

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 678

To strengthen the national security through the expansion and improvement
of foreign language study, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 24, 2007

Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. WOLF, Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. MYRICK, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. WU, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KIND, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HARE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. OLVER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. WEINER, and Ms. GIFFORDS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Select Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select) and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To strengthen the national security through the expansion
and improvement of foreign language study, 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 “National Security Lan-
5 guage Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ENCOURAGING EARLY FOREIGN LANGUAGE IN-**
7 **STRUCTION.**

8 Title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
9 U.S.C. 1121 et seq.) is amended—

10 (1) by redesignating part D as part E;

11 (2) by redesignating section 631 (20 U.S.C.
12 1132) as section 641; and

13 (3) by inserting after section 628 the following
14 new part:

15 **“PART D—EARLY FOREIGN LANGUAGE**
16 **INSTRUCTION**

17 **“SEC. 631. EARLY FOREIGN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION.**

18 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 “(1) ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.—The term ‘eligi-
20 ble partnership’ means a partnership that—

21 “(A) shall include—

22 “(i) a foreign language department of
23 an institution of higher education; and

24 “(ii) a local educational agency; and

25 “(B) may include—

1 “(i) another foreign language or
2 teacher training department of an institu-
3 tion of higher education;

4 “(ii) another local educational agency,
5 or an elementary or secondary school;

6 “(iii) a business;

7 “(iv) a nonprofit organization of dem-
8 onstrated effectiveness, including a mu-
9 seum;

10 “(v) heritage or community centers
11 for language study;

12 “(vi) language resource centers; or

13 “(vii) the State foreign language coor-
14 dinator or State educational agency.

15 “(2) HIGH-NEED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-
16 CY.—The term ‘high-need local educational agency’
17 has the meaning given the term in section 2102 of
18 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
19 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6602).

20 “(3) LESS-COMMONLY TAUGHT FOREIGN LAN-
21 GUAGES.—The term ‘less-commonly taught foreign
22 languages’ includes the languages of Arabic, Korean,
23 Chinese, Pashto, Persian-Farsi, Serbian-Croatian,
24 Japanese, Russian, Portuguese, and any other lan-
25 guage identified by the Secretary of Education, in

1 consultation with the Defense Language Institute,
2 the Foreign Service Institute, and the National Se-
3 curity Education Program, as a foreign language
4 critical to the national security of the United States.

5 “(4) SUMMER WORKSHOP OR INSTITUTE.—The
6 term ‘summer workshop or institute’ means a work-
7 shop or institute, conducted during the summer,
8 that—

9 “(A) is conducted for a period of not less
10 than 2 weeks;

11 “(B) provides for a program that provides
12 direct interaction between students and faculty;
13 and

14 “(C) provides for follow-up training during
15 the academic year that—

16 “(i) except as provided in clause (ii)
17 or (iii), shall be conducted in the classroom
18 for a period of not less than 3 days, which
19 may or may not be consecutive;

20 “(ii) if the program described in sub-
21 paragraph (B) is for a period of not more
22 than 2 weeks, shall be conducted for a pe-
23 riod of more than 3 days; or

1 “(iii) if the program is for teachers in
2 rural school districts, may be conducted
3 through distance education.

4 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to im-
5 prove the performance of students in the study of foreign
6 languages by encouraging States, institutions of higher
7 education, elementary schools, and secondary schools to
8 participate in programs that—

9 “(1) upgrade the status and stature of foreign
10 language teaching by encouraging institutions of
11 higher education to assume greater responsibility for
12 improving foreign language teacher education
13 through the establishment of a comprehensive, inte-
14 grated system of recruiting and advising such teach-
15 ers;

16 “(2) focus on education of foreign language
17 teachers as a career-long process that should con-
18 tinuously stimulate teachers’ intellectual growth and
19 upgrade teachers’ knowledge and skills;

20 “(3) bring foreign language teachers in elemen-
21 tary schools and secondary schools together with lin-
22 guists or higher education foreign language profes-
23 sionals to increase the subject matter knowledge and
24 improve the teaching skills of teachers through the
25 use of more sophisticated resources that institutions

1 of higher education are better able to provide than
2 the schools; and

3 “(4) develop more rigorous foreign language
4 curricula that are aligned with—

5 “(A) professionally accepted standards for
6 elementary and secondary education instruction;
7 and

8 “(B) the standards expected for post-sec-
9 ondary study in foreign language.

