

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3036

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2007

Mr. SARBANES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “No Child Left Inside Act of 2007”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. References.

TITLE I—ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PLANS

Sec. 101. State uses of funds.

TITLE II—ESTABLISHMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
GRANT PROGRAMS

Sec. 201. Environmental education grant program for teacher training.

Sec. 202. Environmental education grant program to help build national capacity.

Sec. 203. Priority status for local educational agencies offering environmental magnet schools.

TITLE III—ELIGIBILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
ACTIVITIES UNDER EXISTING GRANT AND FUNDING PROGRAMS

Sec. 301. Environmental education as an eligible activity for teacher training programs.

Sec. 302. Environmental education as an authorized program in the fund for the improvement of education.

TITLE IV—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER LAWS

Sec. 401. Definitions.

Sec. 402. Department of Education Organization Act.

Sec. 403. National Assessment of Education Progress Act.

1 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

2 The Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) Environmental education is essential for—

4 (A) enhancing student learning and prob-
5 lem solving skills, especially in science;

6 (B) creating responsible and engaged citi-
7 zens; and

8 (C) producing graduates who are prepared
9 to address the challenges, adjustments, and op-
10 portunities that will be present in the life and
11 the workforce of the 21st century due to threats
12 to human health, economical development, bio-
13 logical diversity, and national security arising
14 from environmental stresses.

1 (2) Studies documenting the increasing indica-
2 tors of nature-deficit disorder show that time spent
3 out of the classroom for learning during the school
4 day is critical to the intellectual, emotional, and
5 physical health of children and that providing stu-
6 dents with quality opportunities to directly experi-
7 ence the natural world can improve students' overall
8 academic performance, self-esteem, personal respon-
9 sibility, community involvement, personal health (in-
10 cluding child obesity issues), and understanding of
11 nature.

12 (3) Fewer and fewer students are becoming in-
13 volved in important environmental education
14 courses, classwork, and field investigations as an un-
15 intended consequence of the No Child Left Behind
16 Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

17 **SEC. 3. REFERENCES.**

18 Except as otherwise specifically provided, whenever in
19 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
20 of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other
21 provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to
22 a section or other provision of the Elementary and Sec-
23 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

1 **TITLE I—ENVIRONMENTAL**
2 **LITERACY PLANS**

3 **SEC. 101. STATE USES OF FUNDS.**

4 Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education
5 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.) is amended by add-
6 ing at the end the following:

7 “PART E—ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PLANS

8 **“SEC. 2501. STATE USES OF FUNDS.**

9 “A State educational agency may use funds made
10 available for State use for support for the development of
11 the State Environmental Literacy Plan as described in
12 section 2503.

13 **“SEC. 2502. STATE APPLICATIONS.**

14 “Any State that desires to receive assistance under
15 sections 2601 through 2603, section 5411, or sections
16 5621 through 5627, shall submit to the Secretary an ap-
17 plication that includes the submission, reporting and im-
18 plementation requirements relating to the State Environ-
19 mental Literacy Plan as set forth in section 2503.

20 **“SEC. 2503. STATE PLANS TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS ARE**
21 **ENVIRONMENTALLY LITERATE.**

22 “(a) SUBMISSION OF PLAN.—Not later than 1 year
23 after the date of the enactment of this section, State edu-
24 cational agencies, in consultation with State natural re-
25 source agencies and with input from the public, shall sub-

1 mit a K–12 plan to the United States Department of Edu-
2 cation for peer review and approval that will ensure that
3 high school graduates are environmentally literate. States
4 may satisfy this requirement by submitting for peer review
5 existing State plans that have been developed by or in co-
6 operation with State environmental organizations provided
7 they are in compliance with subsection (b) and (c).

8 “(b) PLAN OBJECTIVES.—The objectives of the State
9 Environmental Literacy Plans are as follows:

10 “(1) Prepare children to understand and ad-
11 dress the major environmental challenges facing the
12 United States, such as the relationship of the envi-
13 ronment to national security, clean energy, climate
14 change, health risks, and natural disaster resilience.

