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114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4901

[Report No. 114–522]

To reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 12, 2016

Mr. CHAFFETZ (for himself, Mr. KLINE, Mr. MESSER, Mr. DeSANTIS, Ms. FOXX, Mr. BLUM, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. WALKER, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, and Mr. BRAT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

APRIL 25, 2016

Additional sponsors: Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. ROKITA

APRIL 25, 2016

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results
Act, and for other purposes.

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; REFERENCES IN ACT.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
 5 “Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Reauthoriza-
 6 tion Act” or the “SOAR Reauthorization Act”.

7 (b) REFERENCES IN ACT.—Except as otherwise ex-
 8 pressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment is
 9 expressed in terms of an amendment to or repeal of a sec-
 10 tion or other provision, the reference shall be considered
 11 to be made to that section or other provision of the Schol-
 12 arships for Opportunity and Results Act (division C of
 13 Public Law 112–10; sec. 38–1853.01 et seq., D.C. Official
 14 Code).

15 **SEC. 2. REPEAL.**

16 Section 817 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act,
 17 2016 (Public Law 114–113) is repealed, and any provision
 18 of law amended or repealed by such section is restored
 19 or revived as if such section had not been enacted into
 20 law.

21 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

22 Section 3003 (sec. 38–1853.03, D.C. Official Code)
 23 is amended by striking “particularly parents” and all that
 24 follows through “, with” and inserting “particularly par-
 25 ents of students who attend an elementary school or sec-

1 onday school identified as one of the lowest-performing
 2 schools under the District of Columbia’s accountability
 3 system, with”.

4 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITING IMPOSITION OF LIMITS ON TYPES OF**
 5 **ELIGIBLE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE**
 6 **PROGRAM.**

7 Section 3004(a) (sec. 38–1853.04(a), D.C. Official
 8 Code) is amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “(3) PROHIBITING IMPOSITION OF LIMITS ON
 10 ELIGIBLE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PRO-
 11 GRAM.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the
 13 program under this division, the Secretary may
 14 not limit the number of eligible students receiv-
 15 ing scholarships under section 3007(a), and
 16 may not prevent otherwise eligible students
 17 from participating in the program under this
 18 division, based on any of the following:

19 “(i) The type of school the student
 20 previously attended.

21 “(ii) Whether or not the student pre-
 22 viously received a scholarship or partici-
 23 pated in the program, including whether
 24 an eligible student was awarded a scholar-
 25 ship in any previous year but has not used

1 the scholarship, regardless of the number
2 of years of nonuse.

3 “(iii) Whether or not the student was
4 a member of the control group used by the
5 Institute of Education Sciences to carry
6 out previous evaluations of the program
7 under section 3009.

8 “(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
9 in subparagraph (A) may be construed to waive
10 the requirement under section 3005(b)(1)(B)
11 that the eligible entity carrying out the program
12 under this Act must carry out a random selec-
13 tion process, which gives weight to the priorities
14 described in section 3006, if more eligible stu-
15 dents seek admission in the program than the
16 program can accommodate.”.

17 **SEC. 5. REQUIRING ELIGIBLE ENTITIES TO UTILIZE INTER-**
18 **NAL FISCAL AND QUALITY CONTROLS.**

19 Section 3005(b)(1) (sec. 38–1853.05(b)(1), D.C. Of-
20 ficial Code) is amended—

21 (1) in subparagraph (I), by striking “, except
22 that a participating school may not be required to
23 submit to more than 1 site visit per school year”;

24 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (K) and
25 (L) as subparagraphs (L) and (M), respectively;

1 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (J) the fol-
 2 lowing:

3 “(K) how the entity will ensure the finan-
 4 cial viability of participating schools in which
 5 85 percent or more of the total number of stu-
 6 dents enrolled at the school are participating el-
 7 igible students that receive and use an oppor-
 8 tunity scholarship;”;

9 (4) in subparagraph (L), as redesignated by
 10 paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end; and

11 (5) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(N) how the eligible entity will ensure
 13 that it—

14 “(i) utilizes internal fiscal and quality
 15 controls; and

16 “(ii) complies with applicable financial
 17 reporting requirements and the require-
 18 ments of this division; and”.

