

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4307

To reduce the reading deficit in the United States by applying the findings of scientific research in reading instruction to all students who are learning to read the English language and to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve literacy through family literacy projects and to reauthorize the inexpensive book distribution program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2000

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

A BILL

To reduce the reading deficit in the United States by applying the findings of scientific research in reading instruction to all students who are learning to read the English language and to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve literacy through family literacy projects and to reauthorize the inexpensive book distribution program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Reading Deficit Elimination Act”.

4 **TITLE I—REDUCING THE**
5 **READING DEFICIT**

6 **SEC. 101. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) Millions of dollars have been spent by the
9 Federal Government to determine how the skill of
10 reading is acquired. The principles for teaching such
11 skill are now available and it is time to apply them
12 in the Nation’s classrooms.

13 (2) America has a reading deficit. According to
14 the National Adult Literacy Survey (NALS), conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics every 10 years, 41,000,000 adults were unable
16 to perform even the simplest literacy tasks.

18 (3) The 1998 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) found that 69 percent of
20 4th grade students are reading below the proficient
21 level.

22 (4) The 1998 NAEP found that minority students on average continue to lag far behind their
23 nonminority counterparts in reading proficiency,
24 even though many of the minority students are in
25 programs authorized under title I of the Elementary
26

1 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
2 6301 et seq.).

3 (5) Reading scores continue to decline or re-
4 main stagnant, even though Congress has spent
5 more than \$120,000,000 over the past 30 years for
6 such programs, a substantial portion of which has
7 been dedicated to improving the reading skills of dis-
8 advantaged students.

9 (6) The cost of providing special education at
10 the Federal, State, and local levels exceeds
11 \$60,000,000,000 each year.

12 (7) More than half of the students being placed
13 in the special learning disabilities category of special
14 education programs have not learned to read.

15 (8) The ability to read the English language
16 with fluency and comprehension is essential if indi-
17 viduals are to reach their full potential.

18 (9) Since 1965 the National Institute of Child
19 Health and Human Development (NICHD) has sup-
20 ported extensive systematic research on reading de-
21 velopment, reading disorders, and reading difficulties
22 at a cost of more than \$200,000,000.

23 (10) Relying extensively on the NICHD sup-
24 ported research, the National Research Council
25 (NRC), created by the National Science Foundation

1 (NSF), issued a report in 1998 entitled “Preventing
2 Reading Difficulties in Young Children”. The report
3 shows that optimal reading development requires
4 that students acquire skills in phonemic awareness,
5 systematic phonics, reading fluency, and comprehen-
6 sion strategies, and that the students be provided
7 with interesting reading material written at the stu-
8 dents’ instructional level.

9 (11) The National Reading Panel (NRP), re-
10 quested by Congress and created by the NICHD,
11 issued a report in the spring of 2000 that surveyed
12 100,000 reports on reading instruction and analyzed
13 10,000 reports that were based on methodologically
14 sound reading research.

15 (12) The NRP found that systematic phonics
16 instruction is one of the necessary components of a
17 total reading program. According to the NRP re-
18 port, the sequence of reading instruction that ob-
19 tains maximum benefits for students should include
20 instruction in phonemic awareness, systematic
21 phonics, reading fluency, spelling, writing, and read-
22 ing comprehension strategies.

23 (13) The ability to read is the cornerstone of
24 academic success. Without that skill we limit the fu-
25 ture success of the next generation.

1 **SEC. 102. PURPOSES.**

2 The purposes of this title are as follows:

3 (1) To reduce the number of individuals and
4 students who cannot read at all, or who have not
5 mastered the decoding skills necessary to read flu-
6 ently and with comprehension, by encouraging and
7 providing for the teaching of the decoding skills to
8 children beginning in kindergarten in all schools in
9 the United States.

10 (2) To apply the principles of reading instruc-
11 tion that have been identified from the findings of
12 more than 30 years of Federal research on reading
13 instruction for all students learning to read the
14 English language.

15 (3) To provide scientifically sound instruction
16 in reading to preschool and elementary school stu-
17 dents because the ability to read is fundamental to
18 success, not only in learning subject matter, but in
19 all other endeavors in life.