15 “(2) Reduce the risk of nature-deficit disorder
16 in students by restoring and increasing field experi-
17 ences as part of the regular school curriculum and
18 create programs that contribute to healthy life styles
19 through outdoor recreation and sound nutrition.

20 “(3) Create opportunities for enhanced and on-
21 going professional development of teachers that im-
22 proves the environmental content knowledge, skill in
23 teaching about environmental issues, and field-based
24 pedagogical skill base of teachers.

1 “(c) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan shall include
2 each of the following:

3 “(1) Relevant content standards, content areas,
4 and courses or subjects where instruction will take
5 place.

6 “(2) A description of the relationship of the
7 plan to State graduation requirements.

8 “(3) A description of how the State education
9 agency will measure the environmental literacy of
10 students.

11 “(4) A description of programs for professional
12 development of teachers to improve their environ-
13 mental content knowledge, skill in teaching about
14 environmental issues, and field-based pedagogical
15 skills.

16 “(5) A description of how the State education
17 agency will implement the plan, including securing
18 funding and other necessary support.

19 “(d) PLAN UPDATE.—The State plan shall be revised
20 or updated by the State education agency and submitted
21 to the Secretary at least every 5 years or as appropriate
22 to reflect plan modifications.

23 “(e) PEER REVIEW AND SECRETARIAL APPROVAL.—
24 The Secretary shall—

1 “(1) establish a peer-review process to assist in
2 the review of State plans;

3 “(2) appoint individuals to the peer-review proc-
4 ess who are representative of parents, teachers,
5 State educational and environmental agencies, local
6 educational agencies, and non-governmental organi-
7 zations, and who are familiar with national environ-
8 mental issues and the health and educational needs
9 of students;

10 “(3) approve a State plan within 120 days of
11 its submission unless the Secretary determines that
12 the plan does not meet the requirements of this sec-
13 tion;

14 “(4) immediately notify the State if the Sec-
15 retary determines that the State plan does not meet
16 the requirements of this Section of such determina-
17 tion and the reasons for such determination;

18 “(5) not decline to approve a State’s plan be-
19 fore—

20 “(A) offering the State an opportunity to
21 revise its plan;

22 “(B) providing technical assistance in
23 order to assist the State to meet the require-
24 ments of section 5123(e); and

25 “(C) providing a hearing;

1 “(6) have the authority to disapprove a State
2 plan for not meeting the requirements of this part,
3 but shall not have the authority to require a State,
4 as a condition of approval of the State plan, to in-
5 clude in, or delete from, such plan one or more spe-
6 cific elements of the State’s academic content stand-
7 ards or to use specific academic assessment instru-
8 ments or items.

9 “(f) STATE REVISIONS.—A State plan shall be re-
10 vised by the State educational agency if it is necessary
11 to satisfy the requirements of this section.

12 “(g) REPORTING.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—2 years after approval of
14 its plan and every 2 years thereafter, the chief exec-
15 utive officer of the State, in cooperation with the
16 State educational agency, shall submit to the Sec-
17 retary a report on the implementation of the State
18 plan.

19 “(2) SPECIAL RULE.—The report required by
20 this subsection shall be—

21 “(A) in the form specified by the Sec-
22 retary;

23 “(B) based on the State’s ongoing evalua-
24 tion activities; and

25 “(C) made readily available to the public.”.

1 **TITLE II—ESTABLISHMENT OF**
2 **ENVIRONMENTAL EDU-**
3 **CATION GRANT PROGRAMS**

4 **SEC. 201. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

5 Title II of the elementary and Secondary Education
6 Act of 1965, as amended by title I, is further amended
7 by adding at the end the following:

8 “PART F—ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANTS

9 **“SEC. 2601. PURPOSE.**

10 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this part is to en-
11 sure the academic achievement of students in environ-
12 mental learning by—

13 “(1) encouraging institutions of higher edu-
14 cation to promote the status and stature of the envi-
15 ronmental education teaching profession by assum-
16 ing greater responsibility for improving environ-
17 mental education teacher training through the estab-
18 lishment of a comprehensive, integrated system of
19 recruiting, training, and advising environmental edu-
20 cation teachers; and

