

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5460

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to establish grant programs to help pregnant and parenting students stay in school, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 28, 2010

Ms. CHU 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 and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to establish grant programs to help pregnant and parenting students stay in school, 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.**

4 This Act may be referred to as the “Teen Parent
5 Graduation and College Achievement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) Each year, nearly 750,000 American teen-
2 agers ages 15 through 19 become pregnant, giving
3 the United States the highest teenage pregnancy
4 rate of all industrialized nations.

5 (2) Overall, there has been an impressive de-
6 cline in teen pregnancy and birth rates since the
7 early 1990s. Between 2005 and 2006, however, teen
8 pregnancy rates increased for the first time in 14
9 years.

10 (3) Seventy percent of teenagers who become
11 pregnant drop out of high school, and teenage fa-
12 thers tend to complete, on average, one semester of
13 high school fewer than men who delay fatherhood
14 until they are 21 years or older. Fewer economic op-
15 portunities are available to these teenage parents.

16 (4) Some teenagers drop out of school as a re-
17 sult of subsequent pregnancies. In 2006, subsequent
18 pregnancies accounted for 85,000, or almost 20 per-
19 cent, of all teenage pregnancies.

20 (5) Marginalized racial or ethnic minority and
21 immigrant communities generally have less access to
22 the education, support, and services needed for
23 healthy growth and development, and are at high
24 risk for teenage pregnancy.

1 (6) The high rate of teenage pregnancy in ra-
2 cial or ethnic minority and immigrant communities
3 can lead to a disproportionate dropout rate in those
4 communities. School systems in many such commu-
5 nities lack the funding and expertise to effectively
6 counter high school teenage pregnancy dropout
7 rates.

8 (7) Fifty-two percent of Latina teens and 50
9 percent of African-American teen girls will become
10 pregnant at least once before they are 20 years old.
11 Birth rates among Latina and African-American
12 youth ages 15 through 17 are more than twice the
13 birth rates of Caucasian youth in the same age
14 range.

15 (8) The 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey con-
16 tained the surprising finding that sexually active les-
17 bian, gay, and bisexual youth are three times as like-
18 ly to face an unwanted pregnancy as their hetero-
19 sexual peers.

20 (9) Only 51 percent of all teenage mothers, and
21 38 percent of teenage mothers who have a child be-
22 fore they turn 18, have a high school diploma, com-
23 pared to 89 percent of all other women.

24 (10) Parenthood is a leading cause of school
25 dropout among teenage women. Of all teenage

1 women who have dropped out of high school, 30 per-
2 cent cited pregnancy or parenthood as a reason they
3 dropped out, including 36 percent of Latina women
4 and 38 percent of African-American women.

5 (11) Two-thirds of all teenage births occur
6 among teenagers ages 18 and 19. Birth rates among
7 women of those ages have declined less significantly
8 than among teenage women of other ages. These
9 older teenage parents would benefit from the in-
10 creased availability of services at institutions of
11 higher education, particularly at community colleges.

12 (12) The responsibilities of pregnancy and par-
13 enting can interfere with the attainment of a college
14 degree. Sixty-one percent of women who have chil-
15 dren after enrolling in community college do not
16 graduate. Women who do not have children after en-
17 rollment graduate at a 65 percent higher rate than
18 women who do.

19 (13) Comprehensive support through schools,
20 public agencies, and community-based organizations
21 can reduce high school dropout rates and ensure
22 that more pregnant and parenting teenagers com-
23 plete high school and enroll in institutions of higher
24 education.

1 (14) More data on the prevalence of pregnant
2 and parenting teenagers is needed so that Federal
3 assistance reaches the communities in which it is
4 most needed.

5 **SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR ASSISTANCE TO PREGNANT AND PAR-**
6 **ENTING STUDENTS AT ELEMENTARY AND**
7 **SECONDARY SCHOOLS.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM.—Part H
9 of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
10 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended—

11 (1) in section 1803 (20 U.S.C. 6553)—

12 (A) by striking “this part” and inserting
13 “subparts 1 and 2”;

14 (B) by inserting “(a)” before the first sen-
15 tence; and

16 (C) by adding at the end the following new
17 subsection:

18 “(b) For the purpose of carrying out subpart 3, there
19 are authorized to be appropriated \$75,000,000 for each
20 of fiscal years 2011 through 2015.”;

21 (2) in section 1822(a) (20 U.S.C. 6561a(a)), by
22 striking “1803” each place it appears and inserting
23 “1803(a)”; and

24 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
25 part:

1 **“Subpart 3—Grants for Assistance to Pregnant and**
2 **Parenting Students**

3 **“SEC. 1840. GRANTS FOR ASSISTANCE TO PREGNANT AND**
4 **PARENTING STUDENTS.**

5 “(a) GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary
6 shall establish a program to award grants to local edu-
7 cational agencies to help pregnant and parenting students
8 stay in school by expanding their access to services, includ-
9 ing—

10 “(1) tutoring;

11 “(2) pregnancy-related healthcare;

12 “(3) child care;

13 “(4) transportation;

14 “(5) after-school support;

15 “(6) academic counseling;

16 “(7) school social work services; or

17 “(8) family planning services, including services
18 for subsequent pregnancy prevention.

19 “(b) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under sub-
20 section (a), the Secretary shall give priority to a local edu-
21 cational agency that, in the determination of the Sec-
22 retary—

23 “(1) is eligible for assistance under part A;

24 “(2) serves a school that will have a significant
25 percentage of pregnant and parenting students in
26 the period for which the grant is awarded; and

1 “(3) will expand the access of pregnant and
2 parenting students to each service described in sub-
3 section (a).

4 “(c) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT OF GRANT.—The
5 amount of a grant awarded under subsection (a) shall not
6 exceed \$500,000.

