111TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION S.659

To improve the teaching and learning of American history and civics.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

March 19, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To improve the teaching and learning of American history and civics.

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 "Improving the Teach-5 ing and Learning of American History and Civics Act of

6 2009".

7 SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

8 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1965

- Sec. 101. American history and civics education.
- Sec. 102. Standards and assessments in United States history.
- Sec. 103. Repeals.
- Sec. 104. Table of contents.

TITLE II—AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS ACHIEVEMENT

- Sec. 201. Short title.
- Sec. 202. Findings.
- Sec. 203. Amendment to the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act.
- Sec. 204. National Assessment Governing Board.
- Sec. 205. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 206. Conforming amendment.

1 **TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO THE** 2 **ELEMENTARY AND SEC-** 2 **ELEMENTARY AND SEC-**

3 ONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF

4 **1965**

5 SEC. 101. AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS EDUCATION.

6 Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education
7 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.) is amended by add-

8 ing at the end the following:

9 **"PART E—AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS**

10

EDUCATION

11 "Subpart 1—Teaching Traditional American History 12 "SEC. 2511. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.

13 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish and
14 implement a program to be known as the 'Teaching Tradi15 tional American History Grant Program', under which the
16 Secretary shall award grants on a competitive basis to
17 local educational agencies—

18 "(1) to carry out activities to promote the19 teaching of traditional American history in elemen-

1	tary schools and secondary schools as a separate
2	academic subject (not as a component of social stud-
3	ies); and
4	((2) for the development, implementation, and
5	strengthening of programs to teach traditional
6	American history as a separate academic subject
7	(not as a component of social studies) within ele-
8	mentary school and secondary school curricula, in-
9	cluding the implementation of activities—
10	"(A) to improve the quality of instruction;
11	and
12	"(B) to provide professional development
13	and teacher education activities with respect to
14	traditional American history.
15	"(b) Required Partnership.—A local educational
16	agency that receives a grant under subsection (a) shall
17	carry out activities under the grant in partnership with
18	1 or more of the following:
19	"(1) An institution of higher education.
20	"(2) A nonprofit history or humanities organi-
21	zation.
22	"(3) A library or museum.
23	"(c) Application.—To be eligible to receive a grant
24	under this section, a local educational agency shall submit
25	an application to the Secretary at such time, in such man-

ner, and containing such information as the Secretary may
 require.

3 "SEC. 2512. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

4 "There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
5 this subpart \$150,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and such
6 sums as may be necessary for each of the 5 succeeding
7 fiscal years.

8 "Subpart 2—Presidential and Congressional History 9 and Civics Academies

10 **"SEC. 2521. DEFINITIONS.**

11	"In	this	sub	part:

"(1) AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS.—The
term 'American history and civics' means the events,
persons, ideas, and documents that shaped the institutions and democratic heritage of the United States
of America.

17 "(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible en18 tity'—

19 "(A) means—

20 "(i) an institution of higher education;
21 "(ii) an educational institution created
22 by a legislative act of a State for the ex23 press purpose of teaching American history
24 and civics to elementary school and sec25 ondary school students; or

1	"(iii) a nonprofit educational institu-
2	tion, museum, library, or research center;
3	and
4	"(B) includes a consortium of entities de-
5	scribed in subparagraph (A).
6	"(3) STATE.—The term 'State' means each of
7	the 50 States and the District of Columbia.
8	"(4) TEACHERS OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND
9	CIVICS.—The term 'teachers of American history
10	and civics' means kindergarten through grade 12
11	teachers who teach American history, government,
12	or civics, or who incorporate such subjects into their
13	teaching.
15	0
14	"SEC. 2522. PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIES FOR TEACHING OF
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14	"SEC. 2522. PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIES FOR TEACHING OF
14 15	"SEC. 2522. PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIES FOR TEACHING OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS.
14 15 16	 "SEC. 2522. PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIES FOR TEACHING OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS. "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—From amounts appropriated
14 15 16 17	 "SEC. 2522. PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIES FOR TEACHING OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS. "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—From amounts appropriated under section 2524, the Secretary shall award grants, on
14 15 16 17 18	 "SEC. 2522. PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIES FOR TEACHING OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS. "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—From amounts appropriated under section 2524, the Secretary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to establish Presi-
14 15 16 17 18 19	 "SEC. 2522. PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIES FOR TEACHING OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS. "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—From amounts appropriated under section 2524, the Secretary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to establish Presi- dential Academies for Teaching of American History and
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 	 "SEC. 2522. PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIES FOR TEACHING OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS. "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—From amounts appropriated under section 2524, the Secretary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to establish Presi- dential Academies for Teaching of American History and Civics (in this section referred to as the 'Academies') that
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 	 "SEC. 2522. PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIES FOR TEACHING OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS. "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—From amounts appropriated under section 2524, the Secretary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to establish Presi- dential Academies for Teaching of American History and Civics (in this section referred to as the 'Academies') that offer seminars or institutes for teachers of American his-
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 	*SEC. 2522. PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIES FOR TEACHING OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS. "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—From amounts appropriated under section 2524, the Secretary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to establish Presi- dential Academies for Teaching of American History and Civics (in this section referred to as the 'Academies') that offer seminars or institutes for teachers of American his- tory and civics—

