

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1258

To improve academic and social outcomes for teenage youth.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 27, 2001

Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. CONRAD, and Ms. LANDRIEU)
introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To improve academic and social outcomes for teenage youth.

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 “YMCA Teen Action
5 Agenda Enhancement Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) one in 10 teens, 2,400,000 teens across the
9 Nation, are currently involved in a program offered
10 by a local YMCA;

1 (2) recognizing the unique obstacles faced by
2 teenagers, the YMCA has launched the Teen Action
3 Agenda, a nationwide campaign to double this num-
4 ber and serve 1 in 5 teens by 2005;

5 (3) in more than 1,900 YMCAs across the
6 United States in cities large and small, in neighbor-
7 hoods rich and poor, teen groups meet regularly and
8 engage one another in safe, wholesome, educational,
9 and creative activities;

10 (4) it is well-documented that teens who partici-
11 pate in structured activities after school are less
12 likely to drink alcohol, carry or use weapons, smoke
13 cigarettes, engage in early sexual activity, or skip
14 school;

15 (5) YMCAs serve people of all faiths, races,
16 abilities, ages, and incomes;

17 (6) approximately 400 YMCAs partner with ju-
18 venile courts, 300 partner with public housing devel-
19 opments, 1550 partner with elementary schools, and
20 1033 partner with high schools;

21 (7) the YMCA is volunteer-founded and volun-
22 teer-led and depends on more than 600,000 volun-
23 teers to meet the unique needs of their communities;

1 (8) the YMCA is especially committed to reach-
2 ing teens that are most at-risk for school failure or
3 delinquency; and

4 (9) the prosperity of our Nation depends upon
5 maximizing and fulfilling the potential of its young
6 people.

7 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) LOCAL YMCA.—The term “local YMCA”
10 means one of the approximately 2,400 locally incor-
11 porated and governed YMCAs in the United States.

12 (2) TEEN PROGRAM.—The term “teen pro-
13 gram” means any program primarily attended by in-
14 dividuals between the ages of 11 and 19.

15 (3) YMCA OF THE USA.—The term “YMCA of
16 the USA” means the private, nonprofit, national
17 membership and service organization of approxi-
18 mately 2,400 local YMCAs.

19 **SEC. 4. GRANTS TO THE YMCA OF THE USA.**

20 (a) PURPOSES.—Subject to the availability of appro-
21 priations, the Attorney General shall award a grant to the
22 YMCA of the USA for the purpose of carrying out YMCA
23 programs for at-risk teens in accordance with the provi-
24 sions of this Act.

1 (b) SUBGRANTS.—From amounts awarded under
 2 subsection (a), the YMCA of the USA shall make sub-
 3 grants to local YMCAs authorizing expenditures associ-
 4 ated with providing programs, including the hiring of
 5 teachers and other personnel, procurement of goods and
 6 services (including computer equipment), or such other ex-
 7 penditures as are approved by the Attorney General.

8 **SEC. 5. USE OF FUNDS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—

10 (1) PROGRAMS FOR AT-RISK TEENS.—Amounts
 11 granted under this Act shall be used by the YMCA
 12 of the USA to provide funding to carry out YMCA
 13 programs that have a primary purpose of serving
 14 teens who are determined to be at-risk for school
 15 failure or delinquency.

16 (2) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—Each program
 17 for which assistance is provided under this Act shall
 18 include at least 3 of the following different activities:

19 (A) Mentoring assistance.

20 (B) Academic assistance.

21 (C) Recreational, fitness, and athletic ac-
 22 tivities.

23 (D) Technology training.

24 (E) Drug, alcohol, and gang prevention.

25 (F) Job and life skills.

1 (G) Character development and values edu-
 2 cation.

3 (H) Leadership development.

4 (I) Truancy and dropout prevention.

5 (J) Civic education.

6 (K) Volunteerism and service learning.

7 (L) Parenting skills.

8 (M) Literary, performing, and visual arts.

9 (N) Mental health services.

10 (O) Alternative education.

11 (P) Any research-based activity shown to
 12 have a positive impact on the academic and so-
 13 cial outcomes of teens.

14 (b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out
 15 the programs under subsection (a), a local YMCA shall,
 16 to the maximum extent practicable—

17 (1) use volunteers from businesses, academic
 18 communities, social organizations, and law enforce-
 19 ment organizations to serve as mentors or to assist
 20 in other ways;

21 (2) develop creative methods of conducting out-
 22 reach to teens in the community;

23 (3) request donations of computer equipment
 24 and other materials and equipment; and

1 (4) work with State and local educational and
2 recreation agencies so that activities funded with
3 amounts made available under a grant under this
4 Act will not duplicate activities funded from other
5 sources in the community served.

6 (c) FUNDING FOR PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.—Of
7 the amounts granted to the YMCA of the USA under this
8 Act in each fiscal year, the YMCA of the USA shall use—

9 (1) not less than 2 percent for research and
10 evaluation of the subgrants made under this Act;

11 (2) not less than 1 percent for technical assist-
12 ance related to the subgrants awarded under this
13 Act; and

14 (3) not more than 6 percent for the manage-
15 ment and administration of the subgrants made
16 under this Act.

17 **SEC. 6. APPLICATIONS FOR SUBGRANTS.**

18 (a) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a
19 subgrant under this Act, an applicant shall submit an ap-
20 plication to the YMCA of the USA.

21 (b) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted shall
22 include—

23 (1) a request for a subgrant to be used for the
24 purposes of this Act;

1 (2) a description of the population to be served
2 by the subgrant and information demonstrating that
3 this population is at-risk for school failure or delin-
4 quency;

5 (3) a description of the program to be expanded
6 or established by the subgrant;

7 (4) information demonstrating the manner in
8 which the local YMCA will carry out the planning,
9 establishment, implementation, sustainability, and
10 evaluation of the program funded by the subgrant;

11 (5) information demonstrating that there are
12 non-Federal contributions (which may be in the form
13 of an in-kind contribution of goods or services) avail-
14 able to cover at least 50 percent of the total cost of
15 the project; and

16 (6) any additional statistical or financial infor-
17 mation that the YMCA of the USA may reasonably
18 require.

19 (c) CONSIDERATION OF SUBGRANTS.—In awarding
20 subgrants under this Act, the YMCA of the USA shall
21 consider—

22 (1) the ability of the applicant to provide the
23 intended services;

24 (2) the history and establishment of the appli-
25 cant in providing teen activities; and

1 (3) efforts to achieve an equitable geographic
2 distribution of subgrant awards.

3 **SEC. 7. REPORT.**

4 For each fiscal year for which a grant is awarded
5 under this Act, the YMCA of the USA shall submit to
6 the Attorney General a report that details the progress
7 and effectiveness of the YMCA programs in reaching
8 measurable outcomes.

9 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
11 priated to carry out this Act \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal
12 years 2002 through 2006.

13 (b) CONTINUED AVAILABILITY.—Amounts made
14 available to carry out this Act shall remain available until
15 expended.

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