

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1903

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to local educational agencies to encourage girls and underrepresented minorities to pursue studies and careers in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 13, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY (for herself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. REYES, and Ms. FUDGE) 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 to local educational agencies to encourage girls and underrepresented minorities to pursue studies and careers in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology.

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 “21st Century STEM
5 for Girls and Underrepresented Minorities Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO PREPARE GIRLS AND UNDERREP-**
2 **RESENTED MINORITIES.**

3 Title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education
4 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6001 et seq.) is amended by add-
5 ing at the end the following:

6 **“PART E—PREPARING GIRLS AND UNDERREP-**
7 **RESENTED MINORITIES FOR THE 21ST CEN-**
8 **TURY**

9 **“SEC. 5701. PROGRAM AUTHORITY.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—From funds provided under sec-
11 tion 5702, the Secretary is authorized to provide grants
12 to, and enter into contracts or cooperative agreements
13 with, local educational agencies on behalf of elementary
14 and secondary schools to establish and implement a pro-
15 gram to encourage the ongoing interest of girls and under-
16 represented minorities in science, mathematics, engineer-
17 ing, and technology and to prepare girls and underrep-
18 resented minorities to pursue undergraduate and graduate
19 degrees and careers in science, mathematics, engineering,
20 or technology.

21 “(b) APPLICATION.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a
23 grant, or enter into a contract or cooperative agree-
24 ment, under this part, a local educational agency
25 shall submit an application to the Secretary at such

1 time, in such form, and containing such information
2 as the Secretary may reasonably require.

3 “(2) CONTENTS.—The application shall con-
4 tain, at a minimum, the following:

5 “(A) A program description, including the
6 content of the program and the research and
7 models used to design the program.

8 “(B) A description of the collaboration be-
9 tween elementary and secondary schools to ful-
10 fill goals of the program and how the applicant
11 will ensure that there is a comprehensive plan
12 to improve science, mathematics, engineering,
13 and technology education for girls and under-
14 represented minorities in grades kindergarten
15 through 12.

16 “(C) A description of the process for re-
17 cruitment and selection of participants.

18 “(D) A description of the planned instruc-
19 tional and motivational activities.

20 “(E) A description of any collaboration
21 among local, regional, or national institutions
22 and organizations that will occur in order to
23 fulfill the goals of the program.

24 “(3) PRIORITY.—In selecting among applica-
25 tions, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants

1 that partner or coordinate, to the extent possible,
2 with local, regional, or national institutions and or-
3 ganizations who have extensive experience, expertise
4 and research on increasing the participation of girls
5 or underrepresented minorities in science, mathe-
6 matics, engineering and technology.

7 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds provided under this
8 section shall be used for the following:

9 “(1) Acquainting and preparing girls and
10 underrepresented minorities with careers in science,
11 mathematics, engineering, and technology, and the
12 advantages of pursuing careers in these areas.

13 “(2) Educating the parents of girls and under-
14 represented minorities about the opportunities and
15 advantages of science, mathematics, engineering,
16 and technology careers.

17 “(3) Enlisting the help of the parents of girls
18 and unrepresented minorities in overcoming the ob-
19 stacles these groups face and encouraging their
20 child’s continued interest and involvement in science,
21 mathematics, engineering, and technology.

22 “(4) Providing tutoring and mentoring pro-
23 grams in science, mathematics, engineering, and
24 technology.

1 “(5) Establishing partnerships and other oppor-
2 tunities that expose girls and underrepresented mi-
3 norities to role models in the fields of science, math-
4 ematics, engineering and technology.

5 “(6) Enabling female and underrepresented mi-
6 nority students and their teachers to attend events
7 and academic programs in science, mathematics, en-
8 gineering, and technology.

9 “(7) Providing after-school activities designed
10 to encourage interest, and develop skills of girls and
11 underrepresented minorities, in science, mathe-
12 matics, engineering, and technology.

13 “(8) Summer programs designed in order that
14 girls and unrepresented minorities develop an inter-
15 est in, develop skills in, and understand the rel-
16 evance and significance of, science, mathematics, en-
17 gineering, and technology.

18 “(9) Purchasing—

19 “(A) educational instructional materials or
20 software designed to encourage interest of girls
21 and underrepresented minorities in science,
22 mathematics, engineering, and technology; or

23 “(B) equipment, instrumentation, or hard-
24 ware used for teaching and to encourage inter-
25 est of girls and underrepresented minorities in

1 science, mathematics, engineering, and tech-
2 nology.

3 “(10) Field trips to locations, including institu-
4 tions of higher education, to educate and encourage
5 girls’ and underrepresented minorities’ interest in
6 science, mathematics, engineering, and technology
7 and acquaint them with careers in these fields.

8 “(11) Providing academic advice and assistance
9 in high school course selection that encourages girls
10 and underrepresented minorities to take advanced
11 courses in areas of science, technology, engineering,
12 and mathematics.

13 “(12) Paying up to 50 percent of the cost of an
14 internship in science, mathematics, engineering, or
15 technology for female and underrepresented minority
16 students.

17 “(13) Providing professional development for
18 teachers and other school personnel, including—

19 “(A) how to eliminate gender and racial
20 bias in the classroom;

21 “(B) how to be sensitive to gender and ra-
22 cial differences;

23 “(C) how to engage students in the face of
24 gender-based and racial peer pressure and pa-
25 rental expectations;

1 “(D) how to create and maintain a positive
2 environment; and

3 “(E) how to encourage girls and under-
4 served minorities through academic advice and
5 assistance to pursue advanced classes and ca-
6 reers in science, mathematics, engineering, and
7 technology fields.

8 “(d) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—The Secretary
9 shall require each local educational agency to use the as-
10 sistance provided under this section only to supplement,
11 and not to supplant, any other assistance or funds made
12 available from non-Federal sources for the activities as-
13 sisted under this section.

14 “(e) EVALUATIONS.—Each local educational agency
15 that receives funds under this section shall provide the
16 Secretary, at the conclusion of every school year during
17 which the funds are received, with an evaluation, in a form
18 prescribed by the Secretary. This evaluation shall in-
19 clude—

20 “(1) a description of the programs and activi-
21 ties conducted by the local educational agency using
22 the funds;

23 “(2) data on curriculum and partnerships devel-
24 oped using the funds;

1 “(3) data on the amount of time spent on sub-
2 jects allowed for under the grant; and

3 “(4) such other information as may be required
4 by the Secretary.

5 **“SEC. 5702. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
7 this part \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2012 and such sums
8 as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal
9 years.”.

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