1 "(b)	APPLICATION.—
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2	"(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that de-
3	sires to receive a grant under this section shall sub-
4	mit an application to the Secretary at such time, in
5	such manner, and containing such information as
6	the Secretary may reasonably require.
7	"(2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted
8	under paragraph (1) shall—
9	"(A) include the criteria that will be used
10	to determine which teachers will be selected to
11	attend a seminar or institute offered by the
12	Academy;
13	"(B) identify the individual the eligible en-
14	tity intends to appoint to be the primary schol-
15	ar at the Academy;
16	"(C) include a description of the cur-
17	riculum to be used at a seminar or institute of-
18	fered by the Academy; and
19	"(D) provide an assurance that the recruit-
20	ment plan for which teachers will be selected to
21	attend a seminar or institute offered by the
22	Academy will include teachers from high-need
23	schools.
24	"(c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sub-
25	part, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities

1	that coordinate or align their activities with the National
2	Park Service National Centennial Parks initiative to de-
3	velop innovative and comprehensive programs using the
4	resources of the National Parks.
5	"(d) GRANT TERMS.—Grants awarded under this
6	section shall be for a term of not more than 5 years.
7	"(e) Use of Funds.—
8	"(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity that re-
9	ceives a grant under this section shall use the grant
10	funds—
11	"(A) to establish an Academy and a sem-
12	inar or institute in accordance with paragraph
13	(2);
14	"(B) for Academy staff in accordance with
15	paragraph (3);
15 16	paragraph (3); "(C) for the selection of teachers in ac-
16	"(C) for the selection of teachers in ac-
16 17	"(C) for the selection of teachers in ac- cordance with paragraph (4); and
16 17 18	"(C) for the selection of teachers in ac- cordance with paragraph (4); and "(D) to pay teacher stipends in accordance
16 17 18 19	"(C) for the selection of teachers in accordance with paragraph (4); and"(D) to pay teacher stipends in accordance with paragraph (5).
16 17 18 19 20	 "(C) for the selection of teachers in accordance with paragraph (4); and "(D) to pay teacher stipends in accordance with paragraph (5). "(2) SEMINARS AND INSTITUTES.—An eligible
 16 17 18 19 20 21 	 "(C) for the selection of teachers in accordance with paragraph (4); and "(D) to pay teacher stipends in accordance with paragraph (5). "(2) SEMINARS AND INSTITUTES.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section shall

1	"(A) provides intensive professional devel-
2	opment opportunities for teachers of American
3	history and civics to strengthen such teachers'
4	knowledge of the subjects of American history
5	and civics;
6	"(B) is led by a team of primary scholars
7	and core teachers;
8	"(C) is conducted during the summer or
9	another appropriate time; and
10	"(D) is of not less than 2 weeks and not
11	more than 6 weeks in duration.
12	"(3) ACADEMY STAFF.—
13	"(A) PRIMARY SCHOLAR.—Each Academy
14	shall be headed by a primary scholar identified
15	in the application submitted under subsection
16	(b) who shall—
17	"(i) be accomplished in the field of
18	traditional American history and civics;
19	and
20	"(ii) design the curriculum for and
21	lead the seminar or institute.
22	"(B) CORE TEACHERS.—Each primary
23	scholar shall appoint an appropriate number of
24	core teachers. At the direction of the primary

1	scholar, the core teachers shall teach and train
2	the seminar or institute attendees.
3	"(4) Selection of teachers.—
4	"(A) IN GENERAL.—
5	"(i) NUMBER OF TEACHERS.—Each
6	year, each Academy shall select teachers of
7	American history and civics to attend the
8	seminar or institute offered by the Acad-
9	emy.
10	"(ii) FLEXIBILITY IN NUMBER OF
11	TEACHERS.—Each Academy shall select
12	not more than 300 and not less than 50
13	teachers under clause (i).
14	"(B) TEACHERS FROM PUBLIC AND PRI-
15	VATE SCHOOLS.—An Academy may select
16	teachers from public schools and private schools
17	to attend the seminar or institute offered by the
18	Academy.
19	"(5) TEACHER STIPENDS.—Each teacher se-
20	lected to participate in a seminar or institute funded
21	under this section shall be awarded a fixed stipend
22	based on the length of the seminar or institute to
23	help cover travel costs, books and other study ex-
24	penses, and meals and living expenses appropriate to
25	the length of the seminar or institute to ensure that

such teacher does not incur personal costs associated
 with the teacher's participation in the seminar or in stitute.

4 "(f) EVALUATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—At the completion of all of 5 6 the seminars and institutes assisted in the third year 7 grants are awarded under this section, the Secretary 8 shall conduct an evaluation and submit a report on 9 its findings to the Committee on Health, Education, 10 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of 11 12 Representatives.

13 "(2) CONTENT OF EVALUATION.—The evalua14 tion conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—

15 "(A) determine the overall success of the
16 grant program authorized under this section;
17 and

18 "(B) highlight the best grantees' practices
19 in order to become models for future grantees.
20 "(g) MATCH.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity receiving
Federal assistance under this section shall provide,
toward the cost of the activities assisted under the
grant, from non-Federal sources, an amount equal
to 100 percent of the amount of the grant.

"(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive all or
part of the matching requirement described in paragraph (1) for any fiscal year for an eligible entity if
the Secretary determines that applying the matching
requirement would result in serious hardship or an
inability to carry out the activities described in subsection (e).

8 "SEC. 2523. CONGRESSIONAL ACADEMIES FOR STUDENTS 9 OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS.

10 "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—From amounts appropriated under section 2524, the Secretary shall award grants, on 11 12 a competitive basis, to eligible entities to establish Congressional Academies for Students of American History 13 14 and Civics (in this section referred to as the 'Academies') 15 that shall offer seminars or institutes for outstanding students of American history and civics to broaden and deep-16 17 en such students' understanding of American history and 18 civics.

