

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5093

To authorize the Secretary of Education to establish a program for displaced aerospace professionals to become certified elementary, secondary, or vocational school teachers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2010

Ms. KOSMAS (for herself, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Ms. GIFFORDS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Education to establish a program for displaced aerospace professionals to become certified elementary, secondary, or vocational school teachers.

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 “Space to Schools Act
5 of 2010”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROGRAM.**

2 (a) **PURPOSE.**—The Secretary of Education may
3 carry out a program (in this Act referred to as the “Pro-
4 gram”) to—

5 (1) encourage highly skilled retiring or dis-
6 placed aerospace professionals with backgrounds in
7 science, technology, engineering, or mathematics to
8 pursue careers as elementary, secondary, or voca-
9 tional school teachers; and

10 (2) promote science, technology, engineering,
11 and mathematics (STEM) education in kindergarten
12 through grade 12 by encouraging aerospace profes-
13 sionals to pursue careers in teaching.

14 (b) **ELIGIBILITY.**—

15 (1) **ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.**—An individual
16 who is eligible to participate in the Program is an
17 individual—

18 (A) who is a former employee of the Na-
19 tional Aeronautics and Space Administration,
20 its suppliers, or a related contractor; and

21 (B) who has relevant work experience in
22 the aerospace industry.

23 (2) **SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY.**—An eligible local
24 education agency, charter school, or vocational
25 school may receive Program participants.

26 (c) **SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS.**—

1 (1) FORM AND SUBMISSION.—Selection of eligi-
2 ble individuals to participate in the Program shall be
3 made on the basis of applications submitted to the
4 Secretary of Education within the time periods spec-
5 ified in paragraph (2). An application shall be in
6 such form and contain such information as the Sec-
7 retary may require.

8 (2) TIME FOR SUBMISSION.—An application
9 shall be considered to be submitted on a timely basis
10 if it submitted not later than 4 years after the date
11 on which the individual is retired, separated, or re-
12 leased from employment in the aerospace industry.

13 (d) SELECTION CRITERIA.—

14 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to paragraphs
15 (2) and (3), the Secretary shall prescribe the criteria
16 to be used to select eligible individuals to participate
17 in the Program.

18 (2) EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.—

19 (A) ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL
20 TEACHER.—If an applicant is applying for as-
21 sistance for placement as an elementary or sec-
22 ondary school teacher, the Secretary shall re-
23 quire the applicant to have received a baccalaureate
24 laureate or advanced degree from an accredited

1 institution of higher education in a science,
2 technology, engineering, or mathematics field.

3 (B) VOCATIONAL OR TECHNICAL TEACH-
4 ER.—If an applicant for assistance for place-
5 ment as vocational or technical teacher, the
6 Secretary shall require the applicant to have—

7 (i) received an associate degree, post-
8 secondary training, or related certification
9 obtained through service in the Armed
10 Forces;

11 (ii) have 6 or more years of work ex-
12 perience in a vocational or technical field;
13 or

14 (iii) otherwise meet the certification or
15 licensing requirements for a vocational or
16 technical teacher in the State in which the
17 applicant seeks assistance for placement
18 under the Program.

19 (3) TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.—An appli-
20 cant who was terminated from previous employment
21 for cause shall be ineligible to participate in the Pro-
22 gram.

23 (e) PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible individual se-
25 lected to participate in the Program and receive fi-

1 nancial assistance under this section shall be re-
2 quired to enter into an agreement with the Secretary
3 in which the participant agrees—

4 (A) within such time as the Secretary may
5 require, to obtain certification or licensing as an
6 elementary, secondary, vocational, or technical
7 school teacher, and to become a highly qualified
8 teacher; and

9 (B) to accept an offer of full-time employ-
10 ment as an elementary, secondary, vocational,
11 or technical school teacher for not less than 3
12 school years and commit to teaching in the sub-
13 jects of science, technology, engineering, or
14 mathematics with an eligible local educational
15 agency, charter school, or vocational school to
16 begin the school year after obtaining such cer-
17 tification or licensing.

18 (2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the 3-
19 year commitment described in paragraph (1)(B) for
20 a participant if the Secretary determined such waiv-
21 er to be appropriate.

22 (3) STIPENDS FOR PARTICIPANTS.—

23 (A) STIPEND AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-
24 retary may pay to a participant in the Program
25 a stipend in an amount of not more than

1 \$5,000 to be used towards obtaining licensing
2 or certification for elementary or secondary
3 teaching or vocational teaching programs.

4 (B) STIPEND BONUS.—The Secretary, in
5 lieu of paying a stipend under subparagraph
6 (A), may pay a bonus of \$10,000 to a partici-
7 pant in the Program who agrees in the partici-
8 pation agreement to become a highly qualified
9 teacher and accept full-time employment as an
10 elementary, secondary, vocational, or technical
11 teacher for not less than 3 years in a high-need
12 school and teach in the subject area of science,
13 technology, engineering, or mathematics.

14 (f) REIMBURSEMENT UNDER CERTAIN CIR-
15 CUMSTANCES.—

16 (1) REIMBURSEMENT REQUIRED.—A partici-
17 pant in the Program who is paid a stipend or bonus
18 under this section shall be required to repay the sti-
19 pend or bonus under the following circumstances:

20 (A) FAILURE TO OBTAIN QUALIFICATIONS
21 OR EMPLOYMENT.—The participant fails to ob-
22 tain teacher certification or licensing, to become
23 a highly qualified teacher, or to obtain employ-
24 ment as an elementary school teacher, sec-
25 ondary school teacher, or vocational or technical

1 teacher as required by the participation agree-
2 ment under subsection (e).

