

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5833

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve retention of public elementary and secondary school teachers, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 19, 2006

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

---

## A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve retention of public elementary and secondary school teachers, 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 “Teacher Centers Act  
5 of 2006”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) There are not enough qualified teachers in  
9 the Nation’s classrooms, and an unprecedented num-

1       ber of teachers will retire over the next 5 years. Over  
2       the next decade, the Nation will need to bring  
3       2,000,000 new teachers into public schools.

4           (2) Too many teachers do not receive adequate  
5       preparation for their jobs.

6           (3) Teacher turnover is a serious problem, par-  
7       ticularly in urban and rural areas. Over one-third of  
8       new teachers leave the profession within their first  
9       3 years of teaching, and 14 percent of new teachers  
10      leave the field within the first year. After 5 years—  
11      the average time it takes for teachers to maximize  
12      students' learning—half of all new teachers will have  
13      exited the profession. Rates of teacher attrition are  
14      highest in high-poverty schools. Between 2000 and  
15      2001, 1 out of 5 teachers in the Nation's high-pov-  
16      erty schools either left to teach in another school or  
17      dropped out of teaching altogether.

18          (4) Research shows that individual teachers  
19      have a great impact on how well their students  
20      learn. The most effective teachers have been shown  
21      to be able to boost their pupils' learning by a full  
22      grade level relative to students taught by less effec-  
23      tive teachers.

24          (5) Only 16 States finance new teacher induc-  
25      tion programs, and fewer still require inductees to

1 be matched with mentors who teach the same sub-  
2 ject.

3 **SEC. 3. IMPROVING RETENTION OF PUBLIC ELEMENTARY**  
4 **AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Elementary and  
6 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6601 et  
7 seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

8 **“PART E—TEACHER RETENTION**

9 **“SEC. 2501. TEACHER CENTERS.**

10 “(a) GRANTS.—The Secretary may make grants to  
11 eligible entities for the establishment and operation of new  
12 teacher centers or the support of existing teacher centers.

13 “(b) SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.—In making grants  
14 under this section, the Secretary shall give special consid-  
15 eration to any application submitted by an eligible entity  
16 that is—

17 “(1) a high-need local educational agency; or

18 “(2) a consortium that includes at least one  
19 high-need local educational agency.

20 “(c) DURATION.—Each grant under this section shall  
21 be for a period of 3 years.

22 “(d) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—A teacher center re-  
23 ceiving assistance under this section shall carry out each  
24 of the following activities:

1           “(1) Providing high-quality professional devel-  
2           opment to teachers to assist them in improving their  
3           knowledge, skills, and teaching practices in order to  
4           help students to improve their achievement and meet  
5           State academic standards.

6           “(2) Providing teachers with information on de-  
7           velopments in curricula, assessments, and edu-  
8           cational research, including the manner in which the  
9           research and data can be used to improve teaching  
10          skills and practice.

11          “(3) Providing training and support for new  
12          teachers.

13          “(e) PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—A teacher center  
14          may use assistance under this section for any of the fol-  
15          lowing:

16               “(1) Assessing the professional development  
17               needs of the teachers and other instructional school  
18               employees, such as librarians, counselors, and para-  
19               professionals, to be served by the center.

20               “(2) Providing intensive support to staff to im-  
21               prove instruction in literacy, math, science, and  
22               other curricular areas necessary to provide a well-  
23               rounded education to students.

24               “(3) Providing support to mentors working with  
25               new teachers.

1           “(4) Providing training in effective instructional  
2 services and classroom management strategies for  
3 mainstream teachers serving students with disabili-  
4 ties and students with limited English proficiency.

5           “(5) Enabling teachers to engage in study  
6 groups and other collaborative activities and collegial  
7 interactions regarding instruction.

8           “(6) Paying for release time and substitute  
9 teachers in order to enable teachers to participate in  
10 the activities of the teacher center.

11           “(7) Creating libraries of professional materials  
12 and educational technology.

13           “(8) Providing high-quality professional devel-  
14 opment for other instructional staff, such as para-  
15 professionals, librarians, and counselors.

