

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4901

To reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 12, 2016

Mr. CHAFFETZ (for himself, Mr. KLINE, Mr. MESSER, Mr. DESANTIS, Ms. FOXX, Mr. BLUM, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. WALKER, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, and Mr. BRAT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, 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; REFERENCES IN ACT.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Reauthoriza-
6 tion Act” or the “SOAR Reauthorization Act”.

7 (b) REFERENCES IN ACT.—Except as otherwise ex-
8 pressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment is
9 expressed in terms of an amendment to or repeal of a sec-

1 tion or other provision, the reference shall be considered
2 to be made to that section or other provision of the Schol-
3 arships for Opportunity and Results Act (division C of
4 Public Law 112–10; sec. 38–1853.01 et seq., D.C. Official
5 Code).

6 **SEC. 2. REPEAL.**

7 Section 817 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act,
8 2016 (Public Law 114–113) is repealed, and any provision
9 of law amended or repealed by such section is restored
10 or revived as if such section had not been enacted into
11 law.

12 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

13 Section 3003 (sec. 38–1853.03, D.C. Official Code)
14 is amended by striking “particularly parents” and all that
15 follows through “, with” and inserting “particularly par-
16 ents of students who attend an elementary school or sec-
17 ondary school identified as one of the lowest-performing
18 schools under the District of Columbia’s accountability
19 system, with”.

20 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITING IMPOSITION OF LIMITS ON TYPES OF**
21 **ELIGIBLE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE**
22 **PROGRAM.**

23 Section 3004(a) (sec. 38–1853.04(a), D.C. Official
24 Code) is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(3) PROHIBITING IMPOSITION OF LIMITS ON
2 ELIGIBLE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PRO-
3 GRAM.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the
5 program under this division, the Secretary may
6 not limit the number of eligible students receiv-
7 ing scholarships under section 3007(a), and
8 may not prevent otherwise eligible students
9 from participating in the program under this
10 division, based on any of the following:

11 “(i) The type of school the student
12 previously attended.

13 “(ii) Whether or not the student pre-
14 viously received a scholarship or partici-
15 pated in the program, including whether
16 an eligible student was awarded a scholar-
17 ship in any previous year but has not used
18 the scholarship, regardless of the number
19 of years of nonuse.

20 “(iii) Whether or not the student was
21 a member of the control group used by the
22 Institute of Education Sciences to carry
23 out previous evaluations of the program
24 under section 3009.

1 “(B) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing
 2 in subparagraph (A) may be construed to waive
 3 the requirement under section 3005(b)(1)(B)
 4 that the eligible entity carrying out the program
 5 under this Act must carry out a random selec-
 6 tion process, which gives weight to the priorities
 7 described in section 3006, if more eligible stu-
 8 dents seek admission in the program than the
 9 program can accommodate.”.

10 **SEC. 5. REQUIRING ELIGIBLE ENTITIES TO UTILIZE INTER-**
 11 **NAL FISCAL AND QUALITY CONTROLS.**

12 Section 3005(b)(1) (sec. 38–1853.05(b)(1), D.C. Of-
 13 ficial Code) is amended—

14 (1) in subparagraph (I), by striking “, except
 15 that a participating school may not be required to
 16 submit to more than 1 site visit per school year”;

17 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (K) and
 18 (L) as subparagraphs (L) and (M), respectively;

19 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (J) the fol-
 20 lowing:

21 “(K) how the entity will ensure the finan-
 22 cial viability of participating schools in which
 23 85 percent or more of the total number of stu-
 24 dents enrolled at the school are participating el-

1 eligible students that receive and use an oppor-
2 tunity scholarship;”;

3 (4) in subparagraph (L), as redesignated by
4 paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end; and

5 (5) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(N) how the eligible entity will ensure
7 that it—

8 “(i) utilizes internal fiscal and quality
9 controls; and

10 “(ii) complies with applicable financial
11 reporting requirements and the require-
12 ments of this division; and”.