3 (B) TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.—The
4 participant voluntarily leaves, or is terminated
5 for cause from, employment as an elementary
6 school teacher, secondary school teacher, or vo-
7 cational or technical teacher during the 3 years
8 of required service in violation of the partici-
9 tion agreement.

10 (2) AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT.—A partici-
11 pant required to reimburse the Secretary for a sti-
12 pend or bonus paid to the participant under this sec-
13 tion shall pay an amount that bears the same ratio
14 to the amount of the stipend or bonus as the
15 unserved portion of required service bears to the 3
16 years of required service. Any amount owed by the
17 participant shall bear interest at the rate equal to
18 the highest rate being paid by the United States on
19 the day on which the reimbursement is determined
20 to be due for securities having maturities of 90 days
21 or less and shall accrue from the day on which the
22 participant is first notified of the amount due.

23 (3) TREATMENT OF OBLIGATION.—The obliga-
24 tion to reimburse the Secretary under this sub-
25 section is, for all purposes, a debt owing the United

1 States. A discharge in bankruptcy under title 11,
2 United States Code, shall not release a participant
3 from the obligation to reimburse the Secretary under
4 this subsection.

5 (g) ADVISORY BOARD.—

6 (1) No later than 120 days after enactment of
7 this Act, the Secretary shall establish an Advisory
8 Board whose duties include—

9 (A) collecting, considering, and dissemi-
10 nating feedback from participants, State edu-
11 cational agencies, local educational agencies,
12 charter schools, and vocational schools on best
13 practices for recruitment of eligible individuals
14 to participate in the Program;

15 (B) ensuring elementary schools, secondary
16 schools, and vocational schools are aware of the
17 Program and how to participate in it;

18 (C) developing guidelines to help individ-
19 uals selected to participate in the Program
20 identify and enroll in licensing or certification
21 training for elementary or secondary education
22 teaching or vocational teaching programs; and

23 (D) coordinating the goals of the Program
24 with other Federal, State, and local education
25 needs.

1 (2) No later than 1 year after the date of en-
2 actment of this Act, and annually thereafter, pre-
3 pare and submit a report to the Committee on Edu-
4 cation and Labor of the House of Representatives
5 and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
6 and Pensions of the Senate, which shall include—

7 (A) information with respect to the activi-
8 ties of the Advisory Board;

9 (B) information with respect to the Pro-
10 gram, including—

11 (i) the number of participants in the
12 Program;

13 (ii) the number of States participating
14 in the Program;

15 (iii) the local educational agencies and
16 schools where participants are employed;

17 (iv) the grade levels at which the par-
18 ticipants teach;

19 (v) the academic subjects taught by
20 participants;

21 (vi) the hours of clinical and class-
22 room time participants completed during
23 the certification or licensing required for
24 participation in the Program;

1 (vii) a review of the stipend and bonus
2 available to participants; and

3 (viii) other demographic information
4 as may be necessary to evaluate the effec-
5 tiveness of the Program; and

6 (C) recommendations for improvements
7 and other necessary changes to ensure that the
8 Program is meeting the purpose as described in
9 subsection (a).

10 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The terms “elementary
12 school”, “highly qualified”; “local educational agen-
13 cy”, “secondary school”, “State educational agen-
14 cy”, and “State” have the meaning given the terms
15 in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary
16 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

17 (2) CHARTER SCHOOL.—The term “charter
18 school” has the meaning given such term in section
19 5210 of the Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965
20 (20 U.S.C. 7221i).

21 (3) ELIGIBLE LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—
22 The term “eligible local educational agency” means
23 a local educational agency receiving funding under
24 part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
25 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.).

1 (4) HIGH-NEED SCHOOL.—The term “high-need
2 school” means an elementary school, secondary
3 school, or vocational school under the jurisdiction of
4 an eligible local educational agency, or a charter
5 school, or vocational school, where at least 50 per-
6 cent of the students enrolled in the school are—

7 (A) in poverty counted in the most recent
8 census data approved by the Secretary;

9 (B) eligible for free and reduced priced
10 lunches under the Richard B. Russell National
11 School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.);

12 (C) in families receiving assistance under
13 the State program funded under part A of title
14 IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et
15 seq.); or

16 (D) eligible to receive medical assistance
17 under the State Medicaid program under title
18 XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396
19 et seq.).

20 (5) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
21 term “institution of higher education” has the
22 meaning given such term in section 101 of the High-
23 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

24 (6) VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.—The term “voca-
25 tional school” means—

1 (A) a specialized public secondary school
2 used exclusively or principally for the provision
3 of vocational and technical education to individ-
4 uals who are available for study in preparation
5 for entering the labor market; or

6 (B) the department or division of an insti-
7 tution of higher education that provides voca-
8 tional and technical education in not fewer than
9 five different occupational fields leading to im-
10 mediate employment but not necessarily leading
11 to a baccalaureate degree.

12 (7) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
13 the Secretary of Education.

14 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
16 appropriated \$20,000,000 to carry out this Act for
17 fiscal year 2011 and each of fiscal years 2012
18 through 2014.

19 (2) NO FISCAL YEAR LIMITATION ON FUND-
20 ING.—Funds appropriated under paragraph (1) shall
21 remain available until expended.

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