21 “(2) encouraging State educational agencies,
22 local educational agencies, elementary schools, and
23 secondary schools to participate in programs that—

24 “(A) improve the environmental content
25 knowledge, skills in teaching about environ-

1 mental issues, and field-based pedagogical skill
2 base of all teachers;

3 “(B) focus on the development of teacher’s
4 environmental knowledge and teaching skills as
5 a career-long process that continuously stimu-
6 lates teachers’ intellectual growth and upgrades
7 teachers’ proficiency in teaching about the envi-
8 ronment;

9 “(C) develop more rigorous environmental
10 education teacher training curricula that are
11 aligned with challenging State and local aca-
12 demic content standards; or

13 “(D) provide environmental education ex-
14 periences that utilize outdoor activities and fa-
15 cilities for students to directly experience na-
16 ture.

17 **“SEC. 2602. GRANTS FOR ENHANCING EDUCATION**
18 **THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.**

19 “(a) **ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP DEFINED.**—In this
20 section, the term ‘eligible partnership’ means a partner-
21 ship that—

22 “(1) shall include a local educational agency;

23 and

24 “(2) may include—

1 “(A) teacher training department of an in-
2 stitution of higher education;

3 “(B) environmental department of an insti-
4 tution of higher education;

5 “(C) another local educational agency, a
6 public charter school, a public or private ele-
7 mentary school or secondary school, or a con-
8 sortium of such schools;

9 “(D) a business; or

10 “(E) a nonprofit or for-profit organization
11 of demonstrated effectiveness in improving the
12 quality of environmental education teachers,
13 such as through outdoor environmental edu-
14 cation experiences.

15 “(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

16 “(1) GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIPS.—
17 The Secretary is authorized to award grants, on a
18 competitive basis, to eligible partnerships to enable
19 the eligible partnerships to carry out the authorized
20 activities described in subsection (d).

21 “(2) DURATION.—The Secretary shall award
22 each grant under this part for a period of 3 years.

23 “(3) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds re-
24 ceived under this part shall be used to supplement,

1 and not supplant, funds that would otherwise be
2 used for activities authorized under this part.

3 “(c) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible partnership
5 desiring a grant under this part shall submit an ap-
6 plication, at such time, in such manner, and accom-
7 panied by such information as the State educational
8 agency may require.

9 “(2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
10 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include—

11 “(A) the results of a comprehensive assess-
12 ment of the teacher quality and professional de-
13 velopment needs, with respect to the teaching
14 and learning of environmental content;

15 “(B) a description of how the activities to
16 be carried out by the eligible partnership—

17 “(i) will be aligned with challenging
18 State academic content and student aca-
19 demic achievement standards in environ-
20 mental education; and

21 “(ii) will advance the teaching of
22 interdisciplinary courses that integrate the
23 study of natural, social, and economic sys-
24 tems and that include strong field compo-

1 nents in which students have the oppor-
2 tunity to directly experience nature;

3 “(C) an explanation of how the activities to
4 be carried out by the eligible partnership are
5 expected to improve student academic achieve-
6 ment and strengthen the quality of environ-
7 mental instruction;

8 “(D) a description of how the activities to
9 be carried out by the eligible partnership will
10 ensure that teachers are trained in the use of
11 field-based and service learning to enable the
12 teachers to use the local environment and com-
13 munity as a resource, to enhance student un-
14 derstanding, the relevance of instruction, and
15 academic achievement;

16 “(E) a description of—

17 “(i) how the eligible partnership will
18 carry out the authorized activities de-
19 scribed in subsection (d); and

20 “(ii) the eligible partnership’s evalua-
21 tion and accountability plan described in
22 subsection (f); and

23 “(F) a description of how the eligible part-
24 nership will continue the activities funded under
25 this part after the grant period has expired.

1 “(d) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—An eligible partner-
2 ship shall use the grant funds provided under this part
3 for 1 or more of the following activities related to elemen-
4 tary schools or secondary schools:

5 “(1) Creating opportunities for enhanced and
6 ongoing environmental education professional devel-
7 opment of teachers that improves the environmental
8 knowledge of such teachers.

