

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2485

To expand arts education, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2025

Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. BACON, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. RANDALL, Ms. STANSBURY, and Ms. TLAIB) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

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## A BILL

To expand arts education, 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 cited as the “Arts Education for  
5 All Act”.

6 **TITLE I—EARLY CHILDHOOD**  
7 **EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

8 **SEC. 101. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

9 The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act  
10 of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9857 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 658G(b)(1), by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) offering training, coaching, or professional development opportunities for child care providers that relate to the use of evidence-based, developmentally appropriate and age-appropriate strategies to promote the social, emotional, physical, adaptive, communication, and cognitive development of children, including key programmatic strategies, and offering specialized training for child care providers caring for those populations prioritized in section 658E(c)(2)(Q), and children with disabilities;”;

and

(2) in section 658P, by adding at the end the following:

“(16) KEY PROGRAMMATIC STRATEGIES.—The term ‘key programmatic strategies’ means strategies related to—

“(A) nutrition and physical activity;

“(B) recommended practices for age-appropriate exposure to screen media; and

“(C) the integration and utilization of instructional methods to assist learning across disciplines, including methods that use the arts,

1 language, literacy, mathematics, science, and  
 2 social studies.”.

3 **TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO THE**  
 4 **ELEMENTARY AND SEC-**  
 5 **ONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF**  
 6 **1965**

7 **SEC. 201. REFERENCES.**

8 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in  
 9 this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms  
 10 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-  
 11 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a  
 12 section or other provision of the Elementary and Sec-  
 13 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

14 **SEC. 202. STATE AND LOCAL PLANS.**

15 (a) Section 1111(g) (20 U.S.C. 6311(g)) is amended  
 16 by adding at the end the following:

17 “(5) USE OF ARTS EDUCATION TO IMPROVE  
 18 STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.—Each State’s plan shall  
 19 describe how the State educational agency will—

20 “(A) support and encourage the offering of  
 21 a variety of arts education experiences to stu-  
 22 dents as part of the State educational agency’s  
 23 overall strategy to improve student achievement  
 24 in the subjects described in section 8101(52);

1           “(B) integrate arts education instruction  
2           into the curriculum;

3           “(C) increase the number of arts edu-  
4           cators, including arts education specialists, in  
5           schools;

6           “(D) utilize partnerships with specialized  
7           teaching artists to train teachers to augment  
8           creative thinking techniques into the instruction  
9           provided in math, reading, English language  
10          arts, science, and other subjects described in  
11          section 8101(52);

12          “(E) ensure that arts instruction provided  
13          in the State is standards-based, as applicable,  
14          and sequential with arts courses offered in the  
15          grades 6 through 12 building upon such courses  
16          offered in earlier grades;

17          “(F) increase the number of classes taught  
18          by arts educators, including arts education spe-  
19          cialists, with a particular focus on classes with  
20          high percentages of students who are low-in-  
21          come, students with disabilities, English learn-  
22          ers, or students of color; and

23          “(G) support partnerships that increase  
24          the amount of arts education and creative youth

1 development available in afterschool and sum-  
2 mer learning programs.”.

3 (b) Section 1112(b) (20 U.S.C. 6312(b)) is amend-  
4 ed—

5 (1) in paragraph (12), by striking “and” at the  
6 end;

7 (2) by redesignating paragraph (13) as para-  
8 graph (14); and

9 (3) by inserting after paragraph (12) the fol-  
10 lowing:

11 “(13) how the local educational agency will sup-  
12 port learning in the arts and encourage the use of  
13 the arts education to improve student achievement  
14 consistent with section 1111(g)(5); and”.