7 “(d) GRANT CONDITIONS.—As a condition of receiv-
8 ing a grant under subsection (a), a local educational agen-
9 cy—

10 “(1) shall agree to enter into partnerships and
11 share grant funds, when appropriate, with public
12 agencies or with community-based organizations to
13 carry out the purpose for which the grant is award-
14 ed; and

15 “(2) shall not use more than 10 percent of the
16 amount of the grant for administrative costs.

17 “(e) USE OF FUNDS.—Uses of funds from a grant
18 awarded under subsection (a) may include—

19 “(1) compensating teachers and other employ-
20 ees for performing additional services in carrying out
21 the purpose of the grant; and

22 “(2) encouraging training practicums for grad-
23 uate students in social work to carry out the purpose
24 of the grant.

1 “(f) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
2 under subsection (a), a local educational agency shall sub-
3 mit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such
4 manner, and containing such information as the Secretary
5 may require.

6 “(g) REPORTING.—

7 “(1) SUBMISSION.—The Secretary shall submit
8 to Congress a report on the program established
9 under subsection (a), including the information spec-
10 ified in paragraph (2), on the following dates:

11 “(A) A date that is not later than Sep-
12 tember 30, 2013.

13 “(B) A date that is not later than January
14 1, 2016.

15 “(2) CONTENTS.—A report submitted under
16 paragraph (1) shall include the following informa-
17 tion, as determined by the Secretary:

18 “(A) The number and graduation rate of
19 pregnant and parenting students who benefit
20 from the program, and their rate of enrollment
21 in institutions of higher education.

22 “(B) The effectiveness of the program, in
23 the long term, in reducing costs to the Federal
24 government, including the costs of providing, to
25 individuals affected by the program, benefits

1 under the Medicaid program under title XIX of
 2 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et
 3 seq.), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
 4 Program established under the Food and Nutri-
 5 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), and
 6 Federal foster care programs, and other in-
 7 come-tested or need-based benefits.”.

8 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
 9 in section 2 of the Elementary and Secondary Education
 10 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 note) is amended by insert-
 11 ing after the item relating to section 1830 the following:

“SUBPART 3—GRANTS FOR ASSISTANCE TO PREGNANT AND PARENTING
 STUDENTS

“Sec. 1840. Grants for assistance to pregnant and parenting students.”.

12 **SEC. 4. GRANTS FOR ASSISTANCE TO PREGNANT AND PAR-**
 13 **ENTING STUDENTS AT INSTITUTIONS OF**
 14 **HIGHER EDUCATION.**

15 Part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of
 16 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) is amended by adding at
 17 the end the following new subpart:

18 **“Subpart 11—Grants for Assistance to Pregnant and**
 19 **Parenting Students**

20 **“SEC. 420S. GRANTS FOR ASSISTANCE TO PREGNANT AND**
 21 **PARENTING STUDENTS.**

22 “(a) GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary
 23 shall establish a program to award grants to institutions

1 of higher education to help pregnant and parenting stu-
2 dents stay in school by expanding their access to services,
3 including—

4 “(1) tutoring;

5 “(2) pregnancy-related healthcare;

6 “(3) child care;

7 “(4) transportation;

8 “(5) after-school support;

9 “(6) academic counseling;

10 “(7) school social work services; or

11 “(8) family planning services, including services
12 for subsequent pregnancy prevention.

13 “(b) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under sub-
14 section (a), the Secretary shall give priority to an institu-
15 tion of higher education that, in the determination of the
16 Secretary—

17 “(1) will have a significant percentage of preg-
18 nant and parenting students in the period for which
19 the grant is awarded; and

20 “(2) will expand the access of pregnant and
21 parenting students to each service described in sub-
22 section (a).

23 “(c) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT OF GRANT.—The
24 amount of a grant awarded under subsection (a) shall not
25 exceed \$500,000.

1 “(d) GRANT CONDITIONS.—As a condition of receiv-
2 ing a grant under subsection (a), an institution of higher
3 education—

4 “(1) shall agree to enter into partnerships and
5 share grant funds, when appropriate, with public
6 agencies or with community-based organizations to
7 carry out the purpose for which the grant is award-
8 ed; and

9 “(2) may use no more than 10 percent of the
10 amount of the grant for administrative costs.

11 “(e) USE OF FUNDS.—Uses of funds from a grant
12 awarded under subsection (a) may include—

13 “(1) compensating teachers and other employ-
14 ees for performing additional services in carrying out
15 the purpose of the grant; and

16 “(2) encouraging training practicums for grad-
17 uate students in social work to carry out the purpose
18 of the grant.

19 “(f) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
20 under subsection (a), an institution of higher education
21 shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time,
22 in such manner, and containing such information as the
23 Secretary may require.

24 “(g) REPORTING.—

1 “(1) SUBMISSION.—The Secretary shall submit
2 to Congress a report on the program established
3 under subsection (a), including the information spec-
4 ified in paragraph (2), on the following dates:

5 “(A) A date that is not later than Sep-
6 tember 30, 2013.

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8 1, 2016.

9 “(2) CONTENTS.—A report submitted under
10 paragraph (1) shall include the following informa-
11 tion, as determined by the Secretary:

12 “(A) The number and graduation rate of
13 pregnant and parenting students who benefit
14 from the program.

15 “(B) The effectiveness of the program, in
16 the long term, in reducing costs to the Federal
17 government, including the costs of providing, to
18 individuals affected by the program, benefits
19 under the Medicaid program under title XIX of
20 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et
21 seq.), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
22 Program established under the Food and Nutri-
23 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), and
24 Federal foster care programs, and other in-
25 come-tested or need-based benefits.

1 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015.”.

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