20 **SEC. 103. ALLOTMENTS TO STATES.**

21 (a) READING ENHANCEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT
22 DISBURSEMENT (READ) FUND.—

23 (1) REDUCTION.—Notwithstanding any other
24 provision of law, the total amount of Federal discre-
25 tionary spending appropriated for a fiscal year shall
26 be reduced by an amount that bears the same rela-

tion to 0.5 percent of the total amount of Federal discretionary spending for the preceding fiscal year as the total number of children enrolled in kindergarten through fourth grade in public elementary schools in States submitting requests under subsection (b) bears to the total number of such children in all States. The funds reduced under this paragraph and made available under paragraph (2) shall be known as “READ funds”.

(2) REALLOTMENT.—The amount of funds reduced under the preceding sentence shall be reallocated to States in accordance with the allotments determined under subsection (b) and used in accordance with the requirements under subsections (c) and (d) in order to reduce the national reading deficit through the use of programs of reading instruction based on scientifically based reading research.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall be effective for fiscal year 2001 and for each fiscal year thereafter until the fiscal year that begins after the date described in section 106.

(b) DETERMINATION OF ALLOTMENTS.—For each fiscal year in which subsection (a) applies, the Secretary of Education shall pay to each State, that submits a request for an allotment under this subsection, an allotment

1 for such fiscal year in an amount that bears the same rela-
2 tion to the total amount made available under subsection
3 (a) for the fiscal year as the total number of children en-
4 rolled in kindergarten through fourth grade in public ele-
5 mentary schools in the State bears to the total number
6 of such children in all States submitting requests for the
7 fiscal year.

8 (c) WITHIN STATE ALLOCATIONS.—Each State that
9 receives an allotment under this section shall allocate 95
10 percent of the allotted funds to local educational agencies
11 in the State. Each local educational agency in the State
12 shall receive an allocation under this subsection in an
13 amount that bears the same relation to 95 percent of the
14 funds the State receives under this section for a fiscal year
15 as the total number of children enrolled in kindergarten
16 through fourth grade in all public elementary schools
17 served by the local agency bears to the total number of
18 such children in all public elementary schools served by
19 all local educational agencies in the State.

20 (d) REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.—Funds paid to a
21 local educational agency under this title shall be used in
22 accordance with the following requirements:

23 (1) TEACHER TRAINING.—Ten percent of such
24 funds shall be used to train teachers on the teaching
25 of reading based on scientifically based reading re-

1 search and using scientific principles of reading in-
2 struction.

3 (2) INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS.—Twenty per-
4 cent of such funds shall be used for the purchase of
5 reading instructional materials or programs of read-
6 ing instruction that have been developed using sci-
7 entifically based reading research and are based on
8 scientific principles of reading instruction.

9 (3) STUDENT ASSESSMENT.—Ten percent of
10 such funds shall be used to assess the ability of each
11 student enrolled in a public elementary school to
12 proficiently decode words and to read with com-
13 prehension at the student's grade level. Standards
14 for such assessments shall be—

15 (A) developed and administered at the
16 State or local level;

17 (B) consistent with all other measurements
18 and criteria used by the State or local edu-
19 cational agency to evaluate student performance
20 in reading ability;

21 (C) based on standards developed from sci-
22 entifically based reading research; and

23 (D) made available through the Internet
24 and published in a journal of public record in
25 each school district.

1 (4) TEACHER BONUSES.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Ten percent of such
3 funds may be used toward the payment to
4 teachers in first through fourth grades of a
5 bonus of \$200 (not to exceed \$1,400 per teach-
6 er per fiscal year) for each child who enters
7 such a grade at the beginning of a school year
8 unable to read at a proficient level for that
9 grade and who leaves such grade at the conclu-
10 sion of the school year able to read at a pro-
11 ficient level, as determined by the State or local
12 assessment standards for that grade level.

13 (B) LIMITATIONS.—

14 (i) PAYMENT TO TEACHER WITH PRI-
15 MARY RESPONSIBILITY.—A bonus may
16 only be paid under subparagraph (A) to
17 the teacher who was the individual pri-
18 marily responsible for teaching the child to
19 read during a majority of the school year.

