

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2659

To provide grants to eligible urban local educational agencies to enable the agencies to recruit and retain qualified teachers.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 1999

Mr. CROWLEY (for himself, Mr. FROST, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. ACKERMAN, and Mr. PAYNE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To provide grants to eligible urban local educational agencies to enable the agencies to recruit and retain qualified teachers.

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 Urban  
5 Teachers Recruitment and Retention Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Urban and inner city school districts have  
2           greater difficulty attracting and retaining qualified  
3           teachers than their suburban counterparts.

4           (2) The cost of living is higher in urban and  
5           inner cities than in suburban areas.

6   **SEC. 3. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

7           The Secretary is authorized to provide grants to eligi-  
8   ble urban local educational agencies to enable the agencies  
9   to recruit and retain qualified teachers for elementary and  
10 secondary schools.

11 **SEC. 4. GRANT AWARDS.**

12       (a) ELIGIBLE URBAN LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-  
13 CIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this Act,  
14 an eligible urban local educational agency shall—

15           (1) submit an application to the Secretary at  
16       such time, in such manner, and containing such in-  
17       formation as the Secretary may reasonably require;  
18       and

19           (2) demonstrate a need to recruit and retain  
20       additional qualified elementary and secondary teach-  
21       ers.

22       (b) GRANT AMOUNT.—Each grant award made under  
23 this Act shall be of sufficient size to enable a grantee to  
24 develop incentive programs to recruit and retain qualified  
25 teachers.

1 **SEC. 5. USES OF FUNDS.**

2 An eligible urban local educational agency that re-  
3 ceives a grant award under this Act may use such funds  
4 received to develop incentive programs to recruit and re-  
5 tain qualified teachers which may include—

6 (1) salary increases;

7 (2) reimbursement for teacher certification ex-  
8 penses;

9 (3) assistance to pay college tuition expenses;

10 (4) assistance to pay graduate school tuition  
11 and training expenses; and

12 (5) reimbursement for relocation expenses.

13 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

14 For purposes of this Act:

15 (1) the term “local educational agency” has the  
16 same meaning given such term in section 14101(18)  
17 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
18 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801(18));

19 (2) the term “metropolitan statistical area” has  
20 the same meaning given such term by the Bureau of  
21 the Census;

22 (3) the term “eligible urban local educational  
23 agency” means a local educational agency—

24 (A) that is located in a metropolitan statis-  
25 tical area; and

1           (B) in which 30 percent or more of the  
2           children, ages 5 through 17, served by such  
3           agency are from families below the poverty  
4           level, determined in accordance with section  
5           1124 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
6           cation Act of 1965; and

7           (4) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
8           of Education.

9   **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10       There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
11   this Act \$250,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2000 and  
12   2001, \$400,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 and  
13   2003, and \$500,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.

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