19 "(b) APPLICATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that desires to receive a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in
such manner, and containing such information as
the Secretary may reasonably require.

1	"(2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted
2	under paragraph (1) shall—
3	"(A) include the criteria that will be used
4	to determine which students will be selected to
5	attend a seminar or institute offered by the
6	Academy;
7	"(B) identify the individual the eligible en-
8	tity intends to appoint to be the primary schol-
9	ar at the Academy;
10	"(C) include a description of the cur-
11	riculum to be used at a seminar or institute of-
12	fered by the Academy; and
13	"(D) include a description of how the eligi-
14	ble entity will—
15	"(i) inform students served by local
16	educational agencies receiving assistance
17	under part A of title I, particularly stu-
18	dents enrolled in schools with high percent-
19	ages of students described as children to
20	be counted under section 1124(c), of the
21	Academy; and
22	"(ii) provide such students with infor-

22 (ii) provide such students with infor23 mation on how to apply to attend a sem24 inar or institute offered by the Academy so

that such students may attend the seminar
or institute.
"(c) GRANT TERMS.—Grants awarded under this
section shall be for a term of not more than 5 years.
"(d) Use of Funds.—
"(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity that re-
ceives a grant under this section shall use the grant
funds—
"(A) to establish an Academy and a sem-
inar or institute in accordance with paragraph
(2);
"(B) for Academy staff in accordance with
paragraph (3);
"(C) for the selection of students in ac-
cordance with paragraph (4); and
"(D) to pay student stipends in accordance
with paragraph (5).
"(2) Seminars and institutes.—An eligible
entity that receives a grant under this section shall
establish an Academy that shall offer a seminar or
institute during the summer for outstanding stu-
dents of American history and civics that—
"(A) broadens and deepens such students'
understanding of American history and civics;

1	"(B) is led by a team of primary scholars
2	and core teachers; and
3	"(C) is of not less than 2 weeks and not
4	more than 6 weeks in duration.
5	"(3) ACADEMY STAFF.—
6	"(A) PRIMARY SCHOLAR.—Each Academy
7	shall be headed by a primary scholar identified
8	in the application submitted under subsection
9	(b) who shall—
10	"(i) be accomplished in the field of
11	American history and civics; and
12	"(ii) design the curriculum for and
13	lead the seminar or institute.
14	"(B) CORE TEACHERS.—Each primary
15	scholar shall appoint an appropriate number of
16	core teachers. At the direction of the primary
17	scholar, the core teachers shall teach the sem-
18	inar or institute attendees.
19	"(4) Selection of students.—
20	"(A) NUMBER OF STUDENTS.—Each year,
21	each Academy shall select between 100 and 300
22	eligible students to attend the seminar or insti-
23	tute offered by the Academy.

1	"(B) ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.—A student
2	shall be eligible to attend a seminar or institute
3	offered by an Academy if the student—
4	"(i) is recommended by the student's
5	secondary school principal (or other head
6	of such student's academic program) to at-
7	tend the seminar or institute; and
8	"(ii) will be a junior or senior in the
9	academic year following attendance at the
10	seminar or institute.
11	"(5) STUDENT STIPENDS.—Each student se-
12	lected to participate in a seminar or institute funded
13	under this section shall be awarded a fixed stipend
14	based on the length of the seminar or institute to
15	help cover travel costs, books and other study ex-
16	penses, and meals and living expenses appropriate to
17	the length of the seminar or institute to ensure that
18	such student does not incur personal costs associ-
19	ated with the student's participation in the seminar
20	or institute.
21	"(e) EVALUATION.—
22	"(1) IN GENERAL.—At the completion of all of
23	the seminars and institutes assisted in the third year
24	grants are awarded under this section, the Secretary
25	shall conduct an evaluation and submit a report on

its findings to the Committee on Health, Education,
Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Com-
mittee on Education and Labor of the House of
Representatives.
"(2) CONTENT OF EVALUATION.—The evalua-
tion conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—
"(A) determine the overall success of the
grant program authorized under this section;
and
"(B) highlight the best grantees' practices
in order to become models for future grantees.
"(f) Match.—
"(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity receiving
Federal assistance under this section shall provide,
toward the cost of the activities assisted under the
grant, from non-Federal sources, an amount equal
to 100 percent of the amount of the grant.
"(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive all or
part of the matching requirement described in para-
graph (1) for any fiscal year for an eligible entity if
the Secretary determines that applying the matching
requirement would result in serious hardship or an
inability to carry out the activities described in sub-
section (d).

2 "There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
3 this subpart \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010
4 through 2015.

17

5 "Subpart 3—Civic Education

6 "SEC. 2531. SHORT TITLE.

7 "This subpart may be cited as the 'Education for De-8 mocracy Act'.

9 "SEC. 2532. PURPOSE.

10 "It is the purpose of this subpart—

"(1) to improve the quality of civics and government education by educating students about the
history and principles of the Constitution of the
United States, including the Bill of Rights;

15 "(2) to foster civic competence and responsi-16 bility; and

17 "(3) to improve the quality of civic education
18 and economic education through cooperative civic
19 education and economic education exchange pro20 grams with emerging democracies.

21 "SEC. 2533. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

22 "(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary is authorized to23 award grants to, or enter into contracts with—

24 "(1) the Center for Civic Education, to carry
25 out civic education activities under sections 2534
26 and 2535;

"(2) the National Council on Economic Edu cation, to carry out economic education activities
 under section 2535; and

4 "(3) organizations experienced in the develop-5 ment of curricula and programs in civics and gov-6 ernment education or economic education for stu-7 dents in elementary schools and secondary schools in 8 countries other than the United States, to carry out 9 civic education or economic education activities 10 under section 2535.

