligible local educational agency
23 and the teacher's local bargaining agent where one
24 exists. The local advisory group may contain as
25 many members as is necessary to ensure a com-

1 prehensive community-wide program to improve edu-
2 cation in the schools served by the eligible local edu-
3 cational agency.

4 (3) REPRESENTATION.—The local advisory
5 group shall be representative of the community and
6 shall be balanced according to the race, ethnicity,
7 native language background, and gender of its mem-
8 bers, to the extent practicable.

9 (c) FUNCTIONS.—The local advisory group shall—

10 (1) advise the eligible local educational agency
11 on the design and conduct of a needs assessment for
12 all schools expected to participate in the program as-
13 sisted under this title;

14 (2) assist in planning for community-wide col-
15 laboration in service delivery for students in schools
16 expected to be served by the program assisted under
17 this title;

18 (3) advise the eligible local educational agency
19 and the community on how they can work together
20 to use multiple service providers;

21 (4) advise and assist the eligible local edu-
22 cational agency on the implementation of the pro-
23 gram assisted under this title and review evaluations
24 of such program's success;

1 (5) review and approve applications submitted
2 to the eligible local educational agency by commu-
3 nity-based organizations pursuant to section 103(c);

4 (6) advise the eligible local educational agency
5 on strategies for increasing parent involvement and
6 the number of school volunteers and role models in
7 schools; and

8 (7) review the success of community-based pro-
9 grams assisted under this title for progress on the
10 national education goals.

11 (d) USE OF EXISTING LOCAL ADVISORY GROUP.—
12 To the extent that an eligible local educational agency has
13 established a broadly representative local advisory group
14 before enactment of this Act that is comparable to the
15 local advisory group described in this section, such existing
16 local advisory group shall be considered to be in compli-
17 ance with the provisions of this section.

18 **SEC. 110. SPECIAL RULES.**

19 (a) RANKING OF SCHOOLS IN LOCAL EDUCATIONAL
20 AGENCIES SERVING MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL TO DE-
21 TERMINE RELATIVE NEED.—

22 (1) RANKING.—

23 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible local edu-
24 cational agency desiring to receive an allotment
25 under this title shall, in order to determine

1 which schools are most in need of services
2 under this title, separately rank all schools
3 under the jurisdiction of such agency on the
4 basis of—

- 5 (i) achievement;
- 6 (ii) poverty; and
- 7 (iii) racial isolation.

8 (B) SPECIAL RULES.—(i) Eligible local
9 educational agencies may rank elementary and
10 secondary schools separately or together for
11 purposes of this subsection.

12 (ii) Eligible local educational agencies par-
13 ticipating in a consortium may rank elementary
14 and secondary schools separately for each local
15 educational agency participating in the consor-
16 tium for purposes of this subsection.

17 (2) PERCENTAGE OF SCHOOLS TO BE
18 SERVED.—Each eligible local educational agency
19 that receives an allotment under this title shall serve
20 at least 10 percent, but not more than 20 percent,
21 of the schools under the jurisdiction of such agency,
22 except that in school districts with less than 2,500
23 students, an eligible local educational agency may
24 use all of its funds for districtwide reform activities.

1 (3) CRITERIA FOR SCHOOLS TO BE SERVED.—
2 Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this
3 section, each eligible local educational agency that
4 receives an allotment under this title—

5 (A) shall serve any school that is deter-
6 mined to be most in need with respect to both
7 rankings described in paragraph (1);

8 (B) may serve any school that is deter-
9 mined to be most in need with respect to any
10 1 of such rankings; and

11 (C) may serve any school that received as-
12 sistance under this title in a previous fiscal
13 year.

14 (b) EXCLUSION.—Local educational agencies with
15 not more than 5 buildings used for instruction purposes
16 shall be exempt from the ranking process and shall receive
17 funding as determined under subsection (d).

18 (c) FLEXIBILITY.—Each eligible local educational
19 agency shall have the flexibility to serve homeless children,
20 desegregating students, immigrants, migrants, or other
21 highly mobile populations within the program assisted
22 under this title.

