

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 377

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, to add a work-study program for off-campus community service at selected after-school activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 3, 2025

Mr. BOOKER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, to add a work-study program for off-campus community service at selected after-school activities, 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 “Students Helping
5 Young Students Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMMUNITY SERVICES DEFINED.**

7 Section 441(c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
8 (20 U.S.C. 1087–51(c)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph
2 (3);

3 (2) by striking the period and inserting “and”
4 at the end of paragraph (4)(C); and

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

6 “(5) after-school activities, as defined in section
7 443(f).”.

8 **SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR FEDERAL WORK-STUDY PROGRAM.**

9 Section 443 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
10 U.S.C. 1087–53) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by inserting “or
12 after-school activity (as described in subsection (f))”
13 after “subsection (d))”;

14 (2) in subsection (d)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1)—

16 (i) in the subsection heading, by strik-
17 ing “USE” and inserting “REQUIRED
18 USE”; and

19 (ii) by inserting “that is not carrying
20 out subsection (f) for such year” after “an
21 institution”; and

22 (B) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(4) AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS.—In any
24 academic year to which subsection (b)(2)(A) applies,
25 an institution that is carrying out subsection (f) may

1 also use funds granted to such institution under this
2 section in accordance with this subsection.”; and

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

4 “(f) AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.—

5 “(1) USE OF FUNDS.—In any academic year to
6 which subsection (b)(2)(A) applies—

7 “(A) an institution that is not carrying out
8 subsection (d) for such year shall ensure funds
9 granted to such institution under this section
10 are used in accordance with this subsection to
11 compensate (including compensation for time
12 spent in training and travel directly related to
13 after school activities) students employed in
14 after-school activities of eligible schools; and

15 “(B) an institution that is carrying out
16 subsection (d) for such year may also use funds
17 granted to such institution under this section in
18 accordance with this subsection to compensate
19 the students described in subparagraph (A).

20 “(2) REGISTRATION PROCESS.—Not later than
21 180 days after the date of enactment of the Stu-
22 dents Helping Young Students Act of 2025, the Sec-
23 retary shall inform eligible schools about the work-
24 study program described in paragraph (1), and es-

1 tablish and carry out a process for eligible schools
2 to register to participate in such program.

3 “(3) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall
4 establish any standards necessary for participation
5 in—

6 “(A) the work-study program described in
7 paragraph (1); and

8 “(B) the registration process described in
9 paragraph (2).

10 “(4) PRIORITY FOR SCHOOLS.—To the extent
11 practicable, an institution shall—

12 “(A) give priority to eligible schools serving
13 a low-income community; and

14 “(B) ensure that any student compensated
15 with funds described in paragraph (1) receives
16 appropriate training to carry out the edu-
17 cational services required.

18 “(5) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
19 the compensation for work-study students com-
20 pensated under this subsection may exceed 75 per-
21 cent.

22 “(6) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-
23 section:

24 “(A) The term ‘after-school activities’—

1 “(i) means activities during non-
 2 school hours or periods when school is not
 3 in session, such as after school, before
 4 school, or summer recess, that have an
 5 educational purpose; and

6 “(ii) includes such activities adminis-
 7 tered by—

8 “(I) an eligible school, including
 9 activities in which only the student
 10 population of such school is served; or

11 “(II) a community learning cen-
 12 ter, a community-based organization,
 13 a nonprofit organization, or other cen-
 14 ter or organization that facilitates
 15 youth development activities, which
 16 partners with an eligible school.

17 “(B) The terms ‘elementary school’ and
 18 ‘secondary school’ have the meanings given the
 19 terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and
 20 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 21 7801).

22 “(C) The term ‘eligible school’ means a
 23 public elementary school or secondary school.

1 “(D) The term ‘low-income community’
2 has the meaning given the term in section
3 428K(g)(6).”.

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