9 “(2) Promoting skills for teaching about the en-
10 vironment and environmental issues, including inte-
11 grating reliable research based research teaching
12 methods and technology-based teaching methods into
13 the curriculum.

14 “(3) Establishing and operating environmental
15 education summer workshops or institutes, including
16 follow-up training, for elementary school and sec-
17 ondary school environmental education teachers.

18 “(4) Developing or redesigning more rigorous
19 environmental education curricula that—

20 “(A) are aligned with challenging State
21 academic content standards; and

22 “(B) advance the teaching of interdiscipli-
23 nary courses that integrate the study of nat-
24 ural, social, and economic systems and that in-
25 clude strong field components.

1 “(5) Establishing environmental education dis-
2 tance learning programs for teachers using curricula
3 that are innovative, content-based, and based on re-
4 search that is current as of the date of the program
5 involved.

6 “(6) Designing programs to prepare teachers at
7 a school to provide environmental education profes-
8 sional development to other teachers at the school
9 and to assist beginning and other teachers at the
10 school, including (if applicable) a mechanism to inte-
11 grate the teacher’s experiences from a summer work-
12 shop or institute into the provision of professional
13 development and assistance.

14 “(7) Establishing and operating programs to
15 bring teachers into contact with working profes-
16 sionals in environmental fields to expand such teach-
17 ers’ subject matter knowledge of and research in en-
18 vironmental issues.

19 “(8) Designing programs to identify and de-
20 velop exemplary environmental education teachers in
21 the kindergarten through grade 12 classrooms.

22 “(9) Training environmental education teachers
23 and developing programs to encourage underrep-
24 resented individuals in environmental careers to pur-

1 sue postsecondary degrees in majors leading to such
2 careers.

3 “(10) Initiatives that seek to incorporate envi-
4 ronmental education within teacher training pro-
5 gram accreditation standards.

6 “(11) Promoting outdoor environmental edu-
7 cation activities as part of the regular school cur-
8 riculum and schedule in order to further the knowl-
9 edge and development of teachers and students.

10 “(e) COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION.—Grant
11 recipients shall coordinate the use of such grant funds
12 with any related activities carried out with funds made
13 available under this part.

14 “(f) EVALUATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible partnership
16 receiving a grant under this part shall develop an
17 evaluation and accountability plan for activities as-
18 sisted under this part that includes rigorous objec-
19 tives that measure the impact of activities funded
20 under this part.

21 “(2) CONTENTS.—The plan developed pursuant
22 to paragraph (1) shall include measurable objectives
23 to increase the number of teachers who participate
24 in environmental education content-based profes-
25 sional development activities.

1 “(g) REPORT.—Each eligible partnership receiving a
 2 grant under this part shall report annually to the Sec-
 3 retary regarding the eligible partnership’s progress in
 4 meeting the objectives described in the accountability plan
 5 of the eligible partnership under subsection (f).

6 **“SEC. 2603. AUTHORIZATIONS AND APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
 8 this part \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and each of
 9 the 4 succeeding fiscal years.”.

10 **SEC. 202. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM**
 11 **TO HELP BUILD NATIONAL CAPACITY.**

12 Part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7241 et seq.) is amended
 13 by adding at the end the following:

14 “SUBPART 22—ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANT
 15 PROGRAM

16 **“SEC. 5621. PURPOSE.**

17 “The purposes of this subpart are as follows:

18 “(1) To responsibly prepare children to under-
 19 stand and address major challenges facing the
 20 United States, such as clean energy, climate change,
 21 environmental health risks, and natural disaster re-
 22 siliience.

23 “(2) To support systemic education reform by
 24 strengthening environmental education as an inte-

1 gral part of the elementary school and secondary
2 school curriculum.

3 “(3) To help ensure that all students meet chal-
4 lenging State academic content and student aca-
5 demic achievement standards in environmental
6 learning.

7 “(4) To support the national effort to enable all
8 students to demonstrate competence in environ-
9 mental learning.

