To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for core curriculum development.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2011

Ms. Woolsey introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for core curriculum development.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Access to Complete Education Act”.

SEC. 2. NEW PART I (CORE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT).

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 is amended by redesignating part I as J and inserting after part H the following:
“PART I—CORE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

“SEC. 1851. GRANTS AUTHORIZED.

“(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to support systemic, comprehensive education reform by strengthening the instruction of music and arts, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, history, geography, and physical education and health as an integral part of the elementary and secondary school curriculum.

“(b) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary is authorized to award grants to local educational agencies to promote and strengthen one or more of the subjects specified in subsection (a) as an integral part of the elementary school and secondary school curriculum.

“(c) APPLICATION.—To seek a grant under this section, a local educational agency shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

“(d) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants to local educational agencies under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to local educational agencies with greater—

“(1) numbers of children who are counted under section 1124(c); and

“(2) percentages of children from families below the poverty line.

“(e) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds may be used to expand access to the subjects specified in subsection (a) by—
“(1) expanding the amount of instructional
time on these subjects;

“(2) providing for curriculum development that
is aligned with State standards where relevant;

“(3) providing essential materials and textbooks
that are aligned with State standards where rel-
evant;

“(4) partnering with Federal, State, and com-
community-based organizations and institutions to in-
crease student learning in these subjects;

“(5) providing professional development to en-
sure curricula are implemented effectively; and

“(6) creating and using formative assessments
where appropriate to advance student achievement
and improve instruction.

“(f) CONDITIONS.—As a condition of receiving assist-
ance made available under this section, the Secretary shall
require each local educational agency receiving such assist-
ance—

“(1) to coordinate, to the extent practicable,
each project or program carried out with such assist-
ance with appropriate activities of public or private
cultural agencies, institutions, and organizations, in-
cluding museums, education associations, libraries,
and theaters; and
“(2) to use such assistance only to supplement, and not to supplant, any other assistance or funds made available from non-Federal sources for the activities assisted under this section.

“(g) Evaluations.—

“(1) In general.—Each local educational agency that receives funds under this section shall provide the Secretary, at the conclusion of every fiscal year during which the funds are received, with an evaluation, in a form prescribed by the Secretary. This evaluation shall include—

“(A) a description of the programs and activities conducted by the local educational agency with funds received;

“(B) data on curriculum and partnerships developed;

“(C) data on the amount of time spent on subjects allowed for under the grant; and

“(D) other information as determined by the Secretary.

“(2) Use of evaluation.—An evaluation provided by a local educational agency shall be used by the local educational agency and the State educational agency for improvement of programs and activities.
“(h) **CONSULTATION.**—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with relevant Federal and State agencies or institutions, educators (including professional education associations), organizations representing subjects funded under this part.

“(i) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated for grants under this section the following:

“(1) $250,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

“(2) $300,000,000 for fiscal year 2013.

“(3) $350,000,000 for fiscal year 2014.

“(4) $400,000,000 for fiscal year 2015.

“(5) $450,000,000 for fiscal year 2016.

“(6) $500,000,000 for fiscal year 2017.”.  

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—The following provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 are each amended by striking “part I” and inserting “part J”:

(1) Section 1304(e)(2) (20 U.S.C. 6394(e)(2)).

(2) Section 1415(a)(2)(C) (20 U.S.C. 6435(a)(2)(C)).