10 “(c) GRANTS TO PARTNERSHIPS.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award
12 grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible partner-
13 ships to enable the eligible partnerships to pay the
14 Federal share of the costs of carrying out the au-
15 thorized activities described in this section.

16 “(2) DURATION.—The Secretary shall award
17 grants under this section for a period of 5 years.

18 “(3) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
19 the costs of the activities assisted under this section
20 shall be—

21 “(A) 75 percent of the costs for the first
22 year that an eligible partnership receives a
23 grant payment under this section;

24 “(B) 65 percent of such costs for the sec-
25 ond such year; and

1 “(C) 50 percent of such costs for each of
2 the third, fourth, and fifth such years.

3 “(4) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal
4 share of the costs of carrying out the authorized ac-
5 tivities described in this section may be provided in
6 cash or in kind, fairly evaluated.

7 “(5) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this
8 section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible
9 partnerships—

10 “(A) that include high-need local edu-
11 cational agencies; or

12 “(B) that emphasize the teaching of the
13 less-commonly taught foreign languages.

14 “(d) APPLICATIONS.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible partnership
16 desiring a grant under this section shall submit an
17 application to the Secretary at such time, in such
18 manner, and accompanied by such information as
19 the Secretary may require.

20 “(2) CONTENTS.—An application under para-
21 graph (1) shall include—

22 “(A) an assessment of the teacher quality
23 and professional development needs of all the
24 schools and agencies participating in the eligible

1 partnership with respect to the teaching and
2 learning of foreign languages;

3 “(B) a description of how the activities to
4 be carried out by the eligible partnership will be
5 based on a review of relevant research, and an
6 explanation of why the activities are expected to
7 improve student performance and to strengthen
8 the quality of foreign language instruction; and

9 “(C) a description of—

10 “(i) how the eligible partnership will
11 carry out the authorized activities de-
12 scribed in subsection (e); and

13 “(ii) the eligible partnership’s evalua-
14 tion and accountability plan as described
15 in subsection (f).

16 “(e) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—An eligible partner-
17 ship shall use the grant funds provided under this section
18 for 1 or more of the following activities related to elemen-
19 tary schools or secondary schools:

20 “(1) Creating opportunities for enhanced and
21 ongoing professional development that improves the
22 subject matter knowledge of foreign language teach-
23 ers.

24 “(2) Recruiting university students with foreign
25 language majors for teaching.

1 “(3) Promoting strong teaching skills for for-
2 eign language teachers and teacher educators.

3 “(4) Establishing foreign language summer
4 workshops or institutes (including follow-up train-
5 ing) for teachers.

6 “(5) Establishing distance learning programs
7 for foreign language teachers.

8 “(6) Designing programs to prepare a teacher
9 at a school to provide professional development to
10 other teachers at the school and to assist novice
11 teachers at such school, including (if applicable) a
12 mechanism to integrate experiences from a summer
13 workshop or institute.

14 “(7) Developing instruction materials.

15 “(f) EVALUATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN.—
16 Each eligible partnership receiving a grant under this sec-
17 tion shall develop an evaluation and accountability plan
18 for activities assisted under this section that includes
19 strong performance objectives. The plan shall include ob-
20 jectives and measures for—

21 “(1) increased participation by students in ad-
22 vanced courses in foreign language;

23 “(2) increased percentages of secondary school
24 classes in foreign language taught by teachers with

1 academic majors in foreign language, respectively;
2 and

3 “(3) increased numbers of foreign language
4 teachers who participate in content-based profes-
5 sional development activities.

6 “(g) REPORT.—Each eligible partnership receiving a
7 grant under this section shall annually report to the Sec-
8 retary regarding the eligible partnership’s progress in
9 meeting the performance objectives described in sub-
10 section (f).

11 “(h) TERMINATION.—If the Secretary determines
12 that an eligible partnership is not making substantial
13 progress in meeting the performance objectives described
14 in subsection (f) by the end of the third year of a grant
15 under this section, the grant payments shall not be made
16 for the fourth and fifth year of the grant.