13 **SEC. 6. CLARIFICATION OF PRIORITIES FOR AWARDING**
14 **SCHOLARSHIPS TO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.**

15 Section 3006(1) (sec. 38–1853.06(1), D.C. Official
16 Code) is amended—

17 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “attended”
18 and all that follows through the semicolon and in-
19 sserting “attended an elementary school or secondary
20 school identified as one of the lowest-performing
21 schools under the District of Columbia’s account-
22 ability system; and”;

23 (2) by striking subparagraph (B);

24 (3) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as sub-
25 paragraph (B); and

1 (4) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by
2 paragraph (3), by striking the semicolon at the end
3 and inserting “or whether such students have, in the
4 past, attended a private school;”.

5 **SEC. 7. MODIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICI-**
6 **PATING SCHOOLS AND ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.**

7 (a) **CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS; COMPLIANCE**
8 **WITH REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**—Section 3007(a)(4)
9 (sec. 38–1853.07(a)(4), D.C. Official Code) is amended—

10 (1) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and” at
11 the end;

12 (2) by striking subparagraph (F) and inserting
13 the following:

14 “(F) ensures that, with respect to core
15 subject matter, participating students are
16 taught by a teacher who has a baccalaureate
17 degree or equivalent degree, whether such de-
18 gree was awarded in or outside of the United
19 States;”; and

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

21 “(G) conducts criminal background checks
22 on school employees who have direct and unsu-
23 pervised interaction with students; and

1 “(H) complies with all requests for data
2 and information regarding the reporting re-
3 quirements described in section 3010.”.

4 (b) ACCREDITATION.—Section 3007(a) (sec. 38–
5 1853.07(a), D.C. Official Code), as amended by subsection
6 (a), is further amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraphs
8 (2) and (3)” and inserting “paragraphs (2), (3), and
9 (5)”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(5) ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds
13 provided under this division for opportunity
14 scholarships may be used by a participating eli-
15 gible student to enroll in a participating private
16 school unless the school—

17 “(i) in the case of a school that is a
18 participating school as of the date of en-
19 actment of the SOAR Reauthorization
20 Act—

21 “(I) is fully accredited by an ac-
22 crediting body described in any of
23 subparagraphs (A) through (G) of
24 section 2202(16) of the District of
25 Columbia School Reform Act of 1995

1 (Public Law 104–134; sec. 38–
2 1802.02(16)(A)–(G), D.C. Official
3 Code); or

4 “(II) if such participating school
5 does not meet the requirements of
6 subclause (I)—

7 “(aa) not later than 1 year
8 after the date of enactment of
9 the Consolidated Appropriations
10 Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–
11 113), the school is pursuing full
12 accreditation by an accrediting
13 body described in subclause (I);
14 and

15 “(bb) is fully accredited by
16 such an accrediting body not
17 later than 5 years after the date
18 on which that school began the
19 process of pursuing full accredi-
20 tation in accordance with item
21 (aa); and

22 “(ii) in the case of a school that is not
23 a participating school as of the date of en-
24 actment of the SOAR Reauthorization Act,
25 is fully accredited by an accrediting body

1 described in clause (i)(I) before becoming a
2 participating school under this division.

3 “(B) REPORTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—Not
4 later than 5 years after the date of enactment
5 of the SOAR Reauthorization Act, each partici-
6 pating school shall submit to the eligible entity
7 a certification that the school has been fully ac-
8 credited in accordance with subparagraph (A).

9 “(C) ASSISTING STUDENTS IN ENROLLING
10 IN OTHER SCHOOLS.—If a participating school
11 fails to meet the requirements of this para-
12 graph, the eligible entity shall assist the parents
13 of the participating eligible students who attend
14 the school in identifying, applying to, and en-
15 rolling in another participating school under
16 this division.

17 “(6) TREATMENT OF STUDENTS AWARDED A
18 SCHOLARSHIP IN A PREVIOUS YEAR.—An eligible en-
19 tity shall treat a participating eligible student who
20 was awarded an opportunity scholarship in any pre-
21 vious year and who has not used the scholarship as
22 a renewal student and not as a new applicant, with-
23 out regard as to—

24 “(A) whether the eligible student has used
25 the scholarship; and

1 “(B) the year in which the scholarship was
2 previously awarded.”.