19 **SEC. 6. CLARIFICATION OF PRIORITIES FOR AWARDING**
 20 **SCHOLARSHIPS TO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.**

21 Section 3006(1) (sec. 38–1853.06(1), D.C. Official
 22 Code) is amended—

23 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “attended”
 24 and all that follows through the semicolon and in-
 25 serting “attended an elementary school or secondary

1 school identified as one of the lowest-performing
 2 schools under the District of Columbia’s account-
 3 ability system; and”;

4 (2) by striking subparagraph (B);

5 (3) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as sub-
 6 paragraph (B); and

7 (4) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by
 8 paragraph (3), by striking the semicolon at the end
 9 and inserting “or whether such students have, in the
 10 past, attended a private school;”.

11 **SEC. 7. MODIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICI-**
 12 **PATING SCHOOLS AND ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.**

13 (a) CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS; COMPLIANCE
 14 WITH REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 3007(a)(4)
 15 (sec. 38–1853.07(a)(4), D.C. Official Code) is amended—

16 (1) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and” at
 17 the end;

18 (2) by striking subparagraph (F) and inserting
 19 the following:

20 “(F) ensures that, with respect to core
 21 subject matter, participating students are
 22 taught by a teacher who has a baccalaureate
 23 degree or equivalent degree, whether such de-
 24 gree was awarded in or outside of the United
 25 States;”;

1 (3) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(G) conducts criminal background checks
3 on school employees who have direct and unsu-
4 pervised interaction with students; and

5 “(H) complies with all requests for data
6 and information regarding the reporting re-
7 quirements described in section 3010.”.

8 (b) ACCREDITATION.—Section 3007(a) (sec. 38–
9 1853.07(a), D.C. Official Code), as amended by subsection
10 (a), is further amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraphs
12 (2) and (3)” and inserting “paragraphs (2), (3), and
13 (5)”; and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(5) ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds
17 provided under this division for opportunity
18 scholarships may be used by a participating eli-
19 gible student to enroll in a participating private
20 school unless the school—

21 “(i) in the case of a school that is a
22 participating school as of the date of en-
23 actment of the SOAR Reauthorization
24 Act—

1 “(I) is fully accredited by an ac-
2 crediting body described in any of
3 subparagraphs (A) through (G) of
4 section 2202(16) of the District of
5 Columbia School Reform Act of 1995
6 (Public Law 104–134; sec. 38–
7 1802.02(16)(A)–(G), D.C. Official
8 Code); or

9 “(II) if such participating school
10 does not meet the requirements of
11 subclause (I)—

12 “(aa) not later than 1 year
13 after the date of enactment of
14 the Consolidated Appropriations
15 Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–
16 113), the school is pursuing full
17 accreditation by an accrediting
18 body described in subclause (I);
19 and

20 “(bb) is fully accredited by
21 such an accrediting body not
22 later than 5 years after the date
23 on which that school began the
24 process of pursuing full accredi-

1 tation in accordance with item
2 (aa); and

3 “(ii) in the case of a school that is not
4 a participating school as of the date of en-
5 actment of the SOAR Reauthorization Act,
6 is fully accredited by an accrediting body
7 described in clause (i)(I) before becoming a
8 participating school under this division.

9 “(B) REPORTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—Not
10 later than 5 years after the date of enactment
11 of the SOAR Reauthorization Act, each partici-
12 pating school shall submit to the eligible entity
13 a certification that the school has been fully ac-
14 credited in accordance with subparagraph (A).

15 “(C) ASSISTING STUDENTS IN ENROLLING
16 IN OTHER SCHOOLS.—If a participating school
17 fails to meet the requirements of this para-
18 graph, the eligible entity shall assist the parents
19 of the participating eligible students who attend
20 the school in identifying, applying to, and en-
21 rolling in another participating school under
22 this division.

23 “(6) TREATMENT OF STUDENTS AWARDED A
24 SCHOLARSHIP IN A PREVIOUS YEAR.—An eligible en-
25 tity shall treat a participating eligible student who

1 was awarded an opportunity scholarship in any pre-
2 vious year and who has not used the scholarship as
3 a renewal student and not as a new applicant, with-
4 out regard as to—

5 “(A) whether the eligible student has used
6 the scholarship; and

7 “(B) the year in which the scholarship was
8 previously awarded.”.