17 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
18 carry out this part, there are authorized to be appro-
19 priated \$48,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums
20 as may be necessary for each of the 5 succeeding fiscal
21 years.”.

22 **SEC. 3. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ADVANCED FOREIGN**
23 **LANGUAGE EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

24 (a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section to
25 support programs in colleges and universities that—

1 (1) encourage students to develop—

2 (A) an understanding of science and tech-
3 nology; and

4 (B) foreign language proficiency; and

5 (2) foster future international scientific collabo-
6 ration.

7 (b) DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary of Education
8 shall develop a program for the awarding of grants to in-
9 stitutions of higher education that develop innovative pro-
10 grams for the teaching of foreign languages.

11 (c) REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
12 retary of Education shall promulgate regulations for the
13 awarding of grants under subsection (b). Such regulations
14 shall require institutions of higher education to use grant
15 funds for, among other things—

16 (1) the development of an on-campus cultural
17 awareness program by which students attend classes
18 taught in the foreign language and study the science
19 and technology developments and practices in a non-
20 English speaking country;

21 (2) immersion programs where students take
22 science or technology related course work in a non-
23 English speaking country; and

1 (3) other programs, such as summer work-
2 shops, that emphasize the intense study of a foreign
3 language and science technology.

4 (d) GRANT DISTRIBUTION.—In distributing grants to
5 institutions of higher education under this section, the
6 Secretary of Education shall give priority to—

7 (1) institutions that have programs focusing on
8 curricula that combine the study of foreign lan-
9 guages and the study of science and technology and
10 produce graduates who have both skills; and

11 (2) institutions teaching the less-commonly
12 taught languages of Arabic, Korean, Chinese,
13 Pashto, Persian-Farsi, Serbian-Croatian, Japanese,
14 Russian, Portuguese, and any language identified by
15 the Secretary of Education, in consultation with the
16 Defense Language Institute, the Foreign Service In-
17 stitute, and the National Security Education Pro-
18 gram, as a critical foreign language need.

19 (e) SCIENCE.—In this section, the term “science”
20 means any of the natural and physical sciences including
21 chemistry, biology, physics, and computer science. Such
22 term does not include any of the social sciences.

23 (f) APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZED.—To carry out
24 this section, there are authorized to be appropriated

1 \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may
2 be necessary for each subsequent fiscal year.

3 **SEC. 4. FEDERAL FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION MAR-**
4 **KETING CAMPAIGN.**

5 The Secretary of Education shall establish a foreign
6 language education marketing campaign to encourage stu-
7 dents at secondary schools and institutions of higher edu-
8 cation to study foreign languages, particularly languages
9 that are less commonly taught and critical to the national
10 security of the United States.

11 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL STUDY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE HERIT-**
12 **AGE COMMUNITIES.**

13 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of Education shall con-
14 duct a study to identify foreign language heritage commu-
15 nities, particularly such communities that include speakers
16 of languages that are critical to the national security of
17 the United States.

18 (b) FOREIGN LANGUAGE HERITAGE COMMUNITY.—
19 For purposes of this section, the term “foreign language
20 heritage community” means a community of residents or
21 citizens of the United States—

22 (1) who are native speakers of, or who have
23 partial fluency in, a foreign language; and

1 (2) who should be actively recruited for employ-
2 ment by Federal security agencies with a need for
3 linguists.

4 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Education
6 shall submit a report to the Congress on the results of
7 the study conducted under this section.

8 **SEC. 6. ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL FLAGSHIP**
9 **LANGUAGE INITIATIVE WITHIN THE NA-**
10 **TIONAL SECURITY EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

11 (a) NATIONAL FLAGSHIP LANGUAGE INITIATIVE.—

12 (1) EXPANSION OF GRANT PROGRAM AUTHOR-
13 ITY.—Subsection (a) of section 802 of the David L.
14 Boren National Security Education Act of 1991 (50
15 U.S.C. 1902(a)) is amended—

16 (A) in paragraph (1)—

17 (i) by striking “in subsection (i);
18 and” at the end of subparagraph (D) and
19 inserting “in subsection (j));”;

20 (ii) by striking the period at the end
21 of subparagraph (E) and inserting “;
22 and”; and

23 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing new subparagraph:

1 “(F) awarding grants to institutions of
2 higher education to carry out activities under
3 the International Flagship Language Initiative
4 (described in subsection (k)).”; and

5 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “de-
6 scribed in subsection (i)” and inserting “de-
7 scribed in subsection (j)”.