23 (d) CHAPTER 1 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—The
24 approved program for any school served under sections
25 1020 and 1021 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-

1 cation Act of 1965, may be considered sufficient to meet
2 the requirements of the provisions of section 106(b)(1) of
3 this title.

4 **TITLE II—SCHOOL BUILDING** 5 **REPAIR AND RENOVATION**

6 **SEC. 201. PURPOSE; AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 (a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this title to pro-
8 vide assistance to eligible local educational agencies to as-
9 sist such agencies in building or repairing, and renovating
10 instructional facilities in rural schools including but not
11 limited to the appropriate use of telecommunications tech-
12 niques for learning.

13 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
14 are authorized to be appropriated \$1,500,000,000 for
15 1994 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the
16 fiscal years 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000 to
17 carry out the provisions of this title.

18 **SEC. 202. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.**

19 (a) ALLOTMENTS.—

20 (1) FEDERAL ALLOTMENT.—In each fiscal
21 year, the Secretary shall allot to each State edu-
22 cational agency with an approved application, an
23 amount which bears the same relationship to such
24 funds as the amount all eligible local educational
25 agencies with approved applications in the State

1 were allocated under sections 1005 and 1006 of the
2 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
3 in the preceding fiscal year bears to the total
4 amount received under such sections in such preced-
5 ing fiscal year by all eligible local educational agen-
6 cies with approved applications in all States.

7 (2) STATE ALLOTMENT.—

8 (A) RESERVATION.—From amounts re-
9 ceived pursuant to paragraph (1), each State
10 educational agency may reserve 1 percent of
11 such amount for administrative expenses.

12 (B) FORMULA.—From the remainder of
13 amounts received pursuant to subparagraph (A)
14 in each fiscal year, each State educational agen-
15 cy shall allot to each eligible local educational
16 agency within the State with an approved appli-
17 cation—

18 (i) 33 percent of such funds on the
19 basis of the number of children in the eligi-
20 ble local educational agency between the
21 ages of 5 and 17 who are members of fam-
22 ilies whose income does not exceed the in-
23 come official poverty line (as defined by
24 the Office of Management and Budget),
25 according to the most recent decennial cen-

1 sus, divided by the number of all such chil-
2 dren in all eligible local educational agen-
3 cies in the State;

4 (ii) 33 percent of such funds on the
5 basis of the number of school buildings
6 used for instructional purposes in the eligi-
7 ble local educational agency, divided by the
8 number of all such buildings in all eligible
9 local educational agencies in the State; and

10 (iii) 33 percent of such funds on the
11 basis of the number of school buildings in
12 the eligible local educational agency which
13 are used for instructional purposes and
14 which are more than 25 years old, divided
15 by the number of all such buildings in all
16 eligible local educational agencies in the
17 State.

18 (b) REALLOTMENT.—Any amounts available for real-
19 lotment pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) shall be real-
20 lotted in the same manner as the original allotments were
21 made.

22 **SEC. 203. APPLICATION.**

23 (a) STATE APPLICATION.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State educational
25 agency desiring to receive an allotment in any fiscal

1 year to carry out the provisions of this title shall
2 submit to the Secretary an application at such time,
3 in such manner and accompanied by such informa-
4 tion as the Secretary reasonably may require.

5 (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
6 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—

7 (A) contain such information as the Sec-
8 retary may reasonably require in order to make
9 the allotment described in section 202(a)(1);
10 and

11 (B) contain such other information and as-
12 surances as the Secretary determines necessary
13 to ensure compliance with the provisions of this
14 title.

15 (b) LOCAL APPLICATION.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Any eligible local educational
17 agency desiring to receive an allotment to carry out
18 the provisions of this title shall submit to the State
19 educational agency an application at such time, in
20 such manner and accompanied by such information
21 as the State educational agency may reasonably re-
22 quire.

23 (2) DURATION.—Each application submitted
24 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be for a period of
25 not more than 3 years.

