H. R. 1042

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 24, 2015

Mr. KILDEE 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 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Afterschool for America’s Children Act”.

SEC. 2. PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS.

Section 4201 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7171) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by amending paragraphs (1) and (2) to read as follows:
“(1) offer students a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities, such as youth development activities, service learning, nutrition and health education, drug and violence prevention programs, counseling programs, art, music, social and emotional learning programs, physical fitness and wellness programs and recreation programs, such as sports, and technology education programs, that are designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program of participating students;

“(2) provide opportunities for academic enrichment, including providing tutorial services to help students, particularly students who attend low-performing schools, in core academic subjects; and”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

“(A) assists students in core academic subjects by providing the students with academic and enrichment activities and a broad array of other activities (such as programs and activities described in subsection (a)) during nonschool hours or periods when school is not in session (such as before or after school or during sum-
mer recess) that reinforce and complement the
regular academic programs of the schools at-
tended by the students served;”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
before the period at the end “and opportu-
nities for active and meaningful engage-
ment in their student’s education”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “Indian
tribe or tribal organization (as such terms are
defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Deter-
mination and Education Act (25 U.S.C.
450b)),” after “community-based organiza-
tion,”;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (4) as
paragraph (5); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (3) the
following new paragraph:

“(4) EXTERNAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘ex-
ternal organization’ means a nonprofit organization
with a record of success in carrying out or working
with before school, after school, or summer learning
programs.”.

SEC. 3. ALLOTMENTS TO STATES.

Section 4202(c) of the Elementary and Secondary
Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7172(c)) is amended—
(1) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “rigorous” after “implementing a”; 

(2) by striking the undesignated matter after paragraph (2)(B) and inserting the following new subparagraph:

“(C) supervising the awarding of funds to eligible entities (in consultation with the Governor and other State agencies responsible for administering youth development programs and adult learning activities).”; and

(3) in paragraph (3), by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraphs:

“(E) Assisting eligible entities receiving an award under this part to align with State academic standards the activities carried out under before school, after school, or summer learning programs funded with such award.

“(F) Ensuring that any such eligible entity identifies and partners with external organizations, if available, in the community.

“(G) Working with teachers, principals, parents, and other stakeholders to review and improve State policies and practices to support the implementation of effective programs.
“(H) Coordinating funds received under this program with other Federal and State funds to implement high-quality programs.

“(I) Providing a list of prescreened external organizations to eligible entities under section 4203(a)(12).”.

SEC. 4. STATE APPLICATION.

Section 4203 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7173) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

“(3) contains an assurance that the State educational agency—

“(A) will make awards under this part only to eligible entities that propose to serve students who primarily attend schools eligible for schoolwide programs under section 1114, and families of such students; and

“(B) will give priority to eligible entities that propose to serve students described in section 4204(i)(1);”;

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking “meet local content and student academic achievement
standards” and inserting “improve academic and life success”;

(C) in paragraph (6), by striking “promising practices” and inserting “successful practices, and coordination of professional development for staff in specific content areas and youth development”;

(D) by amending paragraph (11) to read as follows:

“(11) provides—

“(A) an assurance that the application was developed in consultation and coordination with appropriate State officials, including the chief State school officer, and other State agencies administering before school, after school, or summer school learning programs, the heads of the State health and mental health agencies or their designees, and representatives of teachers, parents, students, the business community, and community-based organizations; statewide after-school networks (where applicable); and

“(B) a description of any other representatives of teachers, parents, students, or the business community that the State has selected to
assist in the development of the application, if applicable;”;

(E) by redesignating paragraph (14) as paragraph (15);

(F) by amending paragraph (12) to read as follows:

“(12) describes how the State will prescreen external organizations that may provide assistance in carrying out the activities under this part and develop and make available to eligible entities a list of external organizations that successfully completed the prescreening process;”;

(G) by amending paragraph (13) to read as follows:

“(13) describes the results of the State’s needs and resources assessment for before school, after school or summer learning activities, which shall be based on the results of on-going State evaluation activities;”; and

(H) by amending paragraph (14) to read as follows:

“(14) describes how the State educational agency will evaluate the effectiveness of programs and activities carried out under this part, which shall include, at a minimum—
“(A) a description of the performance indicators and performance measures that will be used to evaluate programs and activities, and with emphasis on alignment with the regular academic program of the school and the academic needs of participating students, including performance indicators and measures that—

“(i) are able to track student success and improvement over time, and

“(ii) include State assessment results and other indicators of student success and improvement, such as improved attendance during the school day, better classroom grades, regular (or consistent) program attendance, on-time advancement to the next grade level and graduation rate, local crime rate, and classroom behavior;

“(B) a description of how data collected for the purposes of subparagraph (A) will be collected; and

“(C) public dissemination of the evaluations of programs and activities carried out under this part”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:
“(g) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not impose a priority or preference for States or eligible entities that seek to use funds made available under this part to extend the regular school day.”.