10 “(5) To leverage and expand private and public
11 support for environmental education partnerships at
12 national, State, and local levels.

13 “(6) To award grants to initiate, expand, or im-
14 prove environmental education programs for all kin-
15 dergarten through 12th grade students.

16 “(7) To reduce the risk of nature-deficit dis-
17 order in students by restoring and increasing field
18 experiences as part of the regular school curriculum
19 and schedule in order to improve students’ overall
20 academic performance, self-esteem, personal respon-
21 sibility, community involvement, personal health (in-
22 cluding addressing child obesity issues), and under-
23 standing of nature.

24 **“SEC. 5622. GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

25 “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized
2 to award grants, on a competitive basis, to nonprofit
3 organizations, State educational agencies, local edu-
4 cational agencies, or institutions of higher education
5 that have demonstrated expertise and experience in
6 the development of the institutional, financial, intel-
7 lectual, or policy resources needed to help the field
8 of environmental education become more effective
9 and widely practiced.

10 “(2) DURATION.—The Secretary shall award
11 each grant under this subpart for a period of not
12 less than 1 year and not more than 3 years.

13 **“SEC. 5623. USE OF FUNDS.**

14 “Grant funds made available under this subpart shall
15 be used for 1 or more of the following:

16 “(1) Developing and implementing challenging
17 State environmental education academic content
18 standards, student academic achievement standards,
19 and State curriculum frameworks.

20 “(2) Replicating or disseminating information
21 about proven and tested model environmental edu-
22 cation programs that—

23 “(A) use the environment as an integrating
24 theme or content throughout the curriculum; or

1 “(B) provide integrated, interdisciplinary
2 instruction about natural, social, and economic
3 systems along with field experience that pro-
4 vides students with opportunities to directly ex-
5 perience nature in ways designed to improve
6 overall academic performance, self-esteem, per-
7 sonal responsibility, community involvement,
8 personal health (including addressing child obe-
9 sity issues), or their understanding of nature.

10 “(3) Developing and implementing new policy
11 approaches to advancing environmental education at
12 the State and national level.

13 “(4) Conducting studies of national significance
14 that—

15 “(A) provide a comprehensive, systematic,
16 and formal assessment of the State of environ-
17 mental education practice in the United States;

18 “(B) evaluate the effectiveness of teaching
19 environmental education as a separate subject,
20 and as an integrating concept or theme; or

21 “(C) evaluate the effectiveness of using en-
22 vironmental education in helping students im-
23 prove their assessment scores in mathematics,
24 reading or language arts, and the other core
25 academic subjects.

1 “(5) Executing projects that advance wide-
2 spread State and local educational agency adoption
3 and use of environmental education content stand-
4 ards, including adoption and use of such standards
5 in textbook selection criteria.

6 “(6) Planning and initiating new State or na-
7 tional sources of environmental education funding,
8 such as—

9 “(A) environmental education trust funds;
10 and

11 “(B) permanent funds with dedicated
12 funding sources.

13 “(7) Developing a State Environmental Lit-
14 eracy Plan.

15 “(8) Planning State initiatives to develop and
16 promote forums for exchange of information relating
17 to Environmental Education.

18 **“SEC. 5624. APPLICATIONS.**

19 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Each nonprofit organization,
20 State educational agency, local educational agency, or in-
21 stitution of higher education desiring a grant under this
22 subpart shall submit to the Secretary an application that
23 contains a plan to initiate, expand, or improve environ-
24 mental education programs in order to make progress to-
25 ward meeting State standards for environmental learning

1 and contains an evaluation and accountability plan for ac-
2 tivities assisted under this part that includes rigorous ob-
3 jectives that measure the impact of activities funded under
4 this part.

5 **“SEC. 5625. REQUIREMENTS.**

6 “(a) ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SECRETARY.—In
7 order to continue receiving grant funds under this subpart
8 after the first year of a multiyear grant under this sub-
9 part, the administrator of the grant shall submit to the
10 Secretary an annual report that—

11 “(1) describes the activities assisted under this
12 subpart that were conducted during the preceding
13 year; and

14 “(2) demonstrates that progress has been made
15 in helping schools to meet State standards for envi-
16 ronmental education and in accomplishing one or
17 more of the purposes set forth in section 5621 for
18 the Environmental Education Grant Program, and

19 “(3) describes the results of the grantee’s eval-
20 uation and accountability plan.