1 (3) ANNUAL REVIEW.—Each application sub-
2 mitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be subject to
3 annual review.

4 (4) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
5 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall contain—

6 (A) an assessment of needs for building re-
7 pair, renovation and construction;

8 (B) the name and location of all sites
9 scheduled for repair, renovation or construction
10 and a description of the activities planned at
11 each site; and

12 (C) a description of accounting procedures
13 used to assure proper disbursement of Federal
14 funds.

15 **SEC. 204. REPAIR AND RENOVATION.**

16 Each eligible local educational agency receiving an al-
17 lotment under section 202(a)(2) shall use 50 percent of
18 such allotment to conduct programs for—

19 (1) repair and renovation of school buildings
20 used for instruction;

21 (2) upgrading of and alterations to buildings to
22 accommodate new instructional technology, including
23 the installation and/or improvement of telecommuni-
24 cations facilities for learning and related tech-
25 nologies.

1 (3) installation or upgrading of school security
2 and communications systems;

3 (4) construction of new buildings that will serve
4 to replace old facilities that are most cost effectively
5 torn down rather than renovated;

6 (5) alterations to buildings to meet special pro-
7 gram, curricula, or school-site management needs;

8 (6) alterations to buildings to meet certain spe-
9 cial population needs, such as the needs of homeless
10 children and preschool children;

11 (7) alterations to school buildings to enable
12 such buildings to serve as one-stop family support
13 centers; and

14 (8) facilities' costs associated with lengthening
15 the school day or school year.

16 **SEC. 205. ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY.**

17 Each eligible local educational agency receiving an al-
18 lotment under section 202(a)(2) shall use 50 percent of
19 such allotment to conduct programs for—

20 (1) energy conservation;

21 (2) removal or containment of environmentally
22 hazardous material;

23 (3) meeting the requirements of section 504 of
24 the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and

1 (4) meeting local, State or Federal laws or reg-
2 ulations enacted or promulgated since the initial
3 construction of a building related to fire, air, light,
4 noise, waste disposal, or building height.

5 **SEC. 206. WAIVER.**

6 The State educational agency may waive the 50 per-
7 cent requirements described in sections 204 and 205 for
8 any eligible local educational agency that demonstrates to
9 the satisfaction of the State educational agency a greater
10 need for services described in section 204 or 205.

11 **SEC. 207. APPLICATION OF THE DAVIS-BACON ACT.**

12 All laborers and mechanics employed by contractors
13 or subcontractors in any construction, alteration, or re-
14 pair, including painting and decorating, of projects, build-
15 ings, and works which are federally assisted under this
16 Act, shall be paid wages at rates not less than those pre-
17 vailing on similar construction in the locality as deter-
18 mined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the
19 Act of March 3, 1931 (commonly known as the Davis-
20 Bacon Act), as amended (40 U.S.C. 276a-276a-5). The
21 Secretary of Labor shall have, with respect to such labor
22 standards, the authority and functions set forth in Reor-
23 ganization Plan Numbered 14 of 1950 (15 F.R. 3176; 64
24 Stat. 1267) and section 2 of the Act of June 1, 1934,

1 as amended (48 Stat. 948, as amended; 40 U.S.C.
2 276(c)).

3 **TITLE III—EVALUATION OF**
4 **RESULTS**

5 **Subtitle A—Assistant Secretary**

6 **SEC. 301. ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR RURAL EDUCATION.**

7 (a) AMENDMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDU-
8 CATION ORGANIZATION ACT.—Title II of the Department
9 of Education Organization Act (20 U.S.C. 3401 et seq.)
10 is amended—

11 (1) in section 202(b)(1) by—

12 (A) striking “and” at the end of subpara-
13 graph (F);

14 (B) striking the period at the end of sub-
15 paragraph (G) and inserting a semicolon and
16 “and”; and

17 (C) inserting at the end thereof the follow-
18 ing new subparagraph:

19 “(H) an Assistant Secretary for Rural
20 Education.”.