9 (c) REQUIRING USE OF FUNDS REMAINING UNOBLI-
10 GATED FROM PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3007 (sec. 38–
12 1853.07, D.C. Official Code) is amended by adding
13 at the end the following:

14 “(e) REQUIRING USE OF FUNDS REMAINING UNOB-
15 LIGATED FROM PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent that any
17 funds appropriated for the opportunity scholarship
18 program under this division for any fiscal year re-
19 main available for subsequent fiscal years under sec-
20 tion 3014(c), the Secretary shall make such funds
21 available to eligible entities receiving grants under
22 section 3004(a) for the uses described in paragraph
23 (2)—

24 “(A) in the case of any remaining funds
25 that were appropriated before the date of enact-

1 ment of the SOAR Reauthorization Act, begin-
2 ning on the date of enactment of such Act; and

3 “(B) in the case of any remaining funds
4 appropriated on or after the date of enactment
5 of such Act, by the first day of the first subse-
6 quent fiscal year.

7 “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—If an eligible entity to
8 which the Secretary provided additional funds under
9 paragraph (1) elects to use such funds during a fis-
10 cal year, the eligible entity shall use—

11 “(A) not less than 95 percent of such addi-
12 tional funds to provide additional scholarships
13 for eligible students under section 3007(a), or
14 to increase the amount of the scholarships, dur-
15 ing such year; and

16 “(B) not more than a total of 5 percent of
17 such additional funds for administrative ex-
18 penses, parental assistance, or tutoring, as de-
19 scribed in subsections (b) and (c), during such
20 year.

21 “(3) SPECIAL RULE.—Any amounts made avail-
22 able for administrative expenses, parental assistance,
23 or tutoring under paragraph (2)(B) shall be in addi-
24 tion to any other amounts made available for such

1 purposes in accordance with subsections (b) and
2 (c).”.

3 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made
4 by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the date of en-
5 actment of this Act.

6 (d) USE OF FUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES
7 AND PARENTAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 3007 (sec. 38–
8 1853.07, D.C. Official Code), as amended by this section,
9 is further amended—

10 (1) by striking subsections (b) and (c) and in-
11 serting the following:

12 “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND PARENTAL
13 ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall make \$2,000,000 of
14 the amount made available under section 3014(a)(1) for
15 each fiscal year available to eligible entities receiving a
16 grant under section 3004(a) to cover the following ex-
17 penses:

18 “(1) The administrative expenses of carrying
19 out its program under this division during the year,
20 including—

21 “(A) determining the eligibility of students
22 to participate;

23 “(B) selecting the eligible students to re-
24 ceive scholarships;

1 “(C) determining the amount of the schol-
2 arships and issuing the scholarships to eligible
3 students;

4 “(D) compiling and maintaining financial
5 and programmatic records;

6 “(E) conducting site visits as described in
7 section 3005(b)(1)(I); and

8 “(F)(i) conducting a study, including a
9 survey of participating parents, on any barriers
10 for participating eligible students in gaining ad-
11 mission to, or attending, the participating
12 school that is their first choice; and

13 “(ii) not later than the end of the first full
14 fiscal year after the date of enactment of the
15 SOAR Reauthorization Act, submitting a report
16 to Congress that contains the results of such
17 study.

18 “(2) The expenses of educating parents about
19 the eligible entity’s program under this division, and
20 assisting parents through the application process
21 under this division, including—

22 “(A) providing information about the pro-
23 gram and the participating schools to parents
24 of eligible students, including information on

1 supplemental financial aid that may be available
2 at participating schools;

3 “(B) providing funds to assist parents of
4 students in meeting expenses that might other-
5 wise preclude the participation of eligible stu-
6 dents in the program; and

7 “(C) streamlining the application process
8 for parents.”; and

9 (2) by redesignating subsection (d), and sub-
10 section (e) (as added by subsection (c)(1)), as sub-
11 sections (c) and (d), respectively.

12 (e) CLARIFICATION OF USE OF FUNDS FOR STU-
13 DENT ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE.—Section 3007(c) (sec. 38–
14 1853.07(c), D.C. Official Code), as redesignated by sub-
15 section (d)(2), is amended by striking “previously at-
16 tended” and all that follows through the period at the end
17 and inserting “previously attended an elementary school
18 or secondary school identified as one of the lowest-per-
19 forming schools under the District of Columbia’s account-
20 ability system.”.