8 (2) PROVISIONS OF INTERNATIONAL FLAGSHIP
9 LANGUAGE INITIATIVE.—Section 802 of such Act is
10 further amended by adding at the end the following
11 new subsection:

12 “(k) INTERNATIONAL FLAGSHIP LANGUAGE INITIA-
13 TIVE.—(1) Under the International Flagship Language
14 Initiative, qualified institutions of higher education shall
15 establish, operate, or improve foreign language immersion
16 programs and activities at sites overseas designed to train
17 students in programs in a range of disciplines to achieve
18 advanced levels of proficiency in those foreign languages
19 that the Secretary identifies as being the most critical in
20 the interests of the national security of the United States.

21 “(2) For purposes of this subsection, an institution
22 of higher education is deemed to be qualified if the Sec-
23 retary determines that the institution has demonstrated
24 expertise in the establishment and operation of foreign
25 language immersion programs at sites overseas.

1 “(3) In awarding grants under subsection (a)(1)(F),
2 the Secretary shall give preference to those qualified insti-
3 tutions of higher education that—

4 “(A) collaborate with established study abroad
5 professional organizations;

6 “(B) demonstrate experience in recruitment,
7 placement, programming, and assessment of stu-
8 dents in specific countries and regions of the world;
9 and

10 “(C) demonstrate relationships with language
11 acquisition specialists.

12 “(4) An undergraduate student who has been award-
13 ed a scholarship under subsection (a)(1)(A) or a graduate
14 student who has been awarded a fellowship under sub-
15 section (a)(1)(B) may participate in the activities carried
16 out under the International Flagship Language Initiative.

17 “(5) An institution of higher education that receives
18 a grant pursuant to subsection (a)(1)(F) shall give special
19 consideration to applicants who are employees of the Fed-
20 eral Government.”.

21 (3) INAPPLICABILITY OF FUNDING ALLOCATION
22 RULES.—(A) The first sentence in the matter fol-
23 lowing subsection (a)(2) of such section is amended
24 by inserting “or under paragraph (1)(F) for the
25 International Flagship Language Initiative described

1 in subsection (k)” after “or for the scholarship pro-
2 gram under paragraph (1)(E)”.

3 (B) The second sentence in such matter is
4 amended by inserting “and the International Flag-
5 ship Language Initiative” after “the National Flag-
6 ship Language Initiative”.

7 (4) BOARD REQUIREMENT.—Section
8 803(d)(4)(E) of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1903(d)(4)(E))
9 is amended by inserting before the period the fol-
10 lowing: “and section 802(a)(1)(F) (relating to
11 grants for the International Flagship Language Ini-
12 tiative).”.

13 (b) FUNDING.—Section 811(b) of the David L. Boren
14 National Security Education Act of 1991 (50 U.S.C.
15 1911(a)) is amended—

16 (1) by inserting “(1)” after “(a) Fiscal Year
17 2005.—”; and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following new
19 paragraph:

20 “(2) In addition to amounts that may be made avail-
21 able to the Secretary under the Fund for a fiscal year,
22 the Director of National Intelligence shall transfer to the
23 Secretary from amounts appropriated for the Intelligence
24 Community Management Account for each fiscal year, be-
25 ginning with fiscal year 2008, \$6,000,000, to carry out

1 the grant program for the International Flagship Lan-
2 guage Initiative under section 802(a)(1)(F).”.

3 (c) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be
4 construed as affecting any program or project carried out
5 under the David L. Boren National Security Education
6 Act of 1991 as in effect on the date that precedes the
7 date of the enactment of this Act.

8 **SEC. 7. FORGIVENESS OF LOANS TO STUDENTS AT INSTITU-**
9 **TIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

10 (a) GUARANTEED STUDENT LOANS.—Part B of title
11 IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 is amended by
12 inserting after section 428K (20 U.S.C. 1078–11) the fol-
13 lowing:

14 **“SEC. 428L. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR UNDERGRADUATES IN**
15 **CRITICAL FOREIGN LANGUAGES.**

16 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Education
17 shall establish and implement a program to cancel the ob-
18 ligation of loan borrowers to pay the principal and interest
19 on a loan provided under this part in order to serve as
20 an incentive for students to obtain a degree in a critical
21 foreign language.