11 "(b) DISTRIBUTION FOR COOPERATIVE CIVIC EDU12 CATION AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION EXCHANGE PRO13 GRAMS.—

14 "(1) LIMITATION.—Not more than 40 percent 15 of the amount appropriated under section 2536 for 16 a fiscal year shall be used to carry out section 2555. 17 "(2) DISTRIBUTION.—Of the amount used to 18 carry out section 2535 for a fiscal year (consistent 19 with paragraph (1)), the Secretary shall use— "(A) 37.5 percent for a grant or contract 20 21 for the Center for Civic Education;

22 "(B) 37.5 percent for a grant or contract
23 for the National Council on Economic Edu24 cation; and

1	"(C) 25 percent for not less than 1, but
2	not more than 3, grants or contracts for organi-
3	zations described in subsection $(a)(3)$.
4	"SEC. 2534. WE THE PEOPLE PROGRAM.
5	"(a) The Citizen and the Constitution.—
6	"(1) Educational activities.—The Center
7	for Civic Education—
8	"(A) shall use funds made available under
9	grants or contracts under section $2533(a)(1)$ —
10	"(i) to continue and expand the edu-
11	cational activities of the program entitled
12	the We the People The Citizen and
13	the Constitution program administered by
14	such center;
15	"(ii) to carry out activities to enhance
16	student attainment of challenging aca-
17	demic content standards in civics and gov-
18	ernment;
19	"(iii) to provide a course of instruc-
20	tion on the basic principles of the Nation's
21	constitutional democracy and the history of
22	the Constitution of the United States, in-
23	cluding the Bill of Rights;
24	"(iv) to provide, at the request of a
25	participating school, school and community

	-0
1	simulated congressional hearings following
2	the course of instruction described in
3	clause (iii); and
4	"(v) to provide an annual national
5	competition of simulated congressional
6	hearings for secondary school students who
7	wish to participate in such a program; and
8	"(B) may use funds made available under
9	grants or contracts under section $2533(a)(1)$ —
10	"(i) to provide advanced, sustained,
11	and ongoing training of teachers about the
12	Constitution of the United States and the
13	political system of the United States;
14	"(ii) to implement a comprehensive
15	program to improve public knowledge, un-
16	derstanding, and support of American
17	democratic institutions; and
18	"(iii) to provide materials and meth-
19	ods of instruction, including teacher train-
20	ing, that utilize the latest advancements in
21	educational technology.
22	"(2) AVAILABILITY OF PROGRAM.—The edu-
23	cation program authorized under this subsection
24	shall be made available to public and private elemen-
25	tary schools and secondary schools, including Bu-

1	reau-funded schools, in the 435 congressional dis-
2	tricts, and in the District of Columbia, the Common-
3	wealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Is-
4	lands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Common-
5	wealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
6	"(b) Project Citizen.—
7	"(1) Educational activities.—The Center
8	for Civic Education—
9	"(A) shall use funds made available under
10	grants or contracts under section $2533(a)(1)$ —
11	"(i) to continue and expand the edu-
12	cational activities of the program entitled
13	the We the People Project Citizen
14	program administered by the Center;
15	"(ii) to carry out activities to enhance
16	student attainment of challenging aca-
17	demic content standards in civics and gov-
18	ernment;
19	"(iii) to provide a course of instruc-
20	tion at the middle and high school levels on
21	the roles of State and local governments in
22	the Federal system established by the Con-
23	stitution of the United States;
24	"(iv) to provide an annual national
25	showcase or competition; and

1	"(v) to provide civic education mate-
2	rials and services to address the needs of
3	immigrants, new citizens, and other post-
4	secondary and adult populations; and
5	"(B) may use funds made available under
6	grants or contracts under section $2533(a)(1)$ —
7	"(i) to provide optional school and
8	community simulated State legislative
9	hearings;
10	"(ii) to provide advanced, sustained,
11	and ongoing training of teachers on the
12	roles of State and local governments in the
13	Federal system established by the Con-
14	stitution of the United States; and
15	"(iii) to provide materials and meth-
16	ods of instruction, including teacher train-
17	ing, that utilize the latest advancements in
18	educational technology.
19	"(2) AVAILABILITY OF PROGRAM.—The edu-
20	cation program authorized under this subsection
21	shall be made available to public and private middle
22	schools, including Bureau-funded schools, in the 50
23	States of the United States, the District of Colum-
24	bia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United
25	States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and

the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is lands.

3 "(c) BUREAU-FUNDED SCHOOL DEFINED.—In this
4 section, the term 'Bureau-funded school' has the meaning
5 given such term in section 1141 of the Education Amend6 ments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2021).

7 "SEC. 2535. COOPERATIVE CIVIC EDUCATION AND ECO8 NOMIC EDUCATION EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.

9 "(a) COOPERATIVE EDUCATION EXCHANGE PRO-10 GRAMS.—The Center for Civic Education, the National 11 Council on Economic Education, and organizations de-12 scribed in section 2533(a)(3) shall use funds made avail-13 able under grants or contracts under section 2533 to carry 14 out cooperative education exchange programs in accord-15 ance with this section.

