

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4175

To promote youth entrepreneurship education and training.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 25, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH (for himself, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. HILLIARD, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. CARSON, Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN, Mr. FORD, Mr. NADLER, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. FROST, Ms. LOFGREN, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To promote youth entrepreneurship education and training.

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 “Future Entrepreneurs
5 of America Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) In order to reach their career goals in our
9 dynamic American economy, young people need to

1 take personal responsibility to obtain the skills,
2 knowledge, constructive attitudes, and experiences
3 that will enable them to function as creative, self-
4 confident participants in the workforce.

5 (2) Research has found that 69 percent of high
6 school students are interested in starting their own
7 businesses and 85 percent of high school students
8 wish their schools would do more to teach them
9 about entrepreneurship and starting a business.

10 (3) States have begun to express increased in-
11 terest in entrepreneurship education and training.
12 State educational leaders are recognizing that self-
13 employment is a viable career option for young peo-
14 ple and are exploring ways to better prepare them
15 to own and operate their own businesses.

16 (4) As part of a lifelong learning process, entre-
17 preneurship education and training helps teach
18 young people about the economy, helps increase their
19 motivation to learn, helps develop in them a sense of
20 individual opportunity, enhances their personal
21 growth, helps them develop an appreciation of the
22 importance of innovation, helps develop their prob-
23 lem-solving and leadership skills, helps them learn to
24 manage their finances, and helps develop in them
25 the sort of optimistic outlook and self-reliant atti-

1 tudes that will benefit them for their entire working
2 lives.

3 (5) The entrepreneurs and inventors of tomor-
4 row are in our schools today. The entrepreneurial
5 spirit needs to be nurtured at all levels of our Na-
6 tion's educational system beginning with students in
7 grades 7 through 12.

8 **SEC. 3. STATE GRANT PROGRAM.**

9 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—In any fiscal year in which the ap-
10 propriations under section 9(a) equal or exceed
11 \$50,000,000, the Secretary may make grants to States
12 from allocations under subsection (d) to enable them to
13 carry out entrepreneurship education and training pro-
14 grams for students in grades 7 through 12.

15 (b) **AGENCY TO RECEIVE GRANT.**—A grant to a
16 State under subsection (a) shall be made to the State edu-
17 cational agency, or to another agency designated to receive
18 the grant by the Governor of the State.

19 (c) **STATE PLAN.**—

20 (1) **APPROVED STATE PLAN REQUIRED.**—No
21 State shall receive a grant under subsection (a) un-
22 less it has submitted to the Secretary a plan, which
23 the Secretary has approved.

24 (2) **STATE PLAN CONTENTS.**—The State plan
25 described in paragraph (1) shall include—

1 (A) descriptions of how the State will use
2 a grant; and

3 (B) descriptions of how the programs sup-
4 ported by a grant will—

5 (i) involve the business community;
6 and

7 (ii) be coordinated with other relevant
8 Federal, State, regional, and local pro-
9 grams.

10 (d) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—

11 (1) ALLOCATION FACTORS.—Except as other-
12 wise provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall
13 allocate the amounts available to carry out this sec-
14 tion pursuant to subsection (a) to each State accord-
15 ing to the relative populations in the States of stu-
16 dents in grades 7 through 12, as determined by the
17 Secretary based on the most recent satisfactory
18 data.

19 (2) MINIMUM ALLOCATION.—From amounts
20 available to carry out this section pursuant to sub-
21 section (a), no State that has submitted under sub-
22 section (c) a plan that has been approved by the
23 Secretary shall be allocated an amount less than
24 \$400,000 for a fiscal year.

1 (3) REALLOCATION.—In any fiscal year an allo-
2 cation under this subsection—

3 (A) for a State that has not submitted a
4 plan under subsection (c); or

5 (B) for a State whose plan submitted
6 under subsection (c) has been disapproved by
7 the Secretary.

8 shall be reallocated to the remaining States in ac-
9 cordance with paragraph (1).

10 (e) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—

11 (1) REQUIRED USES.—A grant made to a State
12 under subsection (a) shall be used—

13 (A) to provide funds to local educational
14 agencies and public schools to carry out entre-
15 preneurship education and training programs
16 for students in grades 7 through 12; and

17 (B) to monitor and evaluate programs sup-
18 ported under subparagraph (A).

19 (2) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—

20 A State receiving a grant under subsection (a) may
21 use not more than 4 percent of the total amount of
22 the grant in each fiscal year for the administrative
23 costs of carrying out this section.

24 (f) REPORT TO THE SECRETARY.—Each agency re-
25 ceiving a grant as described in subsection (b) shall trans-

1 mit a report to the Secretary with respect to each fiscal
2 year for which a grant was received. The report shall de-
3 scribe the programs supported by the grant and the re-
4 sults of the State's monitoring and evaluation of such pro-
5 grams.

6 **SEC. 4. DIRECT FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 In any fiscal year in which the appropriations under
8 section 9(a) do not equal or exceed \$50,000,000, the Sec-
9 retary may make grants to local educational authorities
10 and public schools to provide entrepreneurship education
11 and training to students in grades 7 through 12.