21 “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than
22 15 percent of the grant funds made available to a non-
23 profit organization, State educational agency, local edu-
24 cational agency, or institution of higher education under

1 this subpart for any fiscal year may be used for adminis-
2 trative expenses.

3 **“SEC. 5626. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

4 “(a) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share under
5 this subpart shall not exceed—

6 “(1) 90 percent of the total cost of a program
7 assisted under this subpart for the first year for
8 which the program receives assistance under this
9 subpart; and

10 “(2) 75 percent of such cost for the second and
11 each subsequent such year.

12 “(b) PROPORTIONALITY.—To the extent practicable,
13 the Secretary shall ensure that grants awarded under this
14 subpart are equitably distributed among nonprofit organi-
15 zations, State educational agencies, local educational
16 agencies, and institutions of higher education, serving
17 urban and rural areas.

18 “(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one
19 year after enactment of this bill, the Secretary shall sub-
20 mit a report to Congress that—

21 “(1) describes the programs assisted under this
22 subpart;

23 “(2) documents the success of such programs in
24 improving national and State environmental edu-
25 cation capacity; and

1 “(3) makes such recommendations as the Sec-
2 retary determines appropriate for the continuation
3 and improvement of the programs assisted under
4 this subpart.

5 “(d) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts made
6 available to the Secretary to carry out this subpart shall
7 remain available until expended.

8 **“SEC. 5627. SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.**

9 “Funds made available under this subpart shall be
10 used to supplement, and not supplant, any other Federal,
11 State, or local funds available for environmental education
12 activities.”.

13 **SEC. 203. PRIORITY STATUS FOR LOCAL EDUCATIONAL**
14 **AGENCIES OFFERING ENVIRONMENTAL MAG-**
15 **NET SCHOOLS.**

16 Section 5306 (20 U.S.C. 7231e) is amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” after
18 the semicolon;

19 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period and
20 inserting “; and”; and

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

22 “(4) propose to create new environmental mag-
23 net school programs or enhance existing environ-
24 mental magnet school programs.”.

1 **TITLE III—ELIGIBILITY OF ENVI-**
2 **RONMENTAL EDUCATION AC-**
3 **TIVITIES UNDER EXISTING**
4 **GRANT AND FUNDING PRO-**
5 **GRAMS**

6 **SEC. 301. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AS AN ELIGIBLE**
7 **ACTIVITY FOR TEACHER TRAINING PRO-**
8 **GRAMS.**

9 (a) ENSURING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IS IN-
10 CLUDED IN TEACHER CERTIFICATION OR LICENSING RE-
11 QUIREMENTS.—Section 2113(c)(1)(C) (20 U.S.C.
12 6613(c)(1)(C)) is amended by inserting “environmental
13 and” after “including”.

14 (b) ADDITION OF NEW STRATEGIES FOR PROFES-
15 SIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—Section 2113(c)(10) (20 U.S.C.
16 6613(c)(10)) is amended by inserting “field-based learn-
17 ing, place-based learning, service learning, experiential
18 learning,” after “peer networks,”.

19 (c) INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING
20 INTO THE CURRICULA.—Section 2113(c) (20 U.S.C.
21 6613(c)) is further amended by adding at the end the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(19) Encouraging and supporting the training
24 of teachers and administrators to effectively inte-
25 grate environmental education, including training in

1 field-based learning, learning, service learning, out-
2 door learning, and experiential learning, into the
3 curricula and instruction in order to improve teach-
4 ing, decision-making, school improvement efforts,
5 and accountability in all subjects.”.

