

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1137

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a Volunteer Teacher Advisory Committee.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2009

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. DODD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a Volunteer Teacher Advisory Committee.

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 “Teachers at the Table
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. VOLUNTEER TEACHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

7 The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
8 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by adding after
9 section 1004 (20 U.S.C. 6304) the following:

1 **“SEC. 1005. VOLUNTEER TEACHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

2 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall estab-
3 lish an advisory committee, to be known as the Volunteer
4 Teacher Advisory Committee (referred to in this section
5 as the ‘Committee’).

6 “(b) DUTIES AND FOCUS.—The duty of the Com-
7 mittee shall be to monitor the effects of this Act, on the
8 ground and in classrooms, and the focus of the Committee
9 shall solely be on children and families.

10 “(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The membership of the
12 Committee shall consist of 20 public elementary
13 school or secondary school classroom teachers who—

14 “(A) are past or present Teachers of the
15 Year;

16 “(B) have received training, or dem-
17 onstrated experience, in methods of data collec-
18 tion, analysis, and reporting; and

19 “(C) have submitted an application to the
20 Secretary to serve on the Committee.

21 “(2) LIST; APPOINTMENT.—The Secretary shall
22 compile a list of teachers submitting applications
23 under paragraph (1)(B). The members of the Com-
24 mittee shall be appointed as follows:

25 “(A) The Secretary shall appoint 4 teach-
26 ers from the list.

1 “(B) The majority leader of the Senate
2 shall appoint 4 teachers from the list.

3 “(C) The minority leader of the Senate
4 shall appoint 4 teachers from the list.

5 “(D) The Speaker of the House of Rep-
6 resentatives shall appoint 4 teachers from the
7 list.

8 “(E) The minority leader of the House of
9 Representatives shall appoint 4 teachers from
10 the list.

11 “(3) REPRESENTATION REQUIREMENT.—The
12 members of the Committee shall represent diverse
13 and multiple geographic, grade level, and specialty
14 areas.

15 “(4) TERM.—Each member of the Committee
16 shall serve on the Committee for a 2-year term.

17 “(d) ANNUAL REPORT.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall sub-
19 mit to Congress and the Secretary—

20 “(A) on an annual basis, a report on the
21 monitoring carried out under subsection (b);
22 and

23 “(B) on a quarterly basis, updates on such
24 monitoring.

1 “(2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report sub-
2 mitted under paragraph (1) shall include, at a min-
3 imum, the following:

4 “(A) Both quantitative and qualitative
5 data that evaluate the effect of this section on
6 student achievement.

7 “(B) The effect of this section on closing
8 the achievement gap between high- and low-per-
9 forming students, including the students identi-
10 fied under section 1111(b)(2)(C)(v)(II).

11 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts
12 appropriated to, and available at the discretion of, the Sec-
13 retary for programmatic and administrative expenditures
14 for fiscal years 2010 through 2014, a total of \$500,000
15 shall be used to establish and carry out the functions of
16 the Committee established under this section.”.

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