15 **SEC. 203. REPORT CARDS.**

16 Section 1111(h)(1)(C) (20 U.S.C. 6311(h)(1)(C)) is  
17 amended—

18 (1) by redesignating clause (xiv) as (xv); and

19 (2) by inserting after clause (xiii) the following:

20 “(xiv) Information on arts courses, in-  
21 cluding—

22 “(I) the number of, range, and  
23 sequence of course offerings;

24 “(II) the average pupil-to-teacher  
25 ratio in such courses;

1 “(III) the average amount of in-  
2 structional time in such courses; and

3 “(IV) for each semester, the per-  
4 centage (in the aggregate and disag-  
5 gregated by high-poverty compared to  
6 low-poverty schools, which for the pur-  
7 pose of this subclause, means schools  
8 in the top quartile of poverty and the  
9 bottom quartile of poverty in the  
10 State) of—

11 “(aa) schools offering arts  
12 courses;

13 “(bb) students taking arts  
14 courses; and

15 “(cc) arts courses taught by  
16 arts teachers with full State cer-  
17 tification or licensure.”.

18 **SEC. 204. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT.**

19 Section 1111(d)(2)(B) (20 U.S.C. 6311(d)(2)(B)) is  
20 amended—

21 (1) in clause (iv), by striking “; and” and in-  
22 serting a semicolon;

23 (2) by redesignating clause (v) as clause (vi);  
24 and

25 (3) by inserting after clause (iv) the following:

1 “(v)(I) provides for an evaluation of  
 2 the arts courses offered at such school dur-  
 3 ing the school day and the certification,  
 4 training and skills of staff that are teach-  
 5 ing such courses including teaching artists;  
 6 and

7 “(II) based on such evaluation, incor-  
 8 porate the offering of arts courses into the  
 9 offerings of such school; and”.

10 **SEC. 205. ARTS FOR NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT CHIL-**  
 11 **DREN AND YOUTH.**

12 Section 1415(a)(2)(B)(ii) (20 U.S.C.  
 13 6435(a)(2)(B)(ii)) is amended by inserting “access to the  
 14 arts and arts education and” after “improving”.

15 **SEC. 206. SUBGRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.**

16 (a) LOCAL USES OF FUNDS.—Section 2103(b)(3)  
 17 (20 U.S.C. 6613(b)(3)) is amended—

18 (1) in subparagraph (O), by striking “; and”  
 19 and inserting a semicolon;

20 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (P) as sub-  
 21 paragraph (Q); and

22 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (O) the fol-  
 23 lowing:

24 “(P) carrying out activities to increase  
 25 pathways to obtain rigorous, high-quality teach-

1           er certification or licensure for individuals seek-  
2           ing to become teachers of the arts; and”.

3           (b) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ARTS  
4 TEACHERS.—Section 2103 (20 U.S.C. 6613) is further  
5 amended by inserting at the end the following:

6           “(c) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ARTS  
7 TEACHERS.—In carrying out the programs and activities  
8 described under subsection (a), a local educational agency  
9 shall provide professional development for teachers of the  
10 arts, as appropriate, to fulfill the needs of such agency  
11 and the schools of such agency.

12           “(d) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR INTEGRA-  
13 TION OF THE ARTS.—In carrying out the programs and  
14 activities described under subsection (a), a local edu-  
15 cational agency shall provide professional development for  
16 teachers to integrate the arts into their instruction in  
17 math, reading, English language arts, science, and other  
18 subjects described in section 8101(52).”.

19 **SEC. 207. 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS.**

20           (a) ARTS ORGANIZATIONS.—Section 4205(a) (20  
21 U.S.C. 7175(a)) is amended—

22           (1) in paragraph (13), by striking “; and”;

23           (2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period at  
24 the end and inserting “; and”; and

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



1 “(15) partnering with, integrating the services  
 2 of, and utilizing the services and offerings provided  
 3 by arts services organizations or other community-  
 4 focused arts nonprofits and organizations that fur-  
 5 ther creative youth development.”.

6 (b) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—Section  
 7 4203(a)(6) (20 U.S.C. 7173(a)(6)) is amended by insert-  
 8 ing “, including arts education” after “areas”.