21 **SEC. 8. PROGRAM EVALUATION.**

22 (a) REVISION OF EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND
23 REQUIREMENTS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3009(a) (sec. 38–
2 1853.09(a), D.C. Official Code) is amended to read
3 as follows:

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

5 “(1) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY AND THE
6 MAYOR.—The Secretary and the Mayor of the Dis-
7 trict of Columbia shall—

8 “(A) jointly enter into an agreement with
9 the Institute of Education Sciences of the De-
10 partment of Education to evaluate annually the
11 opportunity scholarship program under this di-
12 vision;

13 “(B) jointly enter into an agreement to
14 monitor and evaluate the use of funds author-
15 ized and appropriated for the District of Co-
16 lumbia public schools and the District of Co-
17 lumbia public charter schools under this divi-
18 sion; and

19 “(C) make the evaluations described in
20 subparagraphs (A) and (B) public in accord-
21 ance with subsection (c).

22 “(2) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.—The Sec-
23 retary, through a grant, contract, or cooperative
24 agreement, shall—

1 “(A) ensure that the evaluation under
2 paragraph (1)(A)—

3 “(i) is conducted using an acceptable
4 quasi-experimental research design for de-
5 termining the effectiveness of the oppor-
6 tunity scholarship program under this divi-
7 sion that does not use a control study
8 group consisting of students who applied
9 for but did not receive opportunity scholar-
10 ships; and

11 “(ii) addresses the issues described in
12 paragraph (4); and

13 “(B) disseminate information on the im-
14 pact of the program—

15 “(i) in increasing academic achieve-
16 ment and educational attainment of par-
17 ticipating eligible students who use an op-
18 portunity scholarship; and

19 “(ii) on students and schools in the
20 District of Columbia.

21 “(3) DUTIES OF THE INSTITUTE OF EDU-
22 CATION SCIENCES.—The Institute of Education
23 Sciences of the Department of Education shall—

24 “(A) assess participating eligible students
25 who use an opportunity scholarship in each of

1 grades 3 through 8, as well as one of the grades
2 at the high school level, by supervising the ad-
3 ministration of the same reading and mathe-
4 matics assessment used by the District of Co-
5 lumbia public schools to comply with section
6 1111(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
7 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b));

8 “(B) measure the academic achievement of
9 all participating eligible students who use an
10 opportunity scholarship in the grades described
11 in subparagraph (A); and

12 “(C) work with eligible entities receiving a
13 grant under this division to ensure that the par-
14 ents of each student who is a participating eli-
15 gible student that uses an opportunity scholar-
16 ship agrees to permit their child to participate
17 in the evaluations and assessments carried out
18 by the Institute of Education Sciences under
19 this subsection.

20 “(4) ISSUES TO BE EVALUATED.—The issues to
21 be evaluated under paragraph (1)(A) shall include
22 the following:

23 “(A) A comparison of the academic
24 achievement of participating eligible students
25 who use an opportunity scholarship on the

1 measurements described in paragraph (3)(B) to
2 the academic achievement of a comparison
3 group of students with similar backgrounds in
4 the District of Columbia public schools.

5 “(B) The success of the program under
6 this division in expanding choice options for
7 parents of participating eligible students and
8 increasing the satisfaction of such parents and
9 students with their choice.

10 “(C) The reasons parents of participating
11 eligible students choose for their children to
12 participate in the program, including important
13 characteristics for selecting schools.

14 “(D) A comparison of the retention rates,
15 high school graduation rates, college enrollment
16 rates, college persistence rates, and college
17 graduation rates of participating eligible stu-
18 dents who use an opportunity scholarship with
19 the rates of students in the comparison group
20 described in subparagraph (A).

21 “(E) A comparison of the college enroll-
22 ment rates, college persistence rates, and col-
23 lege graduation rates of students who partici-
24 pated in the program in 2004, 2005, 2011,
25 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015 as the result of

1 winning the Opportunity Scholarship Program
2 lottery with such enrollment, persistence, and
3 graduation rates for students who entered but
4 did not win such lottery in those years and who,
5 as a result, served as the control group for pre-
6 vious evaluations of the program under this di-
7 vision. Nothing in this subparagraph may be
8 construed to waive section 3004(a)(3)(A)(iii)
9 with respect to any such student.