3 (c) REQUIRING USE OF FUNDS REMAINING UNOBLI-
4 GATED FROM PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3007 (sec. 38–
6 1853.07, D.C. Official Code) is amended by adding
7 at the end the following:

8 “(e) REQUIRING USE OF FUNDS REMAINING UNOB-
9 LIGATED FROM PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent that any
11 funds appropriated for the opportunity scholarship
12 program under this division for any fiscal year re-
13 main available for subsequent fiscal years under sec-
14 tion 3014(c), the Secretary shall make such funds
15 available to eligible entities receiving grants under
16 section 3004(a) for the uses described in paragraph
17 (2)—

18 “(A) in the case of any remaining funds
19 that were appropriated before the date of enact-
20 ment of the SOAR Reauthorization Act, begin-
21 ning on the date of enactment of such Act; and

22 “(B) in the case of any remaining funds
23 appropriated on or after the date of enactment
24 of such Act, by the first day of the first subse-
25 quent fiscal year.

1 “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—If an eligible entity to
2 which the Secretary provided additional funds under
3 paragraph (1) elects to use such funds during a fis-
4 cal year, the eligible entity shall use—

5 “(A) not less than 95 percent of such addi-
6 tional funds to provide additional scholarships
7 for eligible students under section 3007(a), or
8 to increase the amount of the scholarships, dur-
9 ing such year; and

10 “(B) not more than a total of 5 percent of
11 such additional funds for administrative ex-
12 penses, parental assistance, or tutoring, as de-
13 scribed in subsections (b) and (c), during such
14 year.

15 “(3) SPECIAL RULE.—Any amounts made avail-
16 able for administrative expenses, parental assistance,
17 or tutoring under paragraph (2)(B) shall be in addi-
18 tion to any other amounts made available for such
19 purposes in accordance with subsections (b) and
20 (c).”.

21 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made
22 by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the date of en-
23 actment of this Act.

24 (d) USE OF FUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES
25 AND PARENTAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 3007 (sec. 38–

1 1853.07, D.C. Official Code), as amended by this section,
2 is further amended—

3 (1) by striking subsections (b) and (c) and in-
4 serting the following:

5 “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND PARENTAL
6 ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall make \$2,000,000 of
7 the amount made available under section 3014(a)(1) for
8 each fiscal year available to eligible entities receiving a
9 grant under section 3004(a) to cover the following ex-
10 penses:

11 “(1) The administrative expenses of carrying
12 out its program under this division during the year,
13 including—

14 “(A) determining the eligibility of students
15 to participate;

16 “(B) selecting the eligible students to re-
17 ceive scholarships;

18 “(C) determining the amount of the schol-
19 arships and issuing the scholarships to eligible
20 students;

21 “(D) compiling and maintaining financial
22 and programmatic records;

23 “(E) conducting site visits as described in
24 section 3005(b)(1)(I); and

1 “(F)(i) conducting a study, including a
2 survey of participating parents, on any barriers
3 for participating eligible students in gaining ad-
4 mission to, or attending, the participating
5 school that is their first choice; and

6 “(ii) not later than the end of the first full
7 fiscal year after the date of enactment of the
8 SOAR Reauthorization Act, submitting a report
9 to Congress that contains the results of such
10 study.

11 “(2) The expenses of educating parents about
12 the eligible entity’s program under this division, and
13 assisting parents through the application process
14 under this division, including—

15 “(A) providing information about the pro-
16 gram and the participating schools to parents
17 of eligible students, including information on
18 supplemental financial aid that may be available
19 at participating schools;

20 “(B) providing funds to assist parents of
21 students in meeting expenses that might other-
22 wise preclude the participation of eligible stu-
23 dents in the program; and

24 “(C) streamlining the application process
25 for parents.”; and

1 (2) by redesignating subsection (d), and sub-
2 section (e) (as added by subsection (c)(1)), as sub-
3 sections (c) and (d), respectively.

4 (e) CLARIFICATION OF USE OF FUNDS FOR STU-
5 DENT ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE.—Section 3007(c) (sec. 38–
6 1853.07(c), D.C. Official Code), as redesignated by sub-
7 section (d)(2), is amended by striking “previously at-
8 tended” and all that follows through the period at the end
9 and inserting “previously attended an elementary school
10 or secondary school identified as one of the lowest-per-
11 forming schools under the District of Columbia’s account-
12 ability system.”.

