

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 23

To provide grants to local educational agencies to allow such agencies to promote certain education initiatives.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 1999

Mr. DREIER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

---

## A BILL

To provide grants to local educational agencies to allow such agencies to promote certain education initiatives.

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 “Education Bill of  
5       Rights Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

7       The Secretary of Education (referred to in this Act  
8       as the “Secretary”) is authorized to award grants to local  
9       educational agencies to allow such agencies to promote the  
10      education initiatives described in section 3.

1 **SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY.**

2 (a) APPLICATION.—A local educational agency that  
3 desires to receive a grant under this Act shall submit an  
4 application to the Secretary at such time and in such form  
5 as the Secretary may reasonably require.

6 (b) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—To be eligible to receive  
7 a grant under this Act, a local educational agency shall  
8 demonstrate that such agency has developed each of the  
9 the following initiatives:

10 (1) CHARTER SCHOOL.—A charter school pro-  
11 gram to allow parents greater choice in selecting the  
12 appropriate educational setting for their child.

13 (2) PARENTAL CHOICE.—A school choice pro-  
14 gram that allows parents the ability to select a pub-  
15 lic school located within the local educational agency  
16 that best meets the educational needs of their child.

17 (3) VOCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC OPPORTUNI-  
18 TIES.—A program that allows parents of a second-  
19 ary school student to choose a vocational or college  
20 preparatory program for their child.

21 (4) EARLY READING PROGRAMS.—An elemen-  
22 tary reading program to ensure that all students can  
23 read by the third grade.

24 (5) SAFE AND DRUG-FREE ENVIRONMENT.—A  
25 program to provide a safe and drug-free environ-  
26 ment at school.

1           (6) STANDARDIZED TESTING PROGRAM.—A lo-  
2 cally developed standardized testing program to en-  
3 sure that students are achieving at a high level.

4           (7) CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT PANELS.—  
5 Curriculum development panels composed of teach-  
6 ers and parents to ensure that students learn the  
7 skills necessary to succeed.

8           (8) INCREASED TEACHING STANDARDS.—A pro-  
9 gram to improve or increase the standards for teach-  
10 ers to ensure teachers have the skills necessary to  
11 assist students effectively.

12           (9) MERIT PAY SYSTEM FOR TEACHERS.—A  
13 merit pay system to reward teachers who meet or  
14 exceed performance criteria.

15           (10) TEACHING EXCELLENCE.—A program to  
16 ensure that the most qualified teachers are hired, in-  
17 cluding teachers with expertise in the workplace.

18 **SEC. 4. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.**

19           (a) IN GENERAL.—

20           (1) ALLOCATION.—A local educational agency  
21 that meets the eligibility criteria described in section  
22 3 shall receive, subject to the availability of appro-  
23 priations, an amount that equals the total amount  
24 spent by the Federal Government for fiscal year  
25 1999 for elementary and secondary education di-

1        vided by the total number of public schools in the  
2        country that receive such education funds for such  
3        fiscal year.

4            (2) RATABLE REDUCTION.—If the sums made  
5        available under this Act for any fiscal year are insuf-  
6        ficient to pay the full amount that each local edu-  
7        cational agency that meets the eligibility criteria de-  
8        scribed in section 3 is eligible to receive under para-  
9        graph (1) for such year, the Secretary shall ratably  
10       reduce such amount for such year.

11       (b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—A local edu-  
12       cational agency that receives a grant award under this Act  
13       may use not more than 5 percent of such award for admin-  
14       istrative expenses.

15       **SEC. 5. ACCOUNTABILITY.**

16       Each local educational agency that receives a grant  
17       award under this Act shall submit a report annually to  
18       the Secretary that evaluates the effectiveness of the initia-  
19       tives described under section 3 and any change in parental  
20       involvement as a result of such programs.

21       **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22       There are authorized to be appropriated such sums  
23       as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2000  
24       through 2004 to carry out this Act.

○