10 “(F) A comparison of the safety of the
11 schools attended by participating eligible stu-
12 dents who use an opportunity scholarship and
13 the schools in the District of Columbia attended
14 by students in the comparison group described
15 in subparagraph (A), based on the perceptions
16 of the students and parents.

17 “(G) An assessment of student academic
18 achievement at participating schools in which
19 85 percent of the total number of students en-
20 rolled at the school are participating eligible
21 students who receive and use an opportunity
22 scholarship.

23 “(H) Such other issues with respect to
24 participating eligible students who use an op-
25 portunity scholarship as the Secretary considers

appropriate for inclusion in the evaluation, such as the impact of the program on public elementary schools and secondary schools in the District of Columbia.

“(5) PROHIBITING DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any disclosure of personally identifiable information obtained under this division shall be in compliance with section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (commonly known as the ‘Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974’) (20 U.S.C. 1232g).

“(B) STUDENTS NOT ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—With respect to any student who is not attending a public elementary school or secondary school, personally identifiable information obtained under this division shall only be disclosed to—

“(i) individuals carrying out the evaluation described in paragraph (1)(A) for such student;

“(ii) the group of individuals providing information for carrying out the evaluation of such student; and

1 “(iii) the parents of such student.”.

2 (2) TRANSITION OF EVALUATION.—

3 (A) TERMINATION OF PREVIOUS EVALUA-
4 TIONS.—The Secretary of Education shall—

5 (i) terminate the evaluations con-
6 ducted under section 3009(a) of the Schol-
7 arships for Opportunity and Results Act
8 (sec. 38–1853.09(a), D.C. Official Code),
9 as in effect on the day before the date of
10 enactment of this Act, after obtaining data
11 for the 2016–2017 school year; and

12 (ii) submit any reports required for
13 the 2016–2017 school year or preceding
14 years with respect to the evaluations in ac-
15 cordance with section 3009(b) of such Act.

16 (B) NEW EVALUATIONS.—

17 (i) IN GENERAL.—Effective beginning
18 with respect to the 2017–2018 school year,
19 the Secretary shall conduct new evalua-
20 tions in accordance with the provisions of
21 section 3009(a) of the Scholarships for Op-
22 portunity and Results Act (sec. 38–
23 1853.09(a), D.C. Official Code), as amend-
24 ed by this Act.

1 (ii) MOST RECENT EVALUATION.—As
2 a component of the new evaluations de-
3 scribed in clause (i), the Secretary shall
4 continue to monitor and evaluate the stu-
5 dents who were evaluated in the most re-
6 cent evaluation under such section prior to
7 the date of enactment of this Act, includ-
8 ing by monitoring and evaluating the test
9 scores and other information of such stu-
10 dents.

11 (b) DUTY OF MAYOR TO ENSURE INSTITUTE HAS
12 ALL INFORMATION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT EVALUA-
13 TIONS.—Section 3011(a)(1) (sec. 38–1853.11(a)(1), D.C.
14 Official Code) is amended to read as follows:

15 “(1) INFORMATION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT
16 EVALUATIONS.—Ensure that all District of Colum-
17 bia public schools and District of Columbia public
18 charter schools make available to the Institute of
19 Education Sciences of the Department of Education
20 all of the information the Institute requires to carry
21 out the assessments and perform the evaluations re-
22 quired under section 3009(a).”.

1 **SEC. 9. FUNDING FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC**
2 **SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.**

3 (a) MANDATORY WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS FOR
4 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CONDITIONS.—Section
5 3011(b) (sec. 38–1853.11(b), D.C. Official Code) is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 “(b) ENFORCEMENT.—If, after reasonable notice and
8 an opportunity for a hearing, the Secretary determines
9 that the Mayor has failed to comply with any of the re-
10 quirements of subsection (a), the Secretary may withhold
11 from the Mayor, in whole or in part—

12 “(1) the funds otherwise authorized to be ap-
13 propriated under section 3014(a)(2), if the failure to
14 comply relates to the District of Columbia public
15 schools;

16 “(2) the funds otherwise authorized to be ap-
17 propriated under section 3014(a)(3), if the failure to
18 comply relates to the District of Columbia public
19 charter schools; or

20 “(3) the funds otherwise authorized to be ap-
21 propriated under both paragraphs (2) and (3) of
22 section 3014(a), if the failure relates to both the
23 District of Columbia public schools and the District
24 of Columbia public charter schools.”.