22 “(b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
24 out a program, through the holder of the loan, of as-
25 suming the obligation to repay in accordance with

1 subsection (c) the principal and interest, not to ex-
2 ceed a total of \$10,000, on a loan made under this
3 part for a borrower who—

4 “(A) has obtained an undergraduate de-
5 gree in a critical foreign language;

6 “(B) is employed in a full-time position—

7 “(i) in an elementary or secondary
8 school as a teacher of a critical foreign lan-
9 guage; or

10 “(ii) in an agency of the United
11 States Government in a position that regu-
12 larly requires the use of such critical for-
13 eign language;

14 “(C) is a United States citizen, United
15 States national, permanent legal resident, or
16 citizen of the Freely Associated States; and

17 “(D) is in repayment status on such loan
18 and is not in default on a loan for which the
19 borrower seeks forgiveness of principal and in-
20 terest payments.

21 “(2) APPLICATION BY BORROWERS.—The Sec-
22 retary shall, by regulation, establish procedures by
23 which borrowers shall apply for loan repayment
24 under this section.

25 “(c) TERMS.—

1 “(1) PROMISE TO COMPLETE SERVICE RE-
2 QUIRED FOR PAYMENT.—Any application for pay-
3 ment under subsection (b) shall contain an agree-
4 ment by the applicant that the applicant will con-
5 tinue in a qualifying service described in subsection
6 (b)(1)(B) for not less than 5 consecutive complete
7 years, or will, upon a failure to complete such 5
8 years, repay the United States the amount of the
9 principal and interest repaid by the Secretary under
10 subsection (b), at a rate and schedule, and in ac-
11 cordance with regulations, prescribed by the Sec-
12 retary. Such regulations may provide for waiver by
13 the Secretary of such repayment obligations upon
14 proof of economic hardship as specified in such regu-
15 lations.

16 “(2) PAYMENT IN INSTALLMENTS.—After a
17 borrower has obtained a bachelor’s degree in a crit-
18 ical foreign language, the Federal Government shall
19 make payments under this section while the bor-
20 rower is in loan repayment status and continues in
21 an employment position described in subsection
22 (b)(1)(B). The Secretary shall repay a portion of a
23 borrower’s outstanding loan, not to exceed a total of
24 \$10,000, in the following increments:

1 “(A) up to \$1,500 or 15 percent of the
2 borrower’s outstanding loan balance, whichever
3 is less, at the completion of the second year of
4 such service;

5 “(B) up to \$1,500 or 15 percent of the
6 borrower’s outstanding loan balance, whichever
7 is less, at the completion of the third year of
8 such service;

9 “(C) up to \$2,000 or 20 percent of the
10 borrower’s outstanding loan balance, whichever
11 is less, at the completion of the fourth year of
12 such service; and

13 “(D) up to \$5,000 or 50 percent of the
14 borrower’s outstanding loan balance, whichever
15 is less, at the completion of the fifth year of
16 such service.

17 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 “(1) CRITICAL FOREIGN LANGUAGE.—The term
19 ‘critical foreign language’ includes the languages of
20 Arabic, Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Pashto, Persian-
21 Farsi, Serbian-Croatian, Russian, Portuguese, and
22 any other language identified by the Secretary of
23 Education, in consultation with the Defense Lan-
24 guage Institute, the Foreign Service Institute, and

1 the National Security Education Program, as a crit-
2 ical foreign language need.

3 “(2) AGENCY.—The term ‘agency of the United
4 States Government’ means any agency, office, estab-
5 lishment, instrumentality, or other entity of the ex-
6 ecutive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Govern-
7 ment.”.

8 (b) DIRECT STUDENT LOANS.—Part D of title IV of
9 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087a et
10 seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

11 **“SEC. 460A. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR UNDERGRADUATES**
12 **IN CRITICAL FOREIGN LANGUAGES.**

13 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Education
14 shall establish and implement a program to cancel the ob-
15 ligation of loan borrowers to pay the principal and interest
16 on a loan provided under this part in order to serve as
17 an incentive for students to obtain a degree in a critical
18 foreign language.

