

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3365

To provide grants to local educational agencies to establish or expand pre-kindergarten programs for children who are not yet enrolled in kindergarten.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 15, 1999

Mr. ANDREWS 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 local educational agencies to establish or expand prekindergarten programs for children who are not yet enrolled in kindergarten.

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. PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM.**

4       Title X of the Elementary and Secondary Education  
5       Act of 1965 is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
6       lowing:

7       **“PART L—PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS**

8       **“SEC. 10995A. FINDINGS.**

9       “Congress finds the following:

1           “(1) Countless studies have shown what every  
2           parent already knows: High-quality preschool edu-  
3           cation programs work. They prepare children to  
4           learn when they go to school, and the programs in-  
5           crease the success of students throughout their lives.

6           “(2) Children who get a high-quality prekindergarten  
7           education are more likely to increase their  
8           overall IQ, improve their results on achievement  
9           tests, and increase their chances of graduating from  
10          high school and pursuing some form of higher edu-  
11          cation. These same children are less likely to repeat  
12          a grade level and have less need for special edu-  
13          cation instruction than those with no preschool back-  
14          ground, thus saving local educational agencies funds  
15          that might otherwise be necessary to provide special  
16          education instruction.

17          “(3) Prekindergarten education makes an enormous  
18          difference in the lives of children from lower-  
19          income families. The following specific results were  
20          found for children eligible for Head Start services or  
21          child care assistance, children who belong to a single  
22          parent, 2-child families earning less than \$22,000  
23          per year, or families of 4 earning less than \$31,000  
24          per year—

1           “(A) 29 percent of the children who at-  
2           tended prekindergarten program were employed  
3           in jobs paying over \$2,000 by age 27, as op-  
4           posed to 7 percent of those from the same in-  
5           come group who did not receive prekindergarten  
6           education.

7           “(B) Only 57 percent of the children who  
8           attended a prekindergarten program grew up to  
9           become single mothers, as opposed to 83 per-  
10          cent of the same income group who did not at-  
11          tend a prekindergarten program.

12          “(C) 36 percent of the children who at-  
13          tended a prekindergarten program grew up to  
14          own their own homes, as opposed to only 13  
15          percent of the same income group who did not  
16          attend such a program.

17          “(D) Less than 13 percent of the boys in  
18          the group who attended a prekindergarten pro-  
19          gram grew up to be arrested 5 or more times,  
20          as opposed to 49 percent of the boys from the  
21          same income group who did not attend a pre-  
22          kindergarten program.

23   **“SEC. 10995B. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

24          “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to  
25          provide grants to local educational agencies with an ap-

1 proved application under section 10995C to allow such  
 2 agencies to establish or expand prekindergarten early  
 3 learning programs to be operated by the local education  
 4 agency.

5 “(b) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority for  
 6 grants under this part to local educational agencies with  
 7 the highest population of children, ages 3 to 5, not en-  
 8 rolled in a prekindergarten or kindergarten program.

9 **“SEC. 10995C. APPLICATIONS.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A local educational agency that  
 11 desires to receive a grant under this part shall submit an  
 12 application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner,  
 13 and containing such information as the Secretary may rea-  
 14 sonably require.

15 “(b) CONTENT.—An application referred to in sub-  
 16 section (a), at a minimum, shall—

17 “(1) demonstrate a need for the establishment  
 18 or expansion of a prekindergarten program;

19 “(2) provide an assurance that each individual  
 20 hired to work with children in the prekindergarten  
 21 program is a teacher or child development specialist  
 22 certified by the State;

23 “(3) provide an assurance that the ratio of  
 24 teacher or child development specialist to children  
 25 shall not exceed 10–1;

1           “(4) provide an assurance that the local edu-  
2           cational agency will provide, either directly or  
3           through private contributions, non-Federal matching  
4           funds equal to not less than 50 percent of the  
5           amount of the grant award, these contributions shall  
6           include in kind contributions and parental co-pay-  
7           ments;

8           “(5) provide an assurance that the local edu-  
9           cational agency will develop a sliding fee schedule to  
10          ensure that the parents of a child who attends a pre-  
11          kindergarten program established under this part  
12          share in the cost of providing the prekindergarten  
13          program, but the amount of such contribution shall  
14          not exceed \$50 each week that a child attends such  
15          program;

16          “(6) provide a description of how funds will be  
17          used to coordinate with and build on, but not dupli-  
18          cate or supplant, early childhood programs that exist  
19          in the community;

20          “(7) describe how the agency will use a collabo-  
21          rative process with organizations and members of  
22          the community that have an interest and experience  
23          in early childhood development and education to es-  
24          tablish prekindergarten programs;

1           “(8) describe how the agency will coordinate  
2           with and expand, but not duplicate or supplant,  
3           early childhood programs that exist in the commu-  
4           nity;

5           “(9) review scientifically based research on  
6           early childhood education services that focus on lan-  
7           guage, literacy, and reading development;

8           “(10) describe how the program will meet the  
9           diverse needs of children, ages 3 through 5, in the  
10          community who are not enrolled in kindergarten, in-  
11          cluding children who have special needs;

12          “(11) describe how to employ methods that en-  
13          sure a smooth transition for participating students  
14          from early childhood education to kindergarten and  
15          early elementary education;

16          “(12) describe the results the programs are in-  
17          tended to achieve, and what tools to use to measure  
18          the progress in attaining those results;

19          “(13) describe a plan to operate the program  
20          without using funds made available under this part;  
21          and

22          “(14) provide an assurance that none of the  
23          funds received under this part may be used for the  
24          construction or renovation of existing or new facili-

1       ties (except for minor remodeling needed to accom-  
 2       plish the purposes of this part);

3       **“SEC. 10995D. USES OF FUNDS.**

4       “(a) IN GENERAL.—A local educational agency that  
 5       receives a grant award under this part may use funds re-  
 6       ceived to establish or expand prekindergarten programs  
 7       for children, ages 3 through 5, who are not enrolled in  
 8       kindergarten.

9       “(b) PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS.—Each pre-  
 10      kindergarten program that is established pursuant to this  
 11      part shall—

12           “(1) focus on the developmental needs of par-  
 13      ticipating children, including their social, cognitive,  
 14      and language-development needs, and use research-  
 15      based approaches that build on competencies that  
 16      lead to school success, particularly in language and  
 17      literacy development and in reading; and

18           “(2) ensure that participating children, at a  
 19      minimum—

20           “(A) understand and use language to com-  
 21      municate for various purposes;

22           “(B) understand and use increasingly com-  
 23      plex and varied vocabulary;

24           “(C) develop and demonstrate an apprecia-  
 25      tion of books;

1                   “(D) develop phonemic, print, and  
2 numeracy awareness; and

3                   “(E) in the case of children with limited  
4 English proficiency, progress toward acquisition  
5 of the English language.

6 **“SEC. 10995E. REPORTING.**

7           “(a) LOCAL REPORTS.—Each local educational agen-  
8 cy that receives a grant award under this part shall submit  
9 to the Secretary annually a report that reviews the effec-  
10 tiveness of the prekindergarten program established with  
11 funds provided under this part.

12           “(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall  
13 submit to Congress annually a report that evaluates the  
14 prekindergarten programs established under this part.

15 **“SEC. 10995F. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16           “‘There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
17 this part \$210,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, \$210,000,000  
18 for fiscal year 2002, \$1,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2003,  
19 \$1,500,000,000 for fiscal year 2004, and \$2,100,000,000  
20 for fiscal year 2005.’”.

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