25 (b) RULES FOR USE OF FUNDS PROVIDED FOR SUP-
26 PORT OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.—Section 3011

1 (sec. 38–1853.11, D.C. Official Code), as amended by sec-
2 tion 7(b) and section 8(a), is further amended—

3 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
4 section (d); and

5 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
6 lowing new subsection:

7 “(c) SPECIFIC RULES REGARDING FUNDS PROVIDED
8 FOR SUPPORT OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.—The fol-
9 lowing rules shall apply with respect to the funds provided
10 under this division for the support of District of Columbia
11 public charter schools:

12 “(1) The Secretary may direct the funds pro-
13 vided for any fiscal year, or any portion thereof, to
14 the Office of the State Superintendent of Education
15 of the District of Columbia.

16 “(2) The Office of the State Superintendent of
17 Education of the District of Columbia may transfer
18 the funds to subgrantees that are—

19 “(A) specific District of Columbia public
20 charter schools or networks of such schools; or

21 “(B) District of Columbia-based nonprofit
22 organizations with experience in successfully
23 providing support or assistance to District of
24 Columbia public charter schools or networks of
25 such schools.

1 “(3) The funds provided under this division for
2 the support of District of Columbia public charter
3 schools shall be available to any District of Columbia
4 public charter school in good standing with the Dis-
5 trict of Columbia Charter School Board, and the Of-
6 fice of the State Superintendent of Education of the
7 District of Columbia and the District of Columbia
8 Charter School Board may not restrict the avail-
9 ability of such funds to certain types of schools on
10 the basis of the school’s location, governing body, or
11 the school’s facilities.”.

12 **SEC. 10. REVISION OF CURRENT MEMORANDUM OF UNDER-**
13 **STANDING.**

14 Not later than the beginning of the 2017–2018 school
15 year, the Secretary of Education and the Mayor of the
16 District of Columbia shall revise the memorandum of un-
17 derstanding which is in effect under section 3012(d) of
18 the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act as of
19 the day before the date of the enactment of this Act to
20 address the following:

21 (1) The amendments made by this Act.

22 (2) The need to ensure that participating
23 schools under the Scholarships for Opportunity and
24 Results Act meet fire code standards and maintain
25 certificates of occupancy.

1 (3) The need to ensure that District of Colum-
2 bia public schools and District of Columbia public
3 charter schools meet the requirements under such
4 Act to comply with all reasonable requests for infor-
5 mation necessary to carry out the evaluations re-
6 quired under section 3009(a) of such Act.

7 **SEC. 11. DEFINITIONS.**

8 Section 3013 (sec. 38–1853.13, D.C. Official Code)
9 is amended—

10 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through
11 (10) as paragraphs (2) through (11), respectively;

12 (2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as redes-
13 ignated by paragraph (1), the following:

14 “(1) CORE SUBJECT MATTER.—The term ‘core
15 subject matter’ means—

16 “(A) mathematics;

17 “(B) science; and

18 “(C) English, reading, or language arts.”;

19 and

20 (3) in paragraph (4)(B)(ii), as redesignated by
21 paragraph (1), by inserting “household with a” be-
22 fore “student”.

1 **SEC. 12. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-**
2 **TIONS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3014 (sec. 38–1853.14,
4 D.C. Official Code) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “and for each
6 of the 4 succeeding fiscal years” and inserting “and
7 for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2021”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(c) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated under
10 subsection (a)(1), including amounts appropriated and
11 available under such subsection before the date of enact-
12 ment of the SOAR Reauthorization Act, shall remain
13 available until expended.”.

14 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
15 subsection (a)(2) shall take effect on the date of enact-
16 ment of this Act.

17 **SEC. 13. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

18 Except as otherwise provided, the amendments made
19 by this Act shall apply with respect to school year 2017–
20 2018 and each succeeding school year.

Union Calendar No. 402

114TH CONGRESS
2D Session

H. R. 4901

[Report No. 114-522]

A BILL

To reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity
and Results Act, and for other purposes.

APRIL 25, 2016

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the
State of the Union and ordered to be printed