20 (ii) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—The
21 Secretary shall not make an allotment
22 under this section to a State unless the
23 State agrees that, with respect to the
24 amount of the bonus under subparagraph
25 (A), the State or local educational agency

1 will make available matching funds equal
2 to 30 percent of the Federal funds pro-
3 vided under the bonus. The matching
4 funds shall be made available from non-
5 Federal State or local sources.

6 (5) TUITION ASSISTANCE GRANTS.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—Fifty percent of such
8 funds shall be used to provide tuition assistance
9 grants to a parent or guardian of any child in
10 fourth grade who has no physiological disability
11 and who has not mastered the decoding skills
12 prerequisite to an ability to read at a proficient
13 level (as determined under the State or local as-
14 sessment standard) by the end of third grade.

15 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—A tuition assistance
16 grant to a parent or guardian under subpara-
17 graph (A) may not exceed an amount equal to
18 the average per-pupil expenditure for the local
19 educational agency. The tuition assistance
20 grant shall be used to purchase tutoring in
21 reading, during, after, or before regular school
22 hours, or on the weekends, from a private sec-
23 tor provider, who is approved by the State or
24 local educational agency and uses instructional
25 practices based on scientifically based reading

1 research, for a child. Assistance under such a
2 grant shall be made available on a month-by-
3 month basis until the child is reading at a pro-
4 ficient level for the child's grade level.

5 (e) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Each State receiv-
6 ing an allotment under this section may use 5 percent of
7 the allotted funds for the administrative costs of carrying
8 out this title.

9 (f) PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT.—Funds to re-
10 duce the national reading deficit may be matched by the
11 private sector and administered by the State under this
12 title.

13 (g) PRIVATE DONATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
14 EDUCATION.—The Secretary of Education shall allot any
15 funds received by the Department of Education from the
16 private sector for purposes of this section in the same
17 manner as funds are allotted to the States under sub-
18 section (b) for use in accordance with subsection (c).

19 (h) STATE OR LOCAL GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND DE-
20 VISES.—A State or local educational agency may accept,
21 use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or devises of services
22 or property, both real and personal, for the purpose of
23 aiding or facilitating the purposes and required uses of
24 this title.

1 **SEC. 104. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this title:

3 (1) AVERAGE PER-PUPIL EXPENDITURE.—The
4 term “average per-pupil expenditure” has the mean-
5 ing given the term in section 14101 of the Elemen-
6 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
7 U.S.C. 8801).

8 (2) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; LOCAL EDU-
9 CATIONAL AGENCY.—The terms “elementary school”
10 and “local educational agency” have the meanings
11 given the terms in section 14101 of the Elementary
12 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
13 8801).

14 (3) NATIONAL READING DEFICIT.—The term
15 “national reading deficit” means the percentage of
16 children enrolled in grades kindergarten through
17 fourth grade who are unable to read at a proficient
18 reading level for their grade level, as determined by
19 the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

20 (4) READING.—The term “reading” means a
21 complex system of deriving meaning from print that
22 requires all of the following:

23 (A) The skills and knowledge to under-
24 stand how phonemes (speech sounds) are con-
25 nected to print.

26 (B) The ability to decode unfamiliar words.

1 (C) The ability to read fluently.

2 (D) Sufficient background information and
3 vocabulary to foster reading comprehension.

4 (E) The development of appropriate active
5 strategies to construct meaning from print.

6 (F) The development and maintenance of a
7 motivation to read.

8 (G) Scientifically based reading research.

9 (5) SCIENTIFICALLY BASED READING RE-
10 SEARCH.—The term “scientifically based reading
11 research”—

12 (A) means research that involves the appli-
13 cation of rigorous, systematic, and objective
14 procedures to obtain valid knowledge relevant to
15 reading development, reading instruction, and
16 reading difficulties; and

17 (B) includes research that—

18 (i) employs systematic, empirical
19 methods that draw on observation or ex-
20 periment;

21 (ii) involves rigorous data analyses
22 that are adequate to test the stated
23 hypotheses and justify the general conclu-
24 sions drawn;

1 (iii) relies on measurements or obser-
2 vational methods that provide valid data
3 across evaluators and observers and across
4 multiple measurements and observations;
5 and

6 (iv) has been accepted by a peer-re-
7 viewed journal or approved by a panel of
8 independent experts through a comparably
9 rigorous, objective, and scientific review.