13 **SEC. 8. PROGRAM EVALUATION.**

14 (a) REVISION OF EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND
15 REQUIREMENTS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3009(a) (sec. 38–
17 1853.09(a), D.C. Official Code) is amended to read
18 as follows:

19 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

20 “(1) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY AND THE
21 MAYOR.—The Secretary and the Mayor of the Dis-
22 trict of Columbia shall—

23 “(A) jointly enter into an agreement with
24 the Institute of Education Sciences of the De-
25 partment of Education to evaluate annually the

1 opportunity scholarship program under this di-
2 vision;

3 “(B) jointly enter into an agreement to
4 monitor and evaluate the use of funds author-
5 ized and appropriated for the District of Co-
6 lumbia public schools and the District of Co-
7 lumbia public charter schools under this divi-
8 sion; and

9 “(C) make the evaluations described in
10 subparagraphs (A) and (B) public in accord-
11 ance with subsection (c).

12 “(2) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.—The Sec-
13 retary, through a grant, contract, or cooperative
14 agreement, shall—

15 “(A) ensure that the evaluation under
16 paragraph (1)(A)—

17 “(i) is conducted using an acceptable
18 quasi-experimental research design for de-
19 termining the effectiveness of the oppor-
20 tunity scholarship program under this divi-
21 sion that does not use a control study
22 group consisting of students who applied
23 for but did not receive opportunity scholar-
24 ships; and

1 “(ii) addresses the issues described in
2 paragraph (4); and

3 “(B) disseminate information on the im-
4 pact of the program—

5 “(i) in increasing academic achieve-
6 ment and educational attainment of par-
7 ticipating eligible students who use an op-
8 portunity scholarship; and

9 “(ii) on students and schools in the
10 District of Columbia.

11 “(3) DUTIES OF THE INSTITUTE OF EDU-
12 CATION SCIENCES.—The Institute of Education
13 Sciences of the Department of Education shall—

14 “(A) assess participating eligible students
15 who use an opportunity scholarship in each of
16 grades 3 through 8, as well as one of the grades
17 at the high school level, by supervising the ad-
18 ministration of the same reading and mathe-
19 matics assessment used by the District of Co-
20 lumbia public schools to comply with section
21 1111(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
22 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b));

23 “(B) measure the academic achievement of
24 all participating eligible students who use an

1 opportunity scholarship in the grades described
2 in subparagraph (A); and

3 “(C) work with eligible entities receiving a
4 grant under this division to ensure that the par-
5 ents of each student who is a participating eli-
6 gible student that uses an opportunity scholar-
7 ship agrees to permit their child to participate
8 in the evaluations and assessments carried out
9 by the Institute of Education Sciences under
10 this subsection.

11 “(4) ISSUES TO BE EVALUATED.—The issues to
12 be evaluated under paragraph (1)(A) shall include
13 the following:

14 “(A) A comparison of the academic
15 achievement of participating eligible students
16 who use an opportunity scholarship on the
17 measurements described in paragraph (3)(B) to
18 the academic achievement of a comparison
19 group of students with similar backgrounds in
20 the District of Columbia public schools.

21 “(B) The success of the program under
22 this division in expanding choice options for
23 parents of participating eligible students and
24 increasing the satisfaction of such parents and
25 students with their choice.

1 “(C) The reasons parents of participating
2 eligible students choose for their children to
3 participate in the program, including important
4 characteristics for selecting schools.

5 “(D) A comparison of the retention rates,
6 high school graduation rates, college enrollment
7 rates, college persistence rates, and college
8 graduation rates of participating eligible stu-
9 dents who use an opportunity scholarship with
10 the rates of students in the comparison group
11 described in subparagraph (A).

12 “(E) A comparison of the college enroll-
13 ment rates, college persistence rates, and col-
14 lege graduation rates of students who partici-
15 pated in the program in 2004, 2005, 2011,
16 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015 as the result of
17 winning the Opportunity Scholarship Program
18 lottery with such enrollment, persistence, and
19 graduation rates for students who entered but
20 did not win such lottery in those years and who,
21 as a result, served as the control group for pre-
22 vious evaluations of the program under this di-
23 vision. Nothing in this subparagraph may be
24 construed to waive section 3004(a)(3)(A)(iii)
25 with respect to any such student.

1 “(F) A comparison of the safety of the
2 schools attended by participating eligible stu-
3 dents who use an opportunity scholarship and
4 the schools in the District of Columbia attended
5 by students in the comparison group described
6 in subparagraph (A), based on the perceptions
7 of the students and parents.