19 “(b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
21 out a program of assuming the obligation to repay
22 in accordance with subsection (c) the principal and
23 interest, not to exceed a total of \$10,000, on a loan
24 made under this part for a borrower who—

1 “(A) has obtained an undergraduate de-
2 gree in a critical foreign language;

3 “(B) is employed in a full-time position—

4 “(i) in an elementary or secondary
5 school as a teacher of a critical foreign lan-
6 guage; or

7 “(ii) in an agency of the United
8 States Government in a position that regu-
9 larly requires the use of such critical for-
10 eign language;

11 “(C) is a United States citizen, United
12 States national, permanent legal resident, or
13 citizen of the Freely Associated States; and

14 “(D) is in repayment status on such loan
15 and is not in default on a loan for which the
16 borrower seeks forgiveness of principal and in-
17 terest payments.

18 “(2) APPLICATION BY BORROWERS.—The Sec-
19 retary shall, by regulation, establish procedures by
20 which borrowers shall apply for loan repayment
21 under this section.

22 “(c) TERMS.—

23 “(1) PROMISE TO COMPLETE SERVICE RE-
24 QUIRED FOR PAYMENT.—Any application for pay-
25 ment under subsection (b) shall contain an agree-

1 ment by the applicant that the applicant will con-
2 tinue in a qualifying service described in subsection
3 (b)(1)(B) for not less than 5 consecutive complete
4 years, or will, upon a failure to complete such 5
5 years, repay the United States the amount of the
6 principal and interest repaid by the Secretary under
7 subsection (b), at a rate and schedule, and in ac-
8 cordance with regulations, prescribed by the Sec-
9 retary. Such regulations may provide for waiver by
10 the Secretary of such repayment obligations upon
11 proof of economic hardship as specified in such regu-
12 lations.

13 “(2) PAYMENT IN INSTALLMENTS.—After a
14 borrower has obtained a bachelor’s degree in a crit-
15 ical foreign language, the Federal Government shall
16 make payments under this section while the bor-
17 rower is in loan repayment status and continues in
18 an employment position described in subsection
19 (b)(1)(B). The Secretary shall repay a portion of a
20 borrower’s outstanding loan, not to exceed a total of
21 \$10,000, in the following increments:

22 “(A) up to \$1,500 or 15 percent of the
23 borrower’s outstanding loan balance, whichever
24 is less, at the completion of the second year of
25 such service;

1 “(B) up to \$1,500 or 15 percent of the
2 borrower’s outstanding loan balance, whichever
3 is less, at the completion of the third year of
4 such service;

5 “(C) up to \$2,000 or 20 percent of the
6 borrower’s outstanding loan balance, whichever
7 is less, at the completion of the fourth year of
8 such service; and

9 “(D) up to \$5,000 or 50 percent of the
10 borrower’s outstanding loan balance, whichever
11 is less, at the completion of the fifth year of
12 such service.

13 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 “(1) CRITICAL FOREIGN LANGUAGE.—The term
15 ‘critical foreign language’ includes the languages of
16 Arabic, Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Pashto, Persian-
17 Farsi, Serbian-Croatian, Russian, Portuguese, and
18 any other language identified by the Secretary of
19 Education, in consultation with the Defense Lan-
20 guage Institute, the Foreign Service Institute, and
21 the National Security Education Program, as a crit-
22 ical foreign language need.

23 “(2) AGENCY.—The term ‘agency of the United
24 States Government’ means any agency, office, estab-
25 lishment, instrumentality, or other entity of the ex-

1 ecutive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Govern-
2 ment.”.

3 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6
4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
5 retary of Education shall propose regulations to carry out
6 this section and submit to the appropriate committees of
7 the Congress a report on how the Secretary plans to imple-
8 ment the programs under amendments made by this sec-
9 tion and advertise such programs to institutions of higher
10 education and potential applicants. Not later than 6
11 months after the date on which the comment period for
12 the regulations proposed under the preceding sentence
13 ends, the Secretary shall promulgate final regulations to
14 carry out this section.

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