10 (6) SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES OF READING IN-
11 STRUCTION.—The term “scientific principles of
12 reading instruction” means a method of instruction
13 that teaches in sequence the following scientific prin-
14 ciples of reading:

15 (A) The teaching of phonemic awareness,
16 which is the understanding that spoken words
17 and syllables are made up of sequences of ele-
18 mentary speech sounds.

19 (B) The teaching, explicitly and in isola-
20 tion, of each single speech sound-spelling rep-
21 resented by each letter or letter combination.
22 The provision of practice in recognizing the
23 speech sound-spelling relationship in decodable
24 text.

1 (C) The teaching of frequent, highly reg-
2 ular speech sound-spelling relationships system-
3 atically progressing from easier to more dif-
4 ficult, and providing practice reading them
5 daily, first in isolation and then in the context
6 of words and sentences.

7 (D) The teaching of students, directly, how
8 to sound out words by blending the words'
9 speech sound-spellings together sequentially
10 from left to right, and then providing practice
11 using words composed of only those speech
12 sound-spelling relationships that have been pre-
13 viously taught.

14 (E) The use of connected, decodable text
15 for students to practice the speech sound-spell-
16 ing relationships the students have learned.

17 (F) The teaching of reading comprehension
18 using interesting teacher-read stories that in-
19 clude words most students have not yet learned
20 to read, but which are part of the students' spo-
21 ken vocabulary.

22 (G) The teaching of decoding and com-
23 prehension skills concurrently but separately,
24 until reading becomes fluent such that com-
25 prehension skills learned through teacher-read

1 literature can be applied to students' own read-
2 ing once the students become fluent decoders.

3 **SEC. 105. SUNSET.**

4 Effective on the date the National Assessment of
5 Educational Progress publishes a notice certifying that the
6 national reading deficit is less than 5 percent of the total
7 number of children enrolled in grades kindergarten
8 through fourth grade in the United States, the provisions
9 of this title are repealed.

10 **TITLE II—IMPROVING LITERACY**
11 **THROUGH FAMILY LITERACY**
12 **PROJECTS; REAUTHORIZA-**
13 **TION OF INEXPENSIVE BOOK**
14 **DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM**
15 **Subtitle A—Family Literacy**

16 **SEC. 201. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 Section 1002(b) of the Elementary and Secondary
18 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6302(b)) is amended—

19 (1) by striking “\$118,000,000 for fiscal year
20 1995” and inserting “\$175,000,000 for fiscal year
21 2001”; and

22 (2) by striking “four” and inserting “three”.

1 **SEC. 202. IMPROVING BASIC PROGRAMS OPERATED BY**
2 **LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.**

3 Section 1111(c) of the Elementary and Secondary
4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(c)) is amended—

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

7 (2) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at
8 the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

10 “(7) the State educational agency will encour-
11 age local educational agencies and individual schools
12 participating in a program assisted under this part
13 to offer family literacy services (using funds under
14 this part), if the agency or school determines that a
15 substantial number of students served under this
16 part by the agency or school have parents who do
17 not have a high school diploma or its recognized
18 equivalent or who have low levels of literacy.”.

19 **SEC. 203. EVEN START FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAMS.**

20 (a) STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.—Section 1201 of the
21 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
22 U.S.C. 6361) is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “high qual-
24 ity” after “build on”; and

25 (2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
26 lows:

1 “(2) promote the academic achievement of chil-
2 dren and adults;”;

3 (3) by striking the period at the end of para-
4 graph (3) and inserting “; and”; and

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

6 “(4) use instructional programs based on sci-
7 entifically based reading research (as defined in sec-
8 tion 2252) and the prevention of reading difficulties
9 for children and, to the extent such research is avail-
10 able, scientifically based reading research (as so de-
11 fined) for adults.”.