8 “(G) An assessment of student academic
9 achievement at participating schools in which
10 85 percent of the total number of students en-
11 rolled at the school are participating eligible
12 students who receive and use an opportunity
13 scholarship.

14 “(H) Such other issues with respect to
15 participating eligible students who use an op-
16 portunity scholarship as the Secretary considers
17 appropriate for inclusion in the evaluation, such
18 as the impact of the program on public elemen-
19 tary schools and secondary schools in the Dis-
20 trict of Columbia.

21 “(5) PROHIBITING DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL
22 INFORMATION.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Any disclosure of per-
24 sonally identifiable information obtained under
25 this division shall be in compliance with section

1 444 of the General Education Provisions Act
2 (commonly known as the ‘Family Educational
3 Rights and Privacy Act of 1974’) (20 U.S.C.
4 1232g).

5 “(B) STUDENTS NOT ATTENDING PUBLIC
6 SCHOOLS.—With respect to any student who is
7 not attending a public elementary school or sec-
8 ondary school, personally identifiable informa-
9 tion obtained under this division shall only be
10 disclosed to—

11 “(i) individuals carrying out the eval-
12 uation described in paragraph (1)(A) for
13 such student;

14 “(ii) the group of individuals pro-
15 viding information for carrying out the
16 evaluation of such student; and

17 “(iii) the parents of such student.”.

18 (2) TRANSITION OF EVALUATION.—

19 (A) TERMINATION OF PREVIOUS EVALUA-
20 TIONS.—The Secretary of Education shall—

21 (i) terminate the evaluations con-
22 ducted under section 3009(a) of the Schol-
23 arships for Opportunity and Results Act
24 (sec. 38–1853.09(a), D.C. Official Code),
25 as in effect on the day before the date of

1 enactment of this Act, after obtaining data
2 for the 2016–2017 school year; and

3 (ii) submit any reports required for
4 the 2016–2017 school year or preceding
5 years with respect to the evaluations in ac-
6 cordance with section 3009(b) of such Act.

7 (B) NEW EVALUATIONS.—

8 (i) IN GENERAL.—Effective beginning
9 with respect to the 2017–2018 school year,
10 the Secretary shall conduct new evalua-
11 tions in accordance with the provisions of
12 section 3009(a) of the Scholarships for Op-
13 portunity and Results Act (sec. 38–
14 1853.09(a), D.C. Official Code), as amend-
15 ed by this Act.

16 (ii) MOST RECENT EVALUATION.—As
17 a component of the new evaluations de-
18 scribed in clause (i), the Secretary shall
19 continue to monitor and evaluate the stu-
20 dents who were evaluated in the most re-
21 cent evaluation under such section prior to
22 the date of enactment of this Act, includ-
23 ing by monitoring and evaluating the test
24 scores and other information of such stu-
25 dents.

1 (b) DUTY OF MAYOR TO ENSURE INSTITUTE HAS
 2 ALL INFORMATION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT EVALUA-
 3 TIONS.—Section 3011(a)(1) (sec. 38–1853.11(a)(1), D.C.
 4 Official Code) is amended to read as follows:

5 “(1) INFORMATION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT
 6 EVALUATIONS.—Ensure that all District of Colum-
 7 bia public schools and District of Columbia public
 8 charter schools make available to the Institute of
 9 Education Sciences of the Department of Education
 10 all of the information the Institute requires to carry
 11 out the assessments and perform the evaluations re-
 12 quired under section 3009(a).”

13 **SEC. 9. FUNDING FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC**
 14 **SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.**

15 (a) MANDATORY WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS FOR
 16 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CONDITIONS.—Section
 17 3011(b) (sec. 38–1853.11(b), D.C. Official Code) is
 18 amended to read as follows:

19 “(b) ENFORCEMENT.—If, after reasonable notice and
 20 an opportunity for a hearing, the Secretary determines
 21 that the Mayor has failed to comply with any of the re-
 22 quirements of subsection (a), the Secretary may withhold
 23 from the Mayor, in whole or in part—

24 “(1) the funds otherwise authorized to be ap-
 25 propriated under section 3014(a)(2), if the failure to

1 comply relates to the District of Columbia public
2 schools;

3 “(2) the funds otherwise authorized to be ap-
4 propriated under section 3014(a)(3), if the failure to
5 comply relates to the District of Columbia public
6 charter schools; or

7 “(3) the funds otherwise authorized to be ap-
8 propriated under both paragraphs (2) and (3) of
9 section 3014(a), if the failure relates to both the
10 District of Columbia public schools and the District
11 of Columbia public charter schools.”.

