

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1501

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to support local mentoring programs for children in need, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 4, 2001

Mr. OSBORNE (for himself, Mr. KELLER, and Mr. FORD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to support local mentoring programs for children in need, 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.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Mentoring for Success  
5       Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO SUPPORT MENTORING PROGRAMS.**

2 Title X of the Elementary and Secondary Education  
3 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8001 et seq.) is amended by add-  
4 ing at the end the following:

5 **“PART M—MENTORING PROGRAMS**

6 **“SEC. 10999P. DEFINITIONS.**

7 “In this part, the following definitions apply:

8 “(1) CHILD WITH GREATEST NEED.—The term  
9 ‘child with greatest need’ means a child at risk of  
10 educational failure, dropping out of school, or in-  
11 volvement in criminal or delinquent activities, or  
12 that has lack of strong positive adult role models.

13 “(2) MENTOR.—The term ‘mentor’ means an  
14 individual who works with a child to provide a posi-  
15 tive role model for the child, to establish a sup-  
16 portive relationship with the child, and to provide  
17 the child with academic assistance and exposure to  
18 new experiences and examples of opportunity that  
19 enhance the ability of the child to become a respon-  
20 sible adult.

21 “(3) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of  
22 the several States, the District of Columbia, the  
23 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands,  
24 Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of  
25 the Northern Mariana Islands.

1 **“SEC. 10999Q. PURPOSES.**

2 “The purposes of this part are to make assistance  
3 available to promote mentoring programs for children with  
4 greatest need—

5 “(1) to assist such children in receiving support  
6 and guidance from a caring adult;

7 “(2) to improve the academic performance of  
8 such children;

9 “(3) to improve interpersonal relationships be-  
10 tween such children and their peers, teachers, other  
11 adults, and family members;

12 “(4) to reduce the dropout rate of such chil-  
13 dren; and

14 “(5) to reduce juvenile delinquency and involve-  
15 ment in gangs by such children.

16 **“SEC. 10999R. GRANT PROGRAM.**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with this section,  
18 the Secretary may make grants to eligible entities to assist  
19 such entities in establishing and supporting mentoring  
20 programs and activities that—

21 “(1) are designed to link children with greatest  
22 need (particularly such children living in rural areas,  
23 high crime areas, or troubled home environments, or  
24 such children experiencing educational failure) with  
25 responsible adults, who—

1           “(A) have received training and support in  
2 mentoring;

3           “(B) have been screened using appropriate  
4 reference checks, child and domestic abuse  
5 record checks, and criminal background checks;  
6 and

7           “(C) are interested in working with youth;  
8 and

9           “(2) are intended to achieve 1 or more of the  
10 following goals:

11           “(A) Provide general guidance to children  
12 with greatest need.

13           “(B) Promote personal and social responsi-  
14 bility among children with greatest need.

15           “(C) Increase participation by children  
16 with greatest need in, and enhance their ability  
17 to benefit from, elementary and secondary edu-  
18 cation.

19           “(D) Discourage illegal use of drugs and  
20 alcohol, violence, use of dangerous weapons,  
21 promiscuous behavior, and other criminal,  
22 harmful, or potentially harmful activity by chil-  
23 dren with greatest need.

1           “(E) Encourage children with greatest  
2           need to participate in community service and  
3           community activities.

4           “(F) Encourage children with greatest  
5           need to set goals for themselves or to plan for  
6           their futures, including encouraging such chil-  
7           dren to make graduation from secondary school  
8           a goal and to make plans for postsecondary  
9           education or training.

10           “(G) Discourage involvement of children  
11           with greatest need in gangs.

12           “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—Each of the following is  
13           an entity eligible to receive a grant under subsection (a):

14           “(1) A local educational agency.

15           “(2) A nonprofit, community-based organiza-  
16           tion.

17           “(3) A partnership between an agency referred  
18           to in paragraph (1) and an organization referred to  
19           in paragraph (2).

20           “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—

21           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each entity receiving a  
22           grant under this section shall use the grant funds  
23           for activities that establish or implement a men-  
24           toring program, including—

1           “(A) hiring of mentoring coordinators and  
2 support staff;

3           “(B) providing for the professional devel-  
4 opment of mentoring coordinators and support  
5 staff;

6           “(C) recruitment, screening, and training  
7 of adult mentors;

8           “(D) reimbursement of schools, if appro-  
9 priate, for the use of school materials or sup-  
10 plies in carrying out the program;

11           “(E) dissemination of outreach materials;

12           “(F) evaluation of the program using sci-  
13 entifically based methods; and

14           “(G) such other activities as the Secretary  
15 may reasonably prescribe by rule.

16           “(2) PROHIBITED USES.—Notwithstanding  
17 paragraph (1), an entity receiving a grant under this  
18 section may not use the grant funds—

19           “(A) to directly compensate mentors;

20           “(B) to obtain educational or other mate-  
21 rials or equipment that would otherwise be used  
22 in the ordinary course of the entity’s oper-  
23 ations;

24           “(C) to support litigation of any kind; or

1                   “(D) for any other purpose reasonably pro-  
2                   hibited by the Secretary by rule.

3           “(d) TERM OF GRANT.—Each grant made under this  
4 section shall be available for expenditure for a period of  
5 3 years.