21 **Subtitle B—Rural School Research**
22 **and Evaluation**

23 **SEC. 311. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

24 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
25 as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1994,

1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000 to carry out the
2 provisions of this subtitle.

3 **SEC. 312. ESTABLISHMENT; OPERATION; USES OF FUNDS.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—From amounts appropriated
5 pursuant to the authority of section 311, the Secretary
6 shall establish for each region a center to be known as
7 the “National Rural Regional Education Research Cen-
8 ter” (in this subtitle referred to as the “Center”).

9 (b) OPERATION.—Each Center shall be operated by
10 the regional educational laboratory that is located in the
11 region in which the Center is located and supported by
12 the Secretary pursuant to section 405(d)(4)(A) of the
13 General Education Provisions Act.

14 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—Each Center shall—

15 (1) conduct independent research in rural edu-
16 cation and distance learning technologies;

17 (2) evaluate the progress of rural schools receiv-
18 ing funds under title I of this Act toward meeting
19 the National Education Goals;

20 (3) serve as clearinghouses on rural education
21 research findings, policies, and practices;

22 (4) develop measurements of progress of rural
23 schools;

1 (5) disseminate results of evaluations and re-
2 search on rural schools to other Centers and rural
3 school district teachers and parents;

4 (6) develop collaborative arrangements and con-
5 sortia among rural schools in each region to conduct
6 joint research and evaluation activities;

7 (7) replicate successful models and program ap-
8 proaches in rural schools;

9 (8) provide technical assistance and outreach
10 services for rural schools in each region;

11 (9) provide staff training; and

12 (10) develop curricula to assist rural schools in
13 moving toward meeting the National Education
14 Goals.

15 **SEC. 313. LOCAL RURAL SCHOOL EVALUATION.**

16 From the amount appropriated pursuant to the au-
17 thority of section 311 or otherwise made available to carry
18 out the provisions of this subtitle in any fiscal year, each
19 Center shall reserve 25 percent of such funds received for
20 direct grants to rural eligible local educational agencies
21 within the region served by such Center and which are
22 participating in a program assisted under title I to con-
23 duct local school district research and evaluation of efforts
24 toward meeting the National Education Goals.

1 **SEC. 314. LOCAL APPLICATIONS.**

2 Any eligible rural local educational agency desiring
3 to receive a grant under this subtitle shall—

4 (1) submit an application to the Center;

5 (2) describe in such application the research
6 and evaluation activities for measuring progress on
7 the National Education Goals;

8 (3) consult with local universities, research in-
9 stitutes, and other rural groups in developing a local
10 research and evaluation application; and

11 (4) describe capacities for conducting evalua-
12 tions with funds provided under this subtitle.

13 **TITLE IV—GENERAL**
14 **PROVISIONS**

15 **SEC. 401. INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON RURAL SCHOOLS.**

16 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the
17 Interagency Council on Rural Schools (hereafter in this
18 section referred to as the “Council”).

19 (b) COMPOSITION.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall consist
21 of—

22 (A) the Secretary of Education, who shall
23 serve as Chairperson of the Council;

24 (B) the Secretary of Labor;

25 (C) the Secretary of Health and Human
26 Services;

1 (D) the Secretary of Agriculture;

2 (E) the Secretary of Energy;

3 (F) the Secretary of Commerce;

4 (G) the Director of the Environmental
5 Protection Agency;

6 (H) the Director of the Commission on
7 Civil Rights;

8 (I) the Chairperson of the Advisory Com-
9 mission on Intergovernmental Relations;

10 (J) the Chairperson of the National En-
11 dowments on the Arts and the Humanities;

12 (K) the Director of the National Science
13 Foundation;

14 (L) such other officers of the Federal Gov-
15 ernment as may be designated by the President
16 or the Chairperson of the Council to serve
17 wherever matters within the jurisdiction of the
18 agency headed by such an officer are to be con-
19 sidered by the Council.

20 (2) REPRESENTATION.—Each individual de-
21 scribed in paragraph (1) may designate a person to
22 represent such individual on the Council.

