

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2773

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to local educational agencies to encourage girls and underrepresented minorities to pursue studies and careers in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 15, 2015

Mrs. BEATTY (for herself, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. LEE, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. ESTY, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) 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 to local educational agencies to encourage girls and underrepresented minorities to pursue studies and careers in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “21st Century STEM
3 for Girls and Underrepresented Minorities Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO PREPARE GIRLS AND UNDERREP-**
5 **RESENTED MINORITIES.**

6 Title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education
7 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6001 et seq.) is amended by add-
8 ing at the end the following:

9 **“PART E—PREPARING GIRLS AND UNDERREP-**
10 **RESENTED MINORITIES FOR THE 21ST CEN-**
11 **TURY**

12 **“SEC. 5701. PROGRAM AUTHORITY.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—From funds provided under sec-
14 tion 5702, the Secretary is authorized to provide grants
15 to local educational agencies on behalf of elementary and
16 secondary schools to establish and implement a program
17 to encourage the ongoing development of programs and
18 curriculum for girls and underrepresented minorities in
19 science, mathematics, engineering, and technology and to
20 prepare girls and underrepresented minorities to pursue
21 undergraduate and graduate degrees and careers in
22 science, mathematics, engineering, or technology.

23 “(b) APPLICATION.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a
25 grant, or enter into a contract or cooperative agree-
26 ment, under this part, a local educational agency

1 shall submit an application to the Secretary at such
2 time, in such form, and containing such information
3 as the Secretary may reasonably require.

4 “(2) CONTENTS.—The application shall con-
5 tain, at a minimum, the following:

6 “(A) A program description, including the
7 content of the program and the research and
8 models used to design the program.

9 “(B) A description of the collaboration be-
10 tween elementary and secondary schools to ful-
11 fill goals of the program and how the applicant
12 will ensure that there is a comprehensive plan
13 to improve science, mathematics, engineering,
14 and technology education for girls and under-
15 represented minorities in grades kindergarten
16 through 12.

17 “(C) A description of the process for re-
18 cruitment and selection of participants.

19 “(D) A description of the planned instruc-
20 tional and motivational activities.

21 “(E) A description of any collaboration
22 among local, regional, or national institutions
23 and organizations that will occur in order to
24 fulfill the goals of the program.

1 “(3) PRIORITY.—In selecting among applica-
2 tions, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants
3 that partner or coordinate, to the extent possible,
4 with local, regional, or national institutions and or-
5 ganizations who have extensive experience, expertise
6 and research on increasing the participation of girls
7 or underrepresented minorities in science, mathe-
8 matics, engineering and technology.

9 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds provided under this
10 section shall be used for the following:

11 “(1) Preparing girls and underrepresented mi-
12 norities with careers in science, mathematics, engi-
13 neering, and technology, and the advantages of pur-
14 suing careers in these areas.

15 “(2) Educating the parents of girls and under-
16 represented minorities about the opportunities and
17 advantages of science, mathematics, engineering,
18 and technology careers.

19 “(3) Enlisting the help of the parents of girls
20 and underrepresented minorities in overcoming the
21 obstacles these groups face and encouraging their
22 child’s continued interest and involvement in science,
23 mathematics, engineering, and technology.

1 “(4) Providing tutoring and mentoring pro-
2 grams in science, mathematics, engineering, and
3 technology.

4 “(5) Establishing partnerships and other oppor-
5 tunities that expose girls and underrepresented mi-
6 norities to role models in the fields of science, math-
7 ematics, engineering and technology.

8 “(6) Enabling female and underrepresented mi-
9 nority students and their teachers to attend events
10 and academic programs in science, mathematics, en-
11 gineering, and technology.

12 “(7) Providing after-school activities designed
13 to encourage interest, and develop skills of girls and
14 underrepresented minorities, in science, mathe-
15 matics, engineering, and technology.

16 “(8) Summer programs designed in order that
17 girls and underrepresented minorities develop an in-
18 terest in, develop skills in, and understand the rel-
19 evance and significance of, science, mathematics, en-
20 gineering, and technology.

21 “(9) Purchasing—

22 “(A) educational instructional materials or
23 software designed to encourage interest of girls
24 and underrepresented minorities in science,
25 mathematics, engineering, and technology; or

1 “(B) equipment, instrumentation, or hard-
2 ware used for teaching and to encourage inter-
3 est of girls and underrepresented minorities in
4 science, mathematics, engineering, and tech-
5 nology.

6 “(10) Field trips to locations, including institu-
7 tions of higher education, to educate and encourage
8 girls’ and underrepresented minorities’ interest in
9 science, mathematics, engineering, and technology
10 and acquaint them with careers in these fields.

11 “(11) Providing academic advice and assistance
12 in high school course selection that encourages girls
13 and underrepresented minorities to take advanced
14 courses in areas of science, technology, engineering,
15 and mathematics.

16 “(12) Paying up to 50 percent of the cost of an
17 internship in science, mathematics, engineering, or
18 technology for female and underrepresented minority
19 students.

20 “(13) Providing professional development for
21 teachers and other school personnel, including—

22 “(A) how to eliminate gender and racial
23 bias in the classroom;

24 “(B) how to be sensitive to gender and ra-
25 cial differences;

1 “(C) how to engage students in the face of
2 gender-based and racial peer pressure and pa-
3 rental expectations;

4 “(D) how to create and maintain a positive
5 environment; and

6 “(E) how to encourage girls and under-
7 served minorities through academic advice and
8 assistance to pursue advanced classes and ca-
9 reers in science, mathematics, engineering, and
10 technology fields.

11 “(d) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—The Secretary
12 shall require each local educational agency to use the as-
13 sistance provided under this section only to supplement,
14 and not to supplant, any other assistance or funds made
15 available from non-Federal sources for the activities as-
16 sisted under this section.

17 “(e) EVALUATIONS.—Each local educational agency
18 that receives funds under this section shall provide the
19 Secretary, at the conclusion of every school year during
20 which the funds are received, with an evaluation, in a form
21 prescribed by the Secretary. This evaluation shall in-
22 clude—

23 “(1) a description of the programs and activi-
24 ties conducted by the local educational agency using
25 the funds;

1 “(2) data on curriculum and partnerships devel-
2 oped using the funds;

3 “(3) data on the amount of time spent on sub-
4 jects allowed for under the grant; and

5 “(4) such other information as may be required
6 by the Secretary.

7 **“SEC. 5702. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
9 this part \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2016 and such sums
10 as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal
11 years.”.

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