6           “(e) APPLICATION.—Each eligible entity seeking a  
7 grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an  
8 application that includes—

9                   “(1) a description of the mentoring plan the ap-  
10                  plicant proposes to carry out with such grant;

11                  “(2) information on the children expected to be  
12                  served by the mentoring program for which such  
13                  grant is sought;

14                  “(3) a description of the mechanism that appli-  
15                  cant will use to match children with mentors based  
16                  on the needs of the children;

17                  “(4) an assurance that no mentor will be as-  
18                  signed to mentor so many children that the assign-  
19                  ment would undermine either the mentor’s ability to  
20                  be an effective mentor or the mentor’s ability to es-  
21                  tablish a close relationship (a one-on-one relation-  
22                  ship, where practicable) with each mentored child;

23                  “(5) an assurance that mentoring programs will  
24                  provide children with a variety of experiences and  
25                  support, including—

1                   “(A) emotional support;

2                   “(B) academic assistance; and

3                   “(C) exposure to experiences that children  
4                   might not otherwise encounter on their own;

5                   “(6) an assurance that mentoring programs will  
6                   be monitored to ensure that each child assigned a  
7                   mentor benefits from that assignment and that there  
8                   will be a provision for the assignment of a new men-  
9                   tor if the relationship between the original mentor is  
10                  not beneficial to the child;

11                  “(7) information on the method by which men-  
12                  tors and children will be recruited to the mentor pro-  
13                  gram;

14                  “(8) information on the method by which pro-  
15                  spective mentors will be screened;

16                  “(9) information on the training that will be  
17                  provided to mentors; and

18                  “(10) information on the system that the appli-  
19                  cant will use to manage and monitor information re-  
20                  lating to the program’s reference checks, child and  
21                  domestic abuse record checks, and criminal back-  
22                  ground checks and to its procedure for matching  
23                  children with mentors.

24                  “(f) SELECTION.—



1           “(1) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—In accordance with  
2 this subsection, the Secretary shall select grant re-  
3 cipients from among qualified applicants on a com-  
4 petitive basis.

5           “(2) PRIORITY.—In selecting grant recipients  
6 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give pri-  
7 ority to each applicant that—

8                   “(A) serves children with greatest need liv-  
9 ing in rural areas, high crime areas, or troubled  
10 home environments, or who attend schools with  
11 violence problems;

12                   “(B) provides background screening of  
13 mentors, training of mentors, and technical as-  
14 sistance in carrying out mentoring programs;

15                   “(C) proposes a mentoring program under  
16 which each mentor will be assigned to not more  
17 children than the mentor can serve effectively;  
18 or

19                   “(D) proposes a school-based mentoring  
20 program.

21           “(3) OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.—In selecting  
22 grant recipients under paragraph (1), the Secretary  
23 shall also consider—

24                   “(A) the degree to which the location of  
25 the programs proposed by each applicant con-

1 tributes to a fair distribution of programs with  
2 respect to urban and rural locations;

3 “(B) the quality of the mentoring pro-  
4 grams proposed by each applicant, including—

5 “(i) the resources, if any, the appli-  
6 cant will dedicate to providing children  
7 with opportunities for job training or post-  
8 secondary education;

9 “(ii) the degree to which parents,  
10 teachers, community-based organizations,  
11 and the local community have participated,  
12 or will participate, in the design and imple-  
13 mentation of the applicant’s mentoring  
14 program;

15 “(iii) the degree to which the appli-  
16 cant can ensure that mentors will develop  
17 longstanding relationships with the chil-  
18 dren they mentor;

19 “(iv) the degree to which the appli-  
20 cant will serve children with greatest need  
21 in the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades;  
22 and

23 “(v) the degree to which the program  
24 will continue to serve children from the 4th

1 grade through graduation from secondary  
2 school; and

3 “(C) the capability of each applicant to ef-  
4 fectively implement its mentoring program.

5 “(4) GRANT TO EACH STATE.—Notwithstanding  
6 any other provision of this subsection, in selecting  
7 grant recipients under paragraph (1), the Secretary  
8 shall select not less than 1 grant recipient from each  
9 State for which there is a qualified applicant.

10 “(g) MODEL SCREENING GUIDELINES.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Based on model screening  
12 guidelines developed by the Office of Juvenile Pro-  
13 grams of the Department of Justice, the Secretary  
14 shall develop and distribute to program participants  
15 specific model guidelines for the screening of men-  
16 tors who seek to participate in programs to be as-  
17 sisted under this part.

18 “(2) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The guidelines  
19 developed under this subsection shall include, at a  
20 minimum, a requirement that potential mentors be  
21 subject to reference checks, child and domestic abuse  
22 record checks, and criminal background checks.

23 **“SEC. 10999S. STUDY BY GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE.**

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the  
25 United States shall conduct a study to identify successful

1 school-based mentoring programs, and the elements, poli-  
2 cies, or procedures of such programs that can be rep-  
3 licated.

4 “(b) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date  
5 of enactment of the Mentoring for Success Act, the Comp-  
6 troller General shall submit a report to the Secretary and  
7 Congress containing the results of the study conducted  
8 under this section.

9 “(c) USE OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall use  
10 information contained in the report referred to in sub-  
11 section (b)—

12 “(1) to improve the quality of existing men-  
13 toring programs assisted under this part and other  
14 mentoring programs assisted under this Act; and

15 “(2) to develop models for new programs to be  
16 assisted or carried out under this Act.

17 **“SEC. 10999T. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
19 section 10999R \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
20 2002 through 2004.”.

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