6 (d) USE OF LOCAL FUNDS FOR TRAINING ON EF-
7 FECTIVE INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDU-
8 CATION.—Section 2123(a)(3)(B) (20 U.S.C.
9 6623(a)(3)(B)) is amended—

10 (1) in clause (iv), by striking “and” after the
11 semicolon;

12 (2) in clause (v), by striking the period and in-
13 serting “; and”; and

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

15 “(vi) provide training on how to effec-
16 tively integrate environmental learning, in-
17 cluding training in field-based learning,
18 place-based learning, service learning, and
19 experiential learning, into the curricula
20 and instruction.”.

21 **SEC. 302. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AS AN AUTHOR-**
22 **IZED PROGRAM IN THE FUND FOR THE IM-**
23 **PROVEMENT OF EDUCATION.**

24 Section 5411(b) (20 U.S.C. 7243(b)) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraph (9) as para-
2 graph (10); and

3 (2) by inserting after paragraph (8) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(9) Activities and programs that advance envi-
6 ronmental education, including interdisciplinary
7 courses that integrate the study of natural, social,
8 and economic systems and the use of the environ-
9 ment as an integrating theme for a school cur-
10 rriculum, as well as field-based learning, learning,
11 service learning, outdoor learning, and experiential
12 learning programs.”.

13 **TITLE IV—AMENDMENTS TO**
14 **OTHER LAWS**

15 **SEC. 401. DEFINITIONS.**

16 (a) INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION
17 ACT.—Section 602(10) of the Individuals with Disabilities
18 Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401(10)) is amended—

19 (1) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking
20 “9101(23)” and inserting “9101(24)”; and

21 (2) In subparagraph (D)—

22 (A) in clause (ii), by striking
23 “9101(23)(C)(ii)” and inserting
24 “9101(24)(C)(ii)”; and

1 (B) in clause (iii), by striking
2 “9101(23)(C)(ii)” and inserting
3 “9101(24)(C)(ii)”.

4 (b) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZA-
5 TION ACT OF 2002.—Section 4(10) of the National
6 Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C.
7 1862n note) is amended—

8 (1) by striking “9101(26)” and inserting
9 “9101(27)”; and

10 (2) by striking “7801(26)” and inserting
11 “7801(27)”.

12 **SEC. 402. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION**
13 **ACT.**

14 (a) OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY.—Title
15 II of the Department of Education Organization Act (20
16 U.S.C. 3411 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
17 the following:

18 **“SEC. 221. OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY.**

19 “(a) OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY.—
20 There shall be in the Department an Office of Environ-
21 mental Literacy (referred to in this section as ‘the Office’).

22 “(b) DIRECTOR.—

23 “(1) APPOINTMENT AND REPORTING.—The Of-
24 fice shall be headed by a Director of Environmental

1 Literacy (in this section referred to as the ‘Direc-
2 tor’), who shall be appointed by the Secretary.

3 “(2) DUTIES.—The Director shall—

4 “(A) hold a national summit every five
5 years to develop a national plan for kinder-
6 garten through grade 12 environmental edu-
7 cation and coordinate the resulting implementa-
8 tion process for the plan;

9 “(B) coordinate the development of vol-
10 untary national standards and a national model
11 curriculum;

12 “(C) administer the Environmental Edu-
13 cation Grant Program under part E of title II
14 of the Elementary and Secondary Education
15 Act of 1965;

16 “(D) administer the Grant Program for
17 Enhancing Education through Environmental
18 Education Partnerships Program under part E
19 of title II of the Elementary and Secondary
20 Education Act of 1965; and

21 “(E) work in partnership with education
22 activities at the Environmental Protection
23 Agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
24 Administration, the Department of the Interior,
25 and the National Science Foundation to ad-

1 vance kindergarten through grade 12 environ-
2 mental education.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
4 in section 1 of the Department of Education Organization
5 Act (20 U.S.C. 3401 note) is amended by inserting after
6 the item relating to section 220 the following new item:
“Sec. 221. Office of Environmental Literacy.”.

7 **SEC. 403. NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATION**
8 **PROGRESS ACT.**

9 Section 303(b)(2)(D) of the National Assessment of
10 Educational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C.
11 9622(b)(2)(D)) is amended by striking “foreign lan-
12 guages, and arts,” and inserting “foreign languages, arts,
13 and environmental education,”.

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