

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2694

To establish a program to transfer surplus computers of Federal agencies to schools and nonprofit community-based educational organizations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 2003

Mr. FERGUSON (for himself, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. SOUDER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

A BILL

To establish a program to transfer surplus computers of Federal agencies to schools and nonprofit community-based educational organizations, 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 “Profiting from Access
5 to Computer Technology (PACT) Act” or the “Child
6 PACT Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF EDUCATIONALLY USEFUL FED-**
2 **ERAL EQUIPMENT.**

3 Each Federal agency shall, to the extent practicable,
4 protect and safeguard educationally useful Federal equip-
5 ment that has been determined to be surplus, so that such
6 equipment may be transferred under this Act.

7 **SEC. 3. EFFICIENT TRANSFER OF EDUCATIONALLY USEFUL**
8 **FEDERAL EQUIPMENT.**

9 (a) TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT TO GSA.—Each Fed-
10 eral agency, to the extent permitted by law and where ap-
11 propriate, shall—

12 (1) identify educationally useful Federal equip-
13 ment that it no longer needs or such equipment that
14 has been declared surplus in accordance with section
15 549 of title 40, United States Code;

16 (2) erase any hard drive, before transfer under
17 paragraph (3), in accordance with standards in ef-
18 fect under the Department of Defense Industrial Se-
19 curity Program (Directive 5220.22 or successor au-
20 thority); and

21 (3)(A) transfer the equipment to the Adminis-
22 trator of General Services for conveyance to edu-
23 cational recipients; or

24 (B) transfer the equipment directly to—

1 (i) an educational recipient, through an ar-
2 rangement made by the Administrator of Gen-
3 eral Services under subsection (b); or

4 (ii) a nonprofit refurbisher under sub-
5 section (d).

6 (b) ADVANCE REPORTING OF EQUIPMENT TO
7 GSA.—Each Federal agency shall report to the Adminis-
8 trator of General Services the anticipated availability of
9 educationally useful Federal equipment as far as possible
10 in advance of the date the equipment is to become surplus,
11 so that the Administrator may attempt to arrange for the
12 direct transfer from the donating agency to educational
13 recipients.

14 (c) PREFERENCE.—In carrying out conveyances to
15 educational recipients under this Act, the Administrator
16 of General Services shall, to the extent practicable, give
17 particular preference to educational recipients located in
18 an enterprise community, empowerment zone, or renewal
19 community designated under section 1391, 1400, or
20 1400E of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

21 (d) REFURBISHMENT OF NON-CLASSROOM-USABLE
22 EQUIPMENT.—At the request of an educational recipient,
23 educationally useful Federal equipment that is not class-
24 room-usable shall be conveyed initially to a nonprofit re-

1 furbisher for upgrade before transfer to the educational
2 recipient.

3 (e) LOWEST COST.—All transfers to educational re-
4 cipients shall be made at the lowest cost to the recipient
5 permitted by law.

6 (f) NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF EQUIPMENT.—The
7 Administrator of General Services shall provide notice of
8 the anticipated availability of educationally useful Federal
9 equipment (including non-classroom-usable equipment) to
10 educational recipients by all practicable means, including
11 the Internet, newspapers, and community announcements.

12 (g) FACILITATION BY REGIONAL FEDERAL EXECU-
13 TIVE BOARDS.—The regional Federal Executive Boards
14 (as that term is used in part 960 of title 5, Code of Fed-
15 eral Regulations) shall help facilitate the transfer of edu-
16 cationally useful Federal equipment from the agencies
17 they represent to recipients eligible under this Act.

18 **SEC. 4. AGENCY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

19 Each Federal agency with employees who have com-
20 puter expertise shall, to the extent permitted by law and
21 in accordance with any guidelines prescribed by the Direc-
22 tor of the Office of Personnel Management, encourage
23 those employees—

24 (1) to help connect classrooms in schools to the
25 Nation's information infrastructure;

1 (2) to assist teachers in schools in learning to
2 use computers to teach; and

3 (3) to assist in providing ongoing maintenance
4 of, and technical support for, educationally useful
5 Federal equipment transferred to educational recipi-
6 ents under this Act.

7 **SEC. 5. RULEMAKING.**

8 The Administrator of General Services shall prescribe
9 rules and procedures to carry out this Act.

10 **SEC. 6. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.**

11 This Act supersedes Executive Order No. 12999 of
12 April 17, 1996.

13 **SEC. 7. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

14 This Act may not be construed to create any right
15 or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law
16 by a party against the United States, its agencies, officers,
17 or employees.

18 **SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.**

19 In this Act:

20 (1) The term “Federal agency” means an Exec-
21 utive department or an Executive agency (as such
22 terms are defined in chapter 1 of title 5, United
23 States Code).

1 (2) The term “educational recipient” means a
2 school or a community-based educational organiza-
3 tion.

4 (3) The term “school” includes a prekindergarten
5 program (as that term is used in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965), an elementary
6 school, a secondary school, and a local educational agency (as those terms are defined in section
7 9101 of that Act).

10 (4) The term “community-based educational organization” means a nonprofit entity that—

12 (A) is engaged in collaborative projects
13 with schools or the primary focus of which is
14 education; and

15 (B) qualifies as a nonprofit educational institution or organization for purposes of section
16 549(c)(3) of title 40, United States Code.

18 (5) The term “educationally useful Federal
19 equipment” means computers and related peripheral
20 tools (such as computer printers, modems, routers,
21 and servers), including telecommunications and research equipment, that are appropriate for use by an
22 educational recipient. The term also includes computer software, where the transfer of a license is
23 permitted.
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1 (6) The term “classroom-usable”, with respect
2 to educationally useful Federal equipment, means
3 such equipment that does not require an upgrade of
4 hardware or software in order to be used by an edu-
5 cational recipient without being first transferred
6 under section 3(d) to a nonprofit refurbisher for
7 such an upgrade.

8 (7) The term “nonprofit refurbisher” means an
9 organization that—

10 (A) is exempt from income taxes under
11 section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of
12 1986; and

13 (B) upgrades educationally useful Federal
14 equipment that is not classroom-usable at no
15 cost or low cost to the ultimate recipient school
16 or community-based educational organization.

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