23 (3) DURATION.—Each member shall be ap-
24 pointed for as long as such member serves as the
25 head of the appropriate department or agency.

1 (4) PRINCIPAL ADVISOR.—The Chairperson of
2 the Council shall be the President’s principal advisor
3 on rural schools.

4 (c) QUORUM.—Seven members of the Council shall
5 constitute a quorum for the purposes of transmitting rec-
6 ommendations and proposals to the President, but a lesser
7 number may meet for other reasons.

8 (d) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet at least 2
9 times each year. When a Council member is unable to at-
10 tend a meeting, the Council member shall appoint an ap-
11 propriate Assistant Secretary or an equivalent individual
12 from the department or agency of the member to represent
13 the member for that meeting.

14 (e) DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL.—The Council shall—

15 (1) review programs and activities conducted by
16 each department or agency represented on the Coun-
17 cil to determine the effects of such programs and ac-
18 tivities on the ability of rural schools to meet Na-
19 tional Education Goals;

20 (2) track progress of rural schools in meeting
21 National Education Goals;

22 (3) solicit information and advice from experts
23 in rural education and representatives of rural
24 schools, including representatives from rural post-
25 secondary education, on how the Federal Govern-

1 ment may improve the programs and activities of the
2 Federal Government which serve rural school stu-
3 dents;

4 (4) review regulations across various depart-
5 ments or agencies of the Federal Government for
6 duplication or contradiction;

7 (5) issue an annual report to Congress and the
8 President on the progress rural schools are making
9 in meeting the National Education Goals, and on
10 how Congress might change Federal programs to
11 improve the effectiveness of such programs in rural
12 schools;

13 (6) review and make recommendations regard-
14 ing ways to improve or streamline various Federal
15 data collection activities in rural schools; and

16 (7) conduct such research as may be helpful to
17 rural school practitioners at the elementary, second-
18 ary and postsecondary level in improving the per-
19 formance of students attending rural schools.

20 **SEC. 402. WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON RURAL EDU-**
21 **CATION.**

22 (a) AUTHORIZATION TO CALL CONFERENCE.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized
24 to call and conduct a White House Conference on

1 Rural Education (hereafter in this section referred
2 to as the “Conference”).

3 (2) SPECIAL RULE.—For the purpose of this
4 section the term “Conference” means the Conference
5 on Rural Education.

6 (3) DATE.—The Conference described in para-
7 graph (2) shall be held not earlier than November
8 1, 1994, and not later than October 30, 1996.

9 (4) PURPOSE.—The purposes of the Conference
10 shall be to—

11 (A) develop recommendations and strate-
12 gies for the improvement of rural education;

13 (B) marshal the forces of the private sec-
14 tor, governmental agencies at all levels, parents,
15 teachers, communities, and education officials
16 to assist rural schools in achieving National
17 Education Goals, and make recommendations
18 on the roles rural public schools can play to as-
19 sist with local rural community economic revi-
20 talization; and

21 (C) conduct the initial planning for a per-
22 manent national commission on rural education.

23 (b) COMPOSITION OF CONFERENCE.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Conference shall be
25 composed of—

1 (A) representatives of eligible public school
2 systems, including board of education members,
3 school superintendents and classroom teachers;

4 (B) representatives of the Congress, the
5 Department of Education and other Federal
6 agencies;

7 (C) State elected officials and representa-
8 tives from State educational agencies;

9 (D) individuals with special knowledge of
10 and expertise in rural education, including indi-
11 viduals involved with rural postsecondary edu-
12 cation; and

13 (E) individuals with special knowledge of
14 and expertise in rural business.

15 (2) SELECTION.—The President shall select
16 one-third of the participants of the Conference, the
17 Speaker of the House of Representatives shall select
18 one-third of such participants, and the majority
19 leader of the Senate shall select the remaining one-
20 third of such participants.