SEC. 5. LOCAL COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 4204 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7174) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “and overall student success” after “achievement”;

(B) by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

“(C) a demonstration of how the proposed program will—

“(i) work in partnership with Federal, State, and local programs that will be combined or coordinated with the proposed program; and

“(ii) make the most effective use of public resources;”;

(C) in subparagraph (D), by striking “, in active collaboration with the schools the students attend;” and inserting “in active collaboration and alignment with the schools the stu-
ments attend, including the sharing of relevant student data among the schools, all participants in the eligible entity, and any partnering entities described in subparagraph (H) in a manner consistent with the applicable laws relating to privacy and confidentiality;”; and

(D) in subparagraph (J), by striking “has experience, or promise of success, in providing” and inserting “uses research or evidence-based practices to provide”; 

(2) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking “In reviewing” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In reviewing”; 

(B) by inserting “rigorous” before “peer”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) RIGOROUS PEER REVIEW PROCESS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘rigorous peer review process’ means a process by which—

“(A) a State educational agency selects peer reviewers who are employees of such agency and who—

“(i) have experience with community learning centers;
“(ii) have expertise in providing effective academic, enrichment, youth development, and related services to students; and

“(iii) are not eligible entities, or representatives of an eligible entity, that have submitted an application under this section for the grant period for which applications are being reviewed; and

“(B) the peer reviewers described in subparagraph (A) review and rate the applications to determine the extent to which the applications meet the requirements under subsection (b) of this section and 4205.”;

(3) in subsection (i)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) and inserting “; and”, and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) demonstrating that the activities proposed in the application—

“(i) are, as of the date of the submission of the application, not otherwise accessible to students who would be served by such activities; or
“(ii) would expand accessibility to high-quality services that may be available in the community.”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) LIMITATION.—A State educational agency may not impose a priority or preference for eligible entities that seek to use funds made available under this part to extend the regular school day.”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(j) RENEWABILITY OF AWARDS.—A State educational agency may renew a grant provided under this section to an eligible entity, based on the eligible entity’s performance during the first grant period.”.

SEC. 6. LOCAL ACTIVITIES.

Section 4205 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7175) is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

“(a) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Each eligible entity that receives an award under section 4204 may use the award funds to carry out a broad array of before and after school activities (including during summer recess periods)
that advance student academic achievement and support student success, including—

“(1) academic enrichment learning programs, mentoring programs, remedial education activities, and tutoring services;

“(2) core academic subject education activities, including such activities that enable students to be eligible for credit recovery or attainment;

“(3) art and music education activities;

“(4) services for individuals with disabilities including enrichment programs that provide access to sports and fitness for students with disabilities designed to improve wellness, self-esteem, and independence;

“(5) activities and programs that support global education and global competence, including those that foster learning about other countries, cultures, languages, and global issues;

“(6) programs that provide after school activities for limited English proficient students that emphasize language skills and academic achievement;

“(7) programs that support a healthy, active lifestyle, including nutritional education, recreation and regular, structured physical activity programs;
“(8) telecommunications and technology education programs to serve academic and community needs;

“(9) expanded library service hours to serve academic and community needs;

“(10) parenting skills programs that promote parental involvement and family literacy;

“(11) programs that provide assistance to students who have been truant, suspended, or expelled to allow the students to improve their academic achievement;

“(12) drug and violence prevention programs, counseling programs, social and emotional learning programming and character education programs;

“(13) literacy education programs; and

“(14) programs that build skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this paragraph as ‘STEM’) and that foster innovation in learning by supporting non-traditional STEM education teaching methods.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “PRINCIPLES” and inserting “MEASURES”; and

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (B), by striking the
period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting a semicolon, and by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraphs:

“(D) ensure that measures of student success align with the regular academic program of the school and the academic needs of participating students, and include performance indicators and performance measures described in section 4203(a)(13)(A); and

“(E) collect the data necessary for the measures of student success described in subparagraph (D).”; and

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting before the period at the end “and overall student success”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end of clause (i), by striking the period at the end of clause (ii) and inserting “; and”, and by inserting after clause (ii) the following new clause:

“(iii) used by the State to determine whether a grant is eligible to be renewed under section 4204(j).”.
SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 4206 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7176) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 4206. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016 and each of the 5 succeeding fiscal years.”.

SEC. 8. TRANSITION.

The recipient of a multiyear grant award under part B of title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7171 et seq.), as such Act was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, shall continue to receive funds in accordance with the terms and conditions of such award.