12 (b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

13 (1) RESERVATION FOR MIGRANT PROGRAMS,
14 OUTLYING AREAS, AND INDIAN TRIBES.—Section
15 1202(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
16 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6362(a)) is
17 amended—

18 (A) in paragraph (1), in the matter pre-
19 ceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “(or, if
20 such appropriated amount exceeds
21 \$200,000,000, 6 percent of such amount)”
22 after “1002(b)”;

23 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “If the
24 amount of funds made available under this sub-
25 section exceeds \$4,600,000,” and inserting

1 “After the date of the enactment of the Read-
2 ing Deficit Elimination Act,”; and

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

4 “(3) COORDINATION OF PROGRAMS FOR AMER-
5 ICAN INDIANS.—The Secretary shall ensure that
6 programs under paragraph (1)(C) are coordinated
7 with family literacy programs operated by the Bu-
8 reau of Indian Affairs in order to avoid duplication
9 and to encourage the dissemination of information
10 on high quality family literacy programs serving
11 American Indians.”.

12 (2) RESERVATION FOR FEDERAL ACTIVITIES.—
13 Section 1202(b) of the Elementary and Secondary
14 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6362(b)) is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 “(b) RESERVATION FOR FEDERAL ACTIVITIES.—

17 “(1) EVALUATION, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE,
18 PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT, AND REPLICATION ACTIVI-
19 TIES.—From amounts appropriated under section
20 1002(b), the Secretary may reserve not more than 3
21 percent of such amounts for purposes of—

22 “(A) carrying out the evaluation required
23 by section 1209; and

24 “(B) providing, through grants or con-
25 tracts with eligible organizations, technical as-

1 sistance, program improvement, and replication
2 activities.

3 “(2) RESEARCH.—In the case of fiscal years
4 2001 through 2004, if the amounts appropriated
5 under section 1002(b) for any of such years exceed
6 such amounts appropriated for the preceding fiscal
7 year, the Secretary shall reserve from such excess
8 amount \$2,000,000 or 50 percent, whichever is less,
9 to carry out section 1211(b).”.

10 (c) RESERVATION FOR GRANTS.—Section 1202(c)(1)
11 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
12 (20 U.S.C. 6362(c)(1)) is amended—

13 (1) by striking “From funds reserved under
14 section 2260(b)(3), the Secretary shall award
15 grants,” and inserting “For any fiscal year for
16 which at least one State applies and qualifies and
17 for which the amount appropriated under section
18 1002(b) exceeds the amount appropriated under
19 such section for the preceding fiscal year, the Sec-
20 retary shall reserve, from the amount of such excess
21 remaining after the application of subsection (b)(2),
22 the amount of such remainder or \$1,000,000, which-
23 ever is less, to award grants,”; and

24 (2) by adding at the end “No State may receive
25 more than one grant under this subsection.”.

1 (d) ALLOCATIONS.—Section 1202(d)(2) of the Ele-
2 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
3 6362(d)(2)) is amended by striking “that section” and in-
4 serting “that part”.

5 (e) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1202(e) of the Elemen-
6 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
7 6362(e)) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “or” after
9 “higher education,” and inserting “a religious orga-
10 nization, or”; and

11 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “nonprofit or-
12 ganization” and inserting “nonprofit organization,
13 including a religious organization,”.

14 (f) SUBGRANTS FOR LOCAL PROGRAMS.—Section
15 1203(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education
16 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6363(b)(2)) is amended to read
17 as follows:

18 “(2) MINIMUM SUBGRANT AMOUNTS.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
20 subparagraphs (B) and (C), no State shall
21 award a subgrant under paragraph (1) in an
22 amount less than \$75,000.

23 “(B) SUBGRANTEES IN NINTH AND SUC-
24 CEEDING YEARS.—No State shall award a
25 subgrant under paragraph (1) in an amount

1 less than \$52,500 to an eligible entity for a fis-
 2 cal year to carry out an Even Start program
 3 that is receiving assistance under this part or
 4 its predecessor authority for the ninth (or any
 5 subsequent) fiscal year.

6 “(C) EXCEPTION FOR SINGLE
 7 SUBGRANT.—A State may award one subgrant
 8 in each fiscal year of sufficient size, scope, and
 9 quality to be effective in an amount less than
 10 \$75,000 if, after awarding subgrants under
 11 paragraph (1) for such fiscal year in accordance
 12 with subparagraphs (A) and (B), less than
 13 \$75,000 is available to the State to award such
 14 subgrants.”.