9 **TITLE III—AMENDMENTS TO**  
 10 **THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND**  
 11 **DELINQUENCY PREVENTION**  
 12 **ACT OF 1974 AND TO THE OM-**  
 13 **NIBUS CRIME CONTROL AND**  
 14 **SAFE STREETS ACT OF 1968**

15 **SEC. 301. AMENDMENTS TO THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND**  
 16 **DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT OF 1974.**

17 Section 223(a) of the Juvenile Justice and Delin-  
 18 quency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5633(a)) is  
 19 amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (32) by striking “and” at the  
 21 end,

22 (2) in paragraph (33) by striking the period at  
 23 the end and inserting “; and”, and

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

1           “(34) describe how the State will coordinate  
 2           services, activities for juvenile justice and delin-  
 3           quency prevention with State and local agencies and  
 4           organizations, including State and local arts agen-  
 5           cies, arts organizations, and organizations that fur-  
 6           ther creative youth development.”.

7 **SEC. 302. AMENDMENTS TO ADULT AND JUVENILE OF-**  
 8 **FENDER DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS AND**  
 9 **THE STATE, TRIBAL AND LOCAL REENTRY**  
 10 **COURTS PROGRAMS.**

11           The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of  
 12 1968 is amended in section 2976(b)(4)—

13           (1) by striking “; and” in subparagraph (A);  
 14           (2) after subparagraph (A), by inserting the fol-  
 15           lowing:

16           “(B) use arts education programs and  
 17           services to better facilitate reentry and reduce  
 18           recidivism and connect offenders to educational  
 19           opportunities and employment after reentry into  
 20           the community; and”; and

21           (3) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as sub-  
 22           paragraph (C).

1 **TITLE IV—AMENDMENTS TO THE**  
2 **EDUCATION SCIENCES RE-**  
3 **FORM ACT OF 2002 AND THE**  
4 **NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF**  
5 **EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS AU-**  
6 **THORIZATION ACT**

7 **SEC. 401. ARTS RESEARCH.**

8 Section 133 of the Education Sciences Reform Act  
9 of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9533) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a)—

11 (A) by striking “; and” at the end of sub-  
12 paragraph (10)(D);

13 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (11) as  
14 subparagraph (12); and

15 (C) by inserting after paragraph (10) the  
16 following:

17 “(11) carry out research on the use of the arts  
18 and arts education that is rigorous, peer reviewed  
19 and large scale to determine which methods and  
20 uses of the arts and arts education are most effec-  
21 tive, cost efficient and able to be applied, duplicated,  
22 and scaled up for the use in elementary and sec-  
23 ondary classrooms, including in low-performing  
24 schools; and”;

1           (2) in subsection (c)(2), by adding at the end  
2       the following:

3                   “(L) Use of the arts and arts education in  
4           improving elementary and secondary edu-  
5           cation.”.

6   **SEC. 402. ARTS STATISTICAL DATA.**

7       Section 153(a)(1) of the Education Sciences Reform  
8   Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9543(a)(1)) is amended—

9           (1) in subparagraph (N), by striking “; and”  
10       and inserting a semicolon;

11          (2) by redesignating subparagraph (O) as sub-  
12       paragraph (P); and

13          (3) by inserting after subparagraph (N), the  
14       following:

15                   “(O) access to, the integration of and the  
16           inclusion of arts education; and”.

17   **SEC. 403. NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL**  
18       **PROGRESS.**

19       Section 303(b) of the National Assessment of Edu-  
20   cational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. 9622(b))  
21   is amended by adding at the end the following:

22                   “(7) ARTS ASSESSMENT.—The Assessment  
23       Board shall select the arts as a subject to be as-  
24       sessed under this subsection, at the same frequency

- 1 and in the same grades (at a minimum) as such as-
- 2 sessment was scheduled prior to July 24, 2021.”.

