

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1547

To improve the financial literacy of secondary school students.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 3, 2021

Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. EVANS, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. RYAN, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. DEAN, and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To improve the financial literacy of secondary school students.

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 “Youth Financial
5 Learning Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STATEWIDE INCENTIVE GRANTS FOR FINANCIAL**
7 **LITERACY EDUCATION.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act, the terms “commu-
9 nity-based organization”, “elementary school”, “local edu-

1 cational agency”, “professional development”, “secondary
2 school”, “Secretary”, “State educational agency”, and
3 “well-rounded education” have the meanings given those
4 terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary
5 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

6 (b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts appropriated
8 under subsection (f), the Secretary shall award
9 grants, on a competitive basis, to State educational
10 agencies to enable those State educational agencies
11 to integrate financial literacy education into public
12 elementary schools or secondary schools by carrying
13 out the activities described in paragraph (4).

14 (2) DURATION.—A grant awarded under this
15 section shall be for a period of not more than 4
16 years.

17 (3) APPLICATION.—Each State educational
18 agency desiring a grant under this section shall sub-
19 mit an application to the Secretary at such time and
20 in such manner as the Secretary may require, in-
21 cluding—

22 (A) a description of how the State edu-
23 cational agency will award subgrants to local
24 educational agencies;

1 (B) a description of how the State edu-
2 cational agency will ensure sustainability of the
3 grant activities after the grant program;

4 (C) an assertion that teachers, principals,
5 parents, and students have been consulted in
6 the process of developing the application; and

7 (D) a description of how the State edu-
8 cational agency will ensure geographic diversity
9 so that grant activities benefit students in
10 urban, rural, and suburban locations.

11 (4) USES OF STATE FUNDS.—

12 (A) STATE ACTIVITIES.—Each State edu-
13 cational agency receiving grant funds under this
14 section may use not more than 10 percent of
15 such grant funds—

16 (i) for technical assistance;

17 (ii) for curriculum development;

18 (iii) to provide guidance to local edu-
19 cational agencies; or

20 (iv) to conduct an evaluation of the
21 impact of financial literacy or personal fi-
22 nance education on students' under-
23 standing of financial literacy concepts.

24 (B) SUBGRANTS.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—Each State edu-
2 cational agency receiving grant funds
3 under this section shall use the remainder
4 of such grant funds to award subgrants to
5 local educational agencies in the State.

6 (ii) PRIORITY.—In awarding such
7 subgrants, a State educational agency shall
8 give priority to local educational agencies
9 that—

10 (I) serve high numbers, or a high
11 percentage of, elementary schools and
12 secondary schools implementing plans
13 under paragraphs (1) and (2) of sec-
14 tion 1111(d) of the Elementary and
15 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
16 U.S.C. 6311(d));

17 (II) demonstrate the greatest
18 need for such funds, as determined by
19 the State educational agency; and

20 (III) demonstrate the strongest
21 commitment to using funds under this
22 section to enable the lowest-per-
23 forming schools to improve students'
24 financial literacy and student out-
25 comes.

1 (c) USES OF SUBGRANT FUNDS.—Each local edu-
2 cational agency receiving a subgrant under this section
3 shall use the subgrant funds—

4 (1) to implement, expand, or sustain, in one or
5 more elementary schools or one or more secondary
6 schools, school-based financial literacy activities and
7 curriculum that is a substantial portion of any class,
8 in order to enhance student understanding of and
9 experimental learning with consumer, economic, en-
10 trepreneurship, and personal finance concepts, in-
11 cluding personal credit, student loans, and financial
12 aid;

13 (2) to promote partnerships between the local
14 educational agency and community-based organiza-
15 tions that provide innovative, evidence-based finan-
16 cial literacy activities to elementary school or sec-
17 ondary school students, which may include after
18 school activities; and

19 (3) to promote professional development pro-
20 grams to embed financial literacy or personal finance
21 or entrepreneurship education into a well-rounded
22 education in elementary schools or secondary
23 schools.

24 (d) MATCHING FUNDS.—A State educational agency
25 that receives a grant under this section shall provide

1 matching funds, from non-Federal sources, in an amount
2 equal to 25 percent of the amount of grant funds provided
3 to the State educational agency to carry out the activities
4 supported by the grant.

5 (e) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Grant funds
6 provided under this section shall be used to supplement,
7 not supplant, other Federal or State funds available to
8 carry out activities described in this section.

9 (f) APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be
10 appropriated to carry out this section such sums as may
11 be necessary for fiscal year 2022 and each of the 4 suc-
12 ceeding fiscal years.

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