15 (g) USES OF FUNDS.—Section 1204 of the Elemen-
 16 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 17 6364) is amended—

18 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “family-cen-
 19 tered education programs” and inserting “family lit-
 20 eracy services”; and

21 (2) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(c) USE OF FUNDS FOR FAMILY LITERACY SERV-
 23 ICES.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—States may use a portion of
 25 funds received under this part to assist eligible enti-

1 ties receiving a subgrant under section 1203(b) in
2 improving the quality of family literacy services pro-
3 vided under Even Start programs under this part,
4 except that in no case may a State's use of funds
5 for this purpose for a fiscal year result in a decrease
6 from the level of activities and services provided to
7 program participants in the preceding year.

8 “(2) PRIORITY.—In carrying out paragraph (1),
9 a State shall give priority to programs that were of
10 low quality, as evaluated based on the indicators of
11 program quality developed by the State under sec-
12 tion 1210.

13 “(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO HELP LOCAL
14 PROGRAMS RAISE ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—In carrying
15 out paragraph (1), a State may use the funds re-
16 ferred to in such paragraph to provide technical as-
17 sistance to help local programs of demonstrated ef-
18 fectiveness to access and leverage additional funds
19 for the purpose of expanding services and reducing
20 waiting lists.

21 “(4) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.—
22 Assistance under paragraph (1) shall be in the form
23 of technical assistance and training, provided by a
24 State through a grant, contract, or cooperative
25 agreement with an entity that has experience in of-

1 fering high quality training and technical assistance
2 to family literacy providers.”.

3 (h) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—Section 1205 of the Ele-
4 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
5 6365) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (9) and (10)
7 as paragraphs (13) and (14), respectively;

8 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through
9 (8) as paragraphs (6) through (9), respectively;

10 (3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(5) with respect to the qualifications of staff
13 the cost of whose salaries are paid, in whole or in
14 part, with Federal funds provided under this part,
15 ensure that—

16 “(A) not later than 4 years after the date
17 of the enactment of the Reading Deficit Elimini-
18 nation Act—

19 “(i) a majority of the individuals pro-
20 viding academic instruction—

21 “(I) shall have obtained an asso-
22 ciate’s, bachelor’s, or graduate degree
23 in a field related to early childhood
24 education, elementary school edu-
25 cation, or adult education; or

1 “(II) shall meet qualifications es-
2 tablished by the State for early child-
3 hood education, elementary school
4 education, or adult education provided
5 as part of an Even Start program or
6 another family literacy program;

7 “(ii) the individual responsible for ad-
8 ministration of family literacy services
9 under this part has received training in the
10 operation of a family literacy program; and

11 “(iii) paraprofessionals who provide
12 support for academic instruction have a
13 high school diploma or its recognized
14 equivalent; and

15 “(B) beginning on the date of the enact-
16 ment of the Reading Deficit Elimination Act,
17 all new personnel hired to provide academic
18 instruction—

19 “(i) have obtained an associate’s,
20 bachelor’s, or graduate degree in a field re-
21 lated to early childhood education, elemen-
22 tary school education, or adult education;
23 or

24 “(ii) meet qualifications established by
25 the State for early childhood education, el-

1 elementary school education, or adult edu-
2 cation provided as part of an Even Start
3 program or another family literacy pro-
4 gram;”;

5 (4) by inserting after paragraph (9) (as so re-
6 designated by paragraph (2)) the following:

7 “(10) use instructional practices in reading for
8 children based on scientific principles of reading in-
9 struction (as defined in section 104(6) of the Read-
10 ing Deficit Elimination Act) and, to the extent sup-
11 ported by research, apply these practices to adult
12 reading instruction;

13 “(11) encourage participating families to attend
14 regularly and to remain in the program a sufficient
15 time to meet their program goals;”;

16 “(12) include reading readiness activities for
17 preschool children based on scientific principles of
18 reading instruction (as defined in section 104(6) of
19 the Reading Deficit