12 **SEC. 5. CLEARINGHOUSE.**

13 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary shall make a grant
14 or contract to establish, operate, and maintain a national
15 clearinghouse (in this Act referred to as the “Clearing-
16 house”) for instructional materials and information re-
17 garding exemplary entrepreneurship education and train-
18 ing programs and best practices.

19 (b) **APPLICATION.**—An entity desiring to establish,
20 operate, and maintain the Clearinghouse shall submit an
21 application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner,
22 and accompanied by such information, as the Secretary
23 may reasonably require.

1 (c) BASIS AND TERM.—The Secretary shall make the
2 grant or contract authorized by subsection (a) on a com-
3 petitive, merit basis for a term of 5 years.

4 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—The Clearinghouse shall use
5 the funds provided under a grant or contract made under
6 subsection (a)—

7 (1) to maintain a repository of instructional
8 materials and related information regarding entre-
9 preneurship education and training programs for
10 secondary schools, including middle schools, for use
11 by States, localities, and the general public;

12 (2) to disseminate to States, localities, and the
13 general public, through electronic and other means,
14 instructional materials and related information re-
15 garding entrepreneurship education and training
16 programs for secondary schools, including middle
17 schools; and

18 (3) to the extent that resources allow, to pro-
19 vide technical assistance to States, localities, and the
20 general public on the design, establishment, and im-
21 plementation of entrepreneurship education and
22 training programs for secondary schools, including
23 middle schools.

1 (e) CONSULTATION.—The Clearinghouse shall con-
2 sult with the Small Business Administration with respect
3 to its activities under subsection (d).

4 (f) SUBMISSION TO CLEARINGHOUSE.—Each Federal
5 agency or department that develops entrepreneurship edu-
6 cation and training programs or instructional materials
7 for such programs shall submit to the Clearinghouse infor-
8 mation on the programs and copies of the materials.

9 (g) APPLICATION OF COPYRIGHT LAWS.—In carrying
10 out this section the Clearinghouse shall ensure compliance
11 with title 17, United States Code.

12 **SEC. 6. EVALUATION.**

13 (a) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—The Secretary shall
14 develop measures to evaluate the performance of programs
15 assisted under sections 3 and 4.

16 (b) EVALUATION ACCORDING TO PERFORMANCE
17 MEASURES.—Applying the performance measures devel-
18 oped under subsection (a), the Secretary shall evaluate
19 programs assisted under sections 3 and 4—

20 (1) to judge their performance and effective-
21 ness;

22 (2) to identify which of the programs represent
23 the best practices of entities developing entrepre-
24 neurship education and training programs for stu-
25 dents in grades 7 through 12; and

1 (3) to identify which of the programs can be
2 replicated and used to provide technical assistance to
3 States, localities, and the general public.

4 **SEC. 7. REPORT TO THE CONGRESS.**

5 For each fiscal year for which there are appropria-
6 tions under section 9(a), the Secretary shall transmit a
7 report to the Congress describing the status of the imple-
8 mentation of this Act. The report shall include the results
9 of the evaluation required by section 6 and a description
10 of the programs supported under sections 3 and 4.

11 **SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.**

12 In this Act—

13 (1) the term “entrepreneurship education and
14 training” means educational activities and experi-
15 ences, planned and supervised by qualified teachers,
16 that enable students to explore business ownership
17 opportunities, acquire the skills and knowledge nec-
18 essary to start a business, and develop a range of
19 entrepreneurial competencies that will help them to
20 explore and identify their lifelong career goals as
21 business owners or as competent employees;

22 (2) the term “local educational agency” has the
23 meaning given the term in section 14101(18) of the
24 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
25 (20 U.S.C. 8801(18));

1 (3) the term “qualified teachers” means teach-
2 ers who hold valid teaching certifications or are con-
3 sidered to be qualified by the State educational
4 agencies in the States in which they work;

5 (4) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
6 of Education;

7 (5) the term “State” has the meaning given the
8 term in section 14101(27) of the Elementary and
9 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
10 8801(27)); and

11 (6) the term “State educational agency” has
12 the meaning given the term in section 14101(28) of
13 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
14 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801(28)).

15 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—For the purposes of carrying
17 out this Act, there are authorized to be appropriated
18 \$60,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1999 through
19 2004.

20 (b) LIMITATION ON FUNDS FOR CLEARINGHOUSE.—
21 The Secretary may use not less than 2 percent and not
22 more than 5 percent of amounts appropriated under sub-
23 section (a) for each fiscal year to carry out section 5.

24 (c) LIMITATION ON FUNDS FOR SECRETARY’S EVAL-
25 UATION.—The Secretary may use not more than \$200,000

1 from the amounts appropriated under subsection (a) for
2 each fiscal year to carry out section 6.

3 (d) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Ex-
4 cept as necessary to carry out section 6 using amounts
5 described in subsection (c), the Secretary shall use no por-
6 tion of the amounts appropriated under subsection (a) for
7 the costs of administering this Act.

8 (e) FUNDS FOR GRANTS.—For each fiscal year the
9 Secretary shall use all amounts appropriated under sub-
10 section (a), other than the amounts described in sub-
11 sections (b) and (c), only for grants under section 3 or
12 4.

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