16 "(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the cooperative edu17 cation exchange programs carried out under this section
18 shall be—

19 "(1) to make available to educators from eligi20 ble countries exemplary curriculum and teacher
21 training programs in civics and government edu22 cation, and economics education, developed in the
23 United States;

1 "(2) to assist eligible countries in the adapta-2 tion, implementation, and institutionalization of such 3 programs; "(3) to create and implement civics and govern-4 5 ment education, and economic education, programs 6 for students that draw upon the experiences of the 7 participating eligible countries; "(4) to provide a means for the exchange of 8 9 ideas and experiences in civics and government edu-10 cation, and economic education, among political, 11 educational, governmental, and private sector leaders 12 of participating eligible countries; and 13 "(5) to provide support for— 14 "(A) independent research and evaluation 15 to determine the effects of educational programs on students' development of the knowl-16 17 edge, skills, and traits of character essential for 18 the preservation and improvement of constitu-19 tional democracy; and "(B) effective participation in, and the 20 21 preservation and improvement of, an efficient 22 market economy. "(c) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the cooperative 23 education exchange programs assisted under this section, 24 the Center for Civic Education, the National Council on 25

Economic Education, and organizations described in sec tion 2533(a)(3) shall—

3 "(1) provide to the participants from eligible
4 countries—

5 "(A) seminars on the basic principles of 6 United States constitutional democracy and 7 economic system, including seminars on the 8 major governmental and economic institutions 9 and systems in the United States, and visits to 10 such institutions;

"(B) visits to school systems, institutions
of higher education, and nonprofit organizations
conducting exemplary programs in civics and
government education, and economic education,
in the United States;

"(C) translations and adaptations with re-16 17 spect to United States civics and government 18 education, and economic education, curricular 19 programs for students and teachers, and in the 20 case of training programs for teachers, trans-21 lations and adaptations into forms useful in 22 schools in eligible countries, and joint research 23 projects in such areas; and

24 "(D) independent research and evaluation
25 assistance—

	20
1	"(i) to determine the effects of the co-
2	operative education exchange programs on
3	students' development of the knowledge,
4	skills, and traits of character essential for
5	the preservation and improvement of con-
6	stitutional democracy; and
7	"(ii) to identify effective participation
8	in, and the preservation and improvement
9	of, an efficient market economy;
10	"(2) provide to the participants from the
11	United States—
12	"(A) seminars on the histories, economies,
13	and systems of government of eligible countries;
14	"(B) visits to school systems, institutions
15	of higher education, and organizations con-
16	ducting exemplary programs in civics and gov-
17	ernment education, and economic education, lo-
18	cated in eligible countries;
19	"(C) assistance from educators and schol-
20	ars in eligible countries in the development of
21	curricular materials on the history, government,
22	and economy of such countries that are useful
23	in United States classrooms;
24	"(D) opportunities to provide onsite dem-
25	onstrations of United States curricula and ped-

1	agogy for educational leaders in eligible coun-
2	tries; and
3	((E) independent research and evaluation
4	assistance to determine—
5	"(i) the effects of the cooperative edu-
6	cation exchange programs assisted under
7	this section on students' development of
8	the knowledge, skills, and traits of char-
9	acter essential for the preservation and im-
10	provement of constitutional democracy;
11	and
12	"(ii) effective participation in, and im-
13	provement of, an efficient market economy;
14	and
15	"(3) assist participants from eligible countries
16	and the United States to participate in international
17	conferences on civics and government education, and
18	economic education, for educational leaders, teacher
19	trainers, scholars in related disciplines, and edu-
20	cational policymakers.
21	"(d) PARTICIPANTS.—The primary participants in
22	the cooperative education exchange programs assisted
23	under this section shall be educational leaders in the areas
24	of civics and government education, and economic edu-
25	cation, including teachers, curriculum and teacher train-

ing specialists, scholars in relevant disciplines, and edu cational policymakers, and government and private sector
 leaders from the United States and eligible countries.

4 "(e) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary may award a 5 grant to, or enter into a contract with, the entities de-6 scribed in section 2533 to carry out programs assisted 7 under this section only if the Secretary of State concurs 8 with the Secretary that such grant, or contract, respec-9 tively, is consistent with the foreign policy of the United 10 States.

"(f) AVOIDANCE OF DUPLICATION.—With the concurrence of the Secretary of State, the Secretary shall ensure that—

"(1) the activities carried out under the programs assisted under this section are not duplicative
of other activities conducted in eligible countries;
and

"(2) any institutions in eligible countries, with
which the Center for Civic Education, the National
Council on Economic Education, or organizations
described in section 2533(a)(3) may work in conducting such activities, are credible.

23 "(g) ELIGIBLE COUNTRY DEFINED.—In this section,
24 the term 'eligible country' means a Central European
25 country, an Eastern European country, Lithuania, Latvia,

Estonia, the independent states of the former Soviet 1 Union as defined in section 3 of the FREEDOM Support 2 3 Act (22 U.S.C. 5801), the Republic of Ireland, the prov-4 ince of Northern Ireland in the United Kingdom, and any 5 developing country (as such term is defined in section 6 209(d) of the Education for the Deaf Act) if the Sec-7 retary, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, de-8 termines that such developing country has a democratic 9 form of government.

10 "SEC. 2536. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

"There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
this subpart \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and such
sums as may be necessary for each of the 5 succeeding
fiscal years.

15 "Subpart 4—National History Day

16 "SEC. 2541. NATIONAL HISTORY DAY PROGRAMS.

17 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
18 award a grant to, or enter into a contract with the Na19 tional History Day, Inc. to carry out activities under sub20 section (b) to promote the study of history and improve
21 instruction in history.