16           “(9) Assisting teachers to become highly quali-  
17 fied and paraprofessionals to become teachers.

18           “(10) Assisting paraprofessionals to meet the  
19 requirements of section 1119.

20           “(11) Developing curricula.

21           “(12) Incorporating additional on-line profes-  
22 sional development resources for participants.

23           “(13) Providing funding for individual- or  
24 group-initiated classroom projects.

1           “(14) Developing partnerships with businesses  
2           and community-based organizations.

3           “(15) Establishing a teacher center site.

4           “(f) TEACHER CENTER POLICY BOARD.—

5           “(1) IN GENERAL.—A teacher center receiving  
6           assistance under this section shall be operated under  
7           the supervision of a teacher center policy board.

8           “(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

9           “(A) TEACHER REPRESENTATIVES.—The  
10           majority of the members of a teacher center  
11           policy board shall be representatives of, and se-  
12           lected by, the elementary and secondary school  
13           teachers to be served by the teacher center.  
14           Such representatives shall be selected through  
15           the teacher organization, or if there is no teach-  
16           er organization, by the teachers directly.

17           “(B) OTHER REPRESENTATIVES.—The  
18           members of a teacher center policy board—

19           “(i) shall include at least two mem-  
20           bers who are representatives of, or des-  
21           ignated by, the school board of the local  
22           educational agency to be served by the  
23           teacher center;

24           “(ii) shall include at least one member  
25           who is a representative of, and is des-

1                   ignated by, the institutions of higher edu-  
2                   cation (with departments or schools of edu-  
3                   cation) located in the area; and

4                   “(iii) may include paraprofessionals.

5                   “(g) APPLICATION.—

6                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—To seek a grant under this  
7                   section, an eligible entity shall submit an application  
8                   at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by  
9                   such information as the Secretary may reasonably  
10                  require.

11                  “(2) ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE.—An appli-  
12                  cation under paragraph (1) shall include an assur-  
13                  ance that the applicant will require any teacher cen-  
14                  ter receiving assistance through the grant to comply  
15                  with the requirements of this section.

16                  “(3) TEACHER CENTER POLICY BOARD.—An  
17                  application under paragraph (1) shall include the  
18                  following:

19                         “(A) An assurance that—

20                                 “(i) the applicant has established a  
21                                 teacher center policy board;

22                                 “(ii) the board participated fully in  
23                                 the preparation of the application; and

24                                 “(iii) the board approved the applica-  
25                                 tion as submitted.

1           “(B) A description of the membership of  
2           the board and the method of its selection.

3           “(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4           “(1) The term ‘eligible entity’ means a local  
5           educational agency or a consortium of 2 or more  
6           local educational agencies.

7           “(2) The term ‘high-need’ means, with respect  
8           to an elementary school or a secondary school, a  
9           school that serves an eligible school attendance area  
10          in which not less than 65 percent of the children are  
11          from low-income families, based on the number of  
12          children eligible for free and reduced priced lunches  
13          under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch  
14          Act, or in which not less than 65 percent of the chil-  
15          dren enrolled are from such families.

16          “(3) The term ‘high-need local educational  
17          agency’ means a local educational agency—

18                 “(A) that serves not fewer than 10,000  
19                 children from families with incomes below the  
20                 poverty line, or for which not less than 20 per-  
21                 cent of the children served by the agency are  
22                 from families with incomes below the poverty  
23                 line; and

1           “(B) that is having or expected to have  
2           difficulty filling teacher vacancies or hiring new  
3           teachers who are highly qualified.

4           “(4) The term ‘teacher center policy board’  
5           means a teacher center policy board described in  
6           subsection (f).

7           “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To  
8           carry out this section, there are authorized to be appro-  
9           priated \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2007 and such sums  
10          as may be necessary for each of the 5 succeeding fiscal  
11          years.”.

12          (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
13          tents at section 2 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
14          cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended  
15          by inserting after the items relating to part D of title II  
16          of such Act the following new items:

“PART E—TEACHER RETENTION

“Sec. 2501. Teacher Centers.”.

○