21 (3) REPRESENTATION.—In selecting the par-
22 ticipants of the Conference the President, the Speak-
23 er of the House of Representatives, and the majority
24 leader of the Senate shall ensure that the partici-

1 pants are as representative of the ethnic, racial, and
2 language diversity of rural areas as is practicable.

3 (c) REPORTS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The final reports of the
5 Conference, containing such findings and rec-
6 ommendations as may be made by the Conference,
7 shall be submitted to the President not later than
8 120 days following the termination of the Con-
9 ference. The final reports shall be made public and,
10 within 90 days after receipt by the President, trans-
11 mitted to the Congress together with a statement of
12 the President containing recommendations for imple-
13 menting the reports.

14 (2) PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION.—The
15 Conference is authorized to publish and distribute
16 the reports described in this section. Copies of the
17 reports shall be provided to the Federal depository
18 libraries and made available to local rural school
19 leaders and teachers.

20 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
22 appropriated for fiscal years 1994, 1995, and 1996
23 such sums as may be necessary to carry out the pro-
24 visions of this section.

1 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts made available
2 pursuant to the authority of paragraph (1) shall re-
3 main available until expended.

4 **SEC. 403. FEDERAL FUNDS TO SUPPLEMENT NOT SUP-**
5 **PLANT NON-FEDERAL FUNDS.**

6 An eligible local educational agency may use funds
7 received under this Act only to supplement and, to the
8 extent practicable, increase the level of funds that would,
9 in the absence of such Federal funds, be made available
10 from non-Federal sources for the education of students
11 participating in activities assisted under this Act and in
12 no such case may such funds be used to supplant funds
13 from non-Federal sources.

14 **SEC. 404. DEFINITIONS.**

15 Except as otherwise provided, for the purposes of this
16 Act—

17 (1) the term “community-based organization”
18 means a private nonprofit organization which is rep-
19 resentative of a community or significant segments
20 of a community and which has a proven record of
21 providing effective educational or related services to
22 individuals in the community;

23 (2) the term “Community as School Concept”
24 means the mutual sharing of the local public school’s
25 and the local community’s human, financial, tech-

1 nical, and environmental resources to help meet each
2 others needs;

3 (3) the term “local educational agency” in-
4 cludes a rural eligible local educational agency;

5 (4) the term “institution of higher education”
6 has the meaning given to such term in section
7 1201(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965;

8 (5) the term “local educational agency” has the
9 meaning given to such term in section 1471(12) of
10 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
11 1965;

12 (6) the term “poverty level” means the criteria
13 of poverty used by the Bureau of Census in compil-
14 ing the most recent decennial census for a family of
15 4 in such form as those criteria have been updated
16 by increases in the Consumer Price Index for All
17 Rural Consumers;

18 (7) the term “rural eligible local educational
19 agency” means a local educational agency—

20 (A) that is located in a county—

21 (i) in which at least 15 percent of the
22 children enrolled in the schools of such
23 county are eligible to be counted under sec-
24 tion 1005 of the Elementary and Second-
25 ary Education Act of 1965; and

1 (ii) which is not in a metropolitan sta-
2 tistical area;

3 (B) in which at least 15 percent of the
4 children enrolled in the schools of such local
5 educational agency live at or below the poverty
6 level; or

7 (C) in which the total enrollment in the
8 schools of such local educational agency is less
9 than 2,500 students and that does not serve
10 schools located in a metropolitan statistical
11 area;

12 (8) the term “rural school consortia” means
13 two or more local rural public school districts co-
14 operating together for the purpose of increasing
15 their ability to provide educational services;

16 (9) the term “Secretary”, except as otherwise
17 specified, means the Secretary of Education;

18 (10) the term “State” means each of the sev-
19 eral States, but does not include the District of Co-
20 lumbia, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth
21 of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, the
22 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,
23 the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated
24 States of Micronesia, and Palau; and

1 (11) the term “State educational agency” has
2 the meaning given to such term in section 1471(23)
3 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
4 1965.

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HR 1687 IH—2

HR 1687 IH—3

HR 1687 IH—4