

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2878

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for innovative teacher retention programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 31, 2013

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (for himself, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MCINTYRE, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. WALZ) 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 provide grants for innovative teacher retention programs.

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 “Keep Teachers Teach-
5 ing Act of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) The United States faces an increasing need
9 for high-quality educators.

1 (2) Approximately one-third of teachers leave
2 the profession within 3 years of being hired because
3 of poor working conditions, low pay, low morale, or
4 lack of a pathway for professional advancement. In
5 some schools, the five-year attrition rate reaches 50
6 percent.

7 (3) Effective teacher retention programs to ad-
8 dress this problem are already at work in local edu-
9 cational agencies around the country, and many
10 more innovative programs could be advanced if addi-
11 tional resources were available.

12 (4) Efforts to address the teacher shortage de-
13 mands a national strategy to support the develop-
14 ment and implementation of innovative teacher re-
15 tention programs.

16 (5) The Department of Education can play an
17 important role in facilitating the identification of the
18 most promising teacher retention approaches and
19 disseminating information about them to State edu-
20 cational agencies and local educational agencies.

21 **SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR INNOVATIVE TEACHER RETENTION**
22 **PROGRAMS.**

23 Section 2151 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
24 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6651) is amended by add-
25 ing at the end the following:

1 “(g) TEACHER RETENTION ACTIVITIES.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
3 lish and carry out a teacher retention program to—

4 “(A) assist State educational agencies and
5 local educational agencies in developing and im-
6 plementing innovative teacher retention pro-
7 grams, and support the development of model
8 programs and best practices in retaining quality
9 teachers in the classroom; and

10 “(B) facilitate the dissemination of innova-
11 tive teacher retention programs to State edu-
12 cational agencies and local educational agencies.

13 “(2) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall carry out
14 paragraph (1)(A) by making grants to eligible enti-
15 ties to develop and implement innovative teacher re-
16 tention programs, including activities such as—

17 “(A) professional development programs;

18 “(B) teacher mentoring programs;

19 “(C) advanced certification or advanced
20 credentialing;

21 “(D) research, travel, or fellowship oppor-
22 tunities; and

23 “(E) pairing of teachers with professionals
24 in research or industry.

1 “(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—In this subsection,
2 the term ‘eligible entity’ includes—

3 “(A) local educational agencies;

4 “(B) State educational agencies; and

5 “(C) partnerships of local educational
6 agencies, nonprofit organizations, and institu-
7 tions of higher education.

8 “(4) GRANT TERMS.—Grants under this sub-
9 section shall be awarded for periods of not more
10 than 5 years and on a competitive basis. Grants
11 awarded under this subsection may be renewed.

12 “(5) SECRETARY’S DUTY TO IDENTIFY MOST
13 PROMISING TEACHER RETENTION APPROACHES.—In
14 carrying out paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary shall—

15 “(A) identify the most promising teacher
16 retention approaches, including the approaches
17 already working and the approaches developed
18 through grants funded under this subsection,
19 and make information about such approaches
20 publicly available and easily accessible to State
21 educational agencies and local educational agen-
22 cies; and

23 “(B) not later than 9 months after the
24 date of the enactment of this subsection, and
25 annually thereafter, transmit to the Committee

1 on Education and the Workforce of the House
2 of Representatives and the Committee on
3 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the
4 Senate, a report that describes—

5 “(i) the methodology by which the
6 most promising teacher retention programs
7 are identified under subparagraph (A); and

8 “(ii) the Secretary’s efforts to dis-
9 seminate information regarding such pro-
10 grams to State educational agencies and
11 local educational agencies.”.

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