12 (b) RULES FOR USE OF FUNDS PROVIDED FOR SUP-
13 PORT OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.—Section 3011
14 (sec. 38–1853.11, D.C. Official Code), as amended by sec-
15 tion 7(b) and section 8(a), is further amended—

16 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
17 section (d); and

18 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
19 lowing new subsection:

20 “(c) SPECIFIC RULES REGARDING FUNDS PROVIDED
21 FOR SUPPORT OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.—The fol-
22 lowing rules shall apply with respect to the funds provided
23 under this division for the support of District of Columbia
24 public charter schools:

1 “(1) The Secretary may direct the funds pro-
2 vided for any fiscal year, or any portion thereof, to
3 the Office of the State Superintendent of Education
4 of the District of Columbia.

5 “(2) The Office of the State Superintendent of
6 Education of the District of Columbia may transfer
7 the funds to subgrantees that are—

8 “(A) specific District of Columbia public
9 charter schools or networks of such schools; or

10 “(B) District of Columbia-based nonprofit
11 organizations with experience in successfully
12 providing support or assistance to District of
13 Columbia public charter schools or networks of
14 such schools.

15 “(3) The funds provided under this division for
16 the support of District of Columbia public charter
17 schools shall be available to any District of Columbia
18 public charter school in good standing with the Dis-
19 trict of Columbia Charter School Board, and the Of-
20 fice of the State Superintendent of Education of the
21 District of Columbia and the District of Columbia
22 Charter School Board may not restrict the avail-
23 ability of such funds to certain types of schools on
24 the basis of the school’s location, governing body, or
25 the school’s facilities.”.

1 **SEC. 10. REVISION OF CURRENT MEMORANDUM OF UNDER-**
2 **STANDING.**

3 Not later than the beginning of the 2017–2018 school
4 year, the Secretary of Education and the Mayor of the
5 District of Columbia shall revise the memorandum of un-
6 derstanding which is in effect under section 3012(d) of
7 the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act as of
8 the day before the date of the enactment of this Act to
9 address the following:

10 (1) The amendments made by this Act.

11 (2) The need to ensure that participating
12 schools under the Scholarships for Opportunity and
13 Results Act meet fire code standards and maintain
14 certificates of occupancy.

15 (3) The need to ensure that District of Colum-
16 bia public schools and District of Columbia public
17 charter schools meet the requirements under such
18 Act to comply with all reasonable requests for infor-
19 mation necessary to carry out the evaluations re-
20 quired under section 3009(a) of such Act.

21 **SEC. 11. DEFINITIONS.**

22 Section 3013 (sec. 38–1853.13, D.C. Official Code)
23 is amended—

24 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through
25 (10) as paragraphs (2) through (11), respectively;

1 (2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as redese-
2 gnated by paragraph (1), the following:

3 “(1) CORE SUBJECT MATTER.—The term ‘core
4 subject matter’ means—

5 “(A) mathematics;

6 “(B) science; and

7 “(C) English, reading, or language arts.”;

8 and

9 (3) in paragraph (4)(B)(ii), as redesignated by
10 paragraph (1), by inserting “household with a” be-
11 fore “student”.

12 **SEC. 12. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-**
13 **TIONS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3014 (sec. 38–1853.14,
15 D.C. Official Code) is amended—

16 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “and for each
17 of the 4 succeeding fiscal years” and inserting “and
18 for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2021”; and

19 (2) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(c) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated under
21 subsection (a)(1), including amounts appropriated and
22 available under such subsection before the date of enact-
23 ment of the SOAR Reauthorization Act, shall remain
24 available until expended.”.

1 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
2 subsection (a)(2) shall take effect on the date of enact-
3 ment of this Act.

4 **SEC. 13. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

5 Except as otherwise provided, the amendments made
6 by this Act shall apply with respect to school year 2017–
7 2018 and each succeeding school year.

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