"(b) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the activities assisted under this section, the National History Day, Inc.
shall—

1	((1) develop a framework for hands-on, stu-
2	dent-centered learning that guides classroom teach-
3	ing as well as continuous professional development;
4	"(2) enable students to conduct extensive pri-
5	mary and secondary research through libraries, ar-
6	chives, museums, oral history interviews, and his-
7	toric sites;
8	"(3) provide students an opportunity to present
9	their work in original papers, exhibits, performances,
10	and documentaries;
11	"(4) enable students, through educational op-
12	portunities, training, and mentoring, to develop—
13	"(A) critical thinking and problem-solving
14	skills;
15	"(B) research and reading skills;
16	"(C) oral and written communication and
17	presentation skills; and
18	"(D) a sense of responsibility for and in-
19	volvement in the democratic process;
20	"(5) provide students with the opportunity to
21	work with and analyze historical documents and
22	other primary source material;
23	"(6) conduct competitions at local, State, and
24	national levels where entries are evaluated by profes-
25	sional historians and educators; and

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1	((7) assist teachers and schools in meeting
2	State educational standards.
3	"SEC. 2542. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
4	"There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
5	this subpart such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year
6	2010 and for each of the 5 succeeding fiscal years.
7	"Subpart 5—Close Up Fellowship Program
8	"SEC. 2551. CLOSE UP FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.
9	"(a) Program for Middle School and Sec-
10	ondary School Students.—
11	"(1) Establishment.—
12	"(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In accord-
13	ance with this subsection, the Secretary may
14	make grants to the Close Up Foundation of
15	Washington, District of Columbia, a non-
16	partisan, nonprofit foundation, for the purpose
17	of assisting the Close Up Foundation in car-
18	rying out its programs of increasing civic re-
19	sponsibility and understanding of the Federal
20	Government among middle school and sec-
21	ondary school students.
22	"(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants under this
23	subsection shall be used only to provide finan-
24	cial assistance to economically disadvantaged

1	students who participate in the programs de-
2	scribed in subparagraph (A).
3	"(C) NAME OF FELLOWSHIPS.—Financial
4	assistance received by students pursuant to this
5	subsection shall be known as Close Up fellow-
6	ships.
7	"(2) Applications.—
8	"(A) Application required.—No grant
9	under this subsection may be made except upon
10	an application at such time, in such manner,
11	and accompanied by such information as the
12	Secretary may reasonably require.
13	"(B) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—Each
14	application submitted under this paragraph
15	shall contain assurances that—
16	"(i) Close Up fellowships provided
17	under this subsection shall be made to eco-
18	nomically disadvantaged middle school and
19	secondary school students;
20	"(ii) every effort shall be made to en-
21	sure the participation of students from
22	rural, small town, and urban areas;
23	"(iii) in awarding the fellowships to
24	economically disadvantaged students, spe-
25	cial consideration shall be given to the par-

1	ticipation of those students with special
2	educational needs, including students with
3	disabilities, ethnic minority students, and
4	students with migrant parents; and
5	"(iv) the funds received under this
6	subsection shall be properly disbursed.
7	"(b) Program for Middle School and Sec-
8	ONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.—
9	"(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—
10	"(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In accord-
11	ance with this subsection, the Secretary may
12	make grants to the Close Up Foundation of
13	Washington, District of Columbia, a non-
14	partisan, nonprofit foundation, for the purpose
15	of assisting the Close Up Foundation in car-
16	rying out its programs of professional develop-
17	ment for middle school and secondary school
18	teachers and its programs to increase civic re-
19	sponsibility and understanding of the Federal
20	Government among the teachers' students.
21	"(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants under this
22	subsection shall be used only to provide finan-
23	cial assistance to teachers who participate in
24	the programs described in subparagraph (A).

1	"(C) NAME OF FELLOWSHIPS.—Financial
2	assistance received by teachers pursuant to this
3	subsection shall be known as Close Up fellow-
4	ships.
5	"(2) Applications.—
6	"(A) Application required.—No grant
7	under this subsection may be made except upon
8	an application at such time, in such manner,
9	and accompanied by such information as the
10	Secretary may reasonably require.
11	"(B) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—Each
12	application submitted under this paragraph
13	shall contain assurances that—
14	"(i) Close Up fellowships provided
15	under this subsection shall be made only to
16	a teacher who has worked with at least 1
17	student from such teacher's school who
18	participates in a program described in sub-
19	section $(a)(1)(A);$
20	"(ii) no teacher shall receive more
21	than 1 such fellowship in any fiscal year;
22	and
23	"(iii) the funds received under this
24	subsection shall be properly disbursed.
25	"(c) Programs for New Americans.—

"(1) Establishment.—

1

"(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY.-In accord-2 ance with this subsection, the Secretary may 3 4 make grants to the Close Up Foundation of 5 Washington, District of Columbia, a non-6 partisan, nonprofit foundation, for the purpose 7 of assisting the Close Up Foundation in car-8 rying out its programs of increasing civic re-9 sponsibility and understanding of the Federal 10 Government among economically disadvantaged 11 middle school and secondary school recent im-12 migrant students.

13 "(B) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the
14 term 'recent immigrant student' means a stu15 dent who is a member of a family that immi16 grated to the United States within 5 years of
17 the student's participation in such a program.

"(C) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants under this
subsection shall be used only to provide financial assistance to economically disadvantaged
recent immigrant students and their teachers
who participate in the programs described in
subparagraph (A).

24 "(D) NAME OF FELLOWSHIPS.—Financial
25 assistance received by students and teachers

1	pursuant to this subsection shall be known as
2	Close Up Fellowships for New Americans.
3	"(2) Applications.—
4	"(A) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—No grant
5	under this subsection may be made except upon
6	an application at such time, in such manner,
7	and accompanied by such information as the
8	Secretary may reasonably require.
9	"(B) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—Each
10	application submitted under this paragraph
11	shall contain assurances that—
12	"(i) Close Up Fellowships for New
13	Americans shall be made to economically
14	disadvantaged middle school and secondary
15	school recent immigrant students;
16	"(ii) every effort shall be made to en-
17	sure the participation of recent immigrant
18	students from rural, small town, and urban
19	areas;
20	"(iii) in awarding the fellowships to
21	economically disadvantaged recent immi-
22	grant students, special consideration shall
23	be given to the participation of those stu-
24	dents with special educational needs, in-
25	cluding students with disabilities, students

1	with migrant parents, and ethnic minority
2	students;
3	"(iv) fully describe the activities to be
4	carried out with the proceeds of the grant
5	made under paragraph (1); and
6	"(v) the funds received under this
7	subsection shall be properly disbursed.
8	"(d) Administrative Provisions.—
9	"(1) Accountability.—In consultation with
10	the Secretary, the Close Up Foundation shall devise
11	and implement procedures to measure the efficacy of
12	the programs authorized in subsections (a), (b), and
13	(c) in attaining objectives that include the following:
14	"(A) Providing young people with an in-
15	creased understanding of the Federal Govern-
16	ment.
17	"(B) Heightening a sense of civic responsi-
18	bility among young people.
19	"(C) Enhancing the skills of educators in
20	teaching young people about civic responsibility,
21	the Federal Government, and attaining citizen-
22	ship competencies.
23	"(2) GENERAL RULE.—Payments under this
24	section may be made in installments, in advance, or
25	by way of reimbursement, with necessary adjust-

ments on account of underpayments or overpay ments.

3 "(3) AUDIT RULE.—The Comptroller General
4 of the United States or any of the Comptroller Gen5 eral's duly authorized representatives shall have ac6 cess for the purpose of audit and examination to any
7 books, documents, papers, and records that are per8 tinent to any grant under this section.

9 "(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There 10 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section 11 such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2010 and 12 for each of the 5 succeeding fiscal years.".

13 SEC. 102. STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENTS IN UNITED14STATES HISTORY.

(a) CHALLENGING ACADEMIC STANDARDS.—Section
1111(b)(1)(C) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b)(1)(C)) is amended
by striking "and (beginning in the 2005–2006 school
year) science," and inserting "(beginning in the 2005–2006 school
year) science, and (beginning in the 2011–
2012 school year) United States history,".

(b) ACADEMIC ASSESSMENTS.—Section
1111(b)(3)(A) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b)(3)(A)) is amended—

1	(1) by striking "and science" and inserting
2	"science, and United States history"; and
3	(2) by inserting before the period at the end the
4	following: "and no State shall be required to meet
5	the requirements of this part relating to United
6	States history assessments until the beginning of the
7	2012–2013 school year''.
8	(c) Assessment Requirements.—Section
9	$1111(\mathrm{b})(3)(\mathrm{C})(\mathrm{v})$ of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
10	cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. $6311(b)(3)(C)(v)$) is
11	amended by adding at the end the following:
12	"(III) beginning not later than
13	school year 2012–2013, measure the
14	proficiency of all students in United
15	States history and be administered
16	not less than 1 time during—
17	"(aa) grades 3 through 5;
18	"(bb) grades 6 through 9;
19	and
20	"(cc) grades 10 through
21	12;".
22	SEC. 103. REPEALS.
23	The following provisions of law are repealed:
24	(1) Section 1504 of the Elementary and Sec-
25	ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6494).

1	(2) Subpart 3 of part C of title II of the Ele-
2	mentary and Secondary Education of 1965 (20
3	U.S.C. 6711 et seq.).
4	(3) Subpart 4 of part C of title II of the Ele-
5	mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
6	U.S.C. 6721 et seq.).
7	(4) The American History and Civics Education
8	Act of 2004 (20 U.S.C. 6713 note).
9	SEC. 104. TABLE OF CONTENTS.
10	The table of contents in section 2 of the Elementary
11	and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301
12	note) is amended—
13	(1) by striking the item related to section 1504;
14	(2) by striking the items relating to subparts 3
15	and 4 of part C of title II; and
16	(3) by inserting after the items relating to part
17	D of title II the following:
	"PART E—American History and Civics
	"SUBPART 1—TEACHING TRADITIONAL AMERICAN HISTORY
	"Sec. 2511. Establishment of program. "Sec. 2512. Authorization of appropriations.
	"SUBPART 2—PRESIDENTIAL AND CONGRESSIONAL HISTORY AND CIVICS ACADEMIES
	"Sec. 2521. Definitions. "Sec. 2522. Presidential Academies for Teaching of American History and Civics.
	"Sec. 2523. Congressional Academies for Students of American History and Civics.
	"Sec. 2524. Authorization of appropriations.
	"SUBPART 3—CIVIC EDUCATION

"Sec. 2531. Short title.

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"Sec. 2532. Purpose.

"Sec. 2533. General authority.

"Sec. 2534. We the People Program.

"Sec. 2535. Cooperative civic education and economic education exchange programs.

"Sec. 2536. Authorization of appropriations.

"SUBPART 4—NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

"Sec. 2541. National History Day programs.

"Sec. 2542. Authorization of appropriations.

"SUBPART 5—CLOSE UP FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

"Sec. 2551. Close Up fellowship program.".

TITLE II—AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS ACHIEVEMENT

3 SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

4 This title may be cited as the "Improving the Teach-5 ing and Learning of American History and Civics Act of6 2009".

7 SEC. 202. FINDINGS.

8 Congress finds that—

9 (1) the 2006 National Assessment of Edu-10 cational Progress assessments in United States his-11 tory and civics demonstrated high percentages of 12 students scoring below basic even though there were 13 increases in scores, particularly for lower-performing 14 students, compared to previous such assessments;

(2) in the 2006 National Assessment of Educational Progress assessment in United States history—

18 (A) 30 percent of students in grade 4
19 scored below basic, 35 percent of students in

1	grade 8 scored below basic, and 53 percent of
2	students in grade 12 scored below basic;
3	(B) a 31 point achievement gap exists for
4	students in grade 4 who are from low-income
5	families, as compared to students in grade 4
6	who are from high-income families, a 32 point
7	achievement gap exists between Black and
8	White students in grade 4, and a 30 point
9	achievement gap exists between White and His-
10	panic students in grade 4;
11	(C) 86 percent of students in grade 12
12	could not explain a reason for United States in-
13	volvement in the Korean War;
14	(D) 99 percent of students in grade 8
15	could not explain how the fall of the Berlin
16	Wall affected United States foreign policy; and
17	(E) 76 percent of students in grade 4
18	could not explain why early American pioneers
19	settled on the western frontier;
20	(3) in the 2006 National Assessment of Edu-
21	cational Progress assessment in the United States
22	civics—
23	(A) 27 percent of students in grade 4
24	scored below basic, 30 percent of students in

	10
1	grade 8 scored below basic, and 34 percent of
2	students in grade 12 scored below basic;
3	(B) a 29 point achievement gap exists for
4	students in grade 4 who are from low-income
5	families, as compared to students in grade 4
6	who are from high-income families, a 25 point
7	achievement gap exists between Black and
8	White students in grade 4, and a 26 point
9	achievement gap exists between White and His-
10	panic students in grade 4;
11	(C) 72 percent of students in grade 8
12	could not explain the historical purpose of the
13	Declaration of Independence; and
14	(D) 57 percent of students in grade 12
15	were unable to describe the meaning of fed-
16	eralism in the United States;
17	(4) America's past encompasses great leaders
18	and great ideas that contribute to our shared herit-
19	age and to the principles of freedom, equality, jus-
20	tice, and opportunity for all;
21	(5) an appreciation for the defining events in
22	our Nation's history can be a catalyst for civic in-
23	volvement; and
24	(6) the strength of American democracy and
25	our standing in the world depend on ensuring that

1	our children have a strong understanding of our Na-
2	tion's past.
3	SEC. 203. AMENDMENT TO THE NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF
4	EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS AUTHORIZATION
5	ACT.
6	Section 303(b) of the National Assessment of Edu-
7	cational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. 9622(b))
8	is amended—
9	(1) in paragraph (2)(D), by inserting "(with a
10	priority in conducting assessments in history not less
11	frequently than once every 4 years)" after "subject
12	matter"; and
13	(2) in paragraph $(3)(A)$ —
14	(A) in clause (iii)—
15	(i) by inserting "except as provided in
16	clause (iv)," before "may conduct"; and
17	(ii) by striking "and" after the semi-
18	colon;
19	(B) by redesignating clause (iv) as clause
20	(v); and
21	(C) by inserting after clause (iii) the fol-
22	lowing:
23	"(iv) shall conduct trial State aca-
24	demic assessments of student achievement
25	in United States history in grades 8 and

1 12 in not less than 10 States representing 2 geographically diverse regions of the 3 United States and in civics in grades 8 and 4 12 in not less than 10 States representing 5 diverse geographically regions of the 6 United States (with a priority given to con-7 ducting assessments in United States his-8 tory); and". 9 SEC. 204. NATIONAL ASSESSMENT GOVERNING BOARD. 10 Section 302(e)(1) of the National Assessment of 11 Educational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. 12 9621(e)(1) is amended— (1) in subparagraph (I), by striking "and" after 13 14 the semicolon; 15 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as sub-16 paragraph (K); 17 (3) in the flush matter at the end, by striking "subparagraph (J)" and inserting "subparagraph 18 19 (K)"; and 20 (4) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the fol-21 lowing: 22 "(J) in consultation with the Commissioner 23 for Education Statistics, identify and select the 24 States that will participate in the trial State

	10
1	academic assessments described in section
2	303(b)(3)(A)(iv); and".
3	SEC. 205. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
4	Section 305 of the National Assessment of Edu-
5	cational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. 9624) is
6	amended—
7	(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
8	section (c); and
9	(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
10	lowing:
11	"(b) HISTORY AND CIVICS ASSESSMENTS.—There
12	are authorized to be appropriated—
13	"(1) $$7,000,000$ for each of fiscal years 2010
14	and 2011 to carry out sections $303(b)(3)(A)(iv)$ and
15	302(e)(1), of which not more than $$500,000$ for
16	each fiscal year shall be available to carry out sec-
17	tion $302(e)(1)$; and
18	"(2) such sums as may be necessary to carry
19	out such sections for each succeeding fiscal year.".
20	SEC. 206. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.
21	Section $113(a)(1)$ of the Education Sciences Reform
22	Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. $9513(a)(1)$) is amended by strik-
23	ing "section $302(e)(1)(J)$ " and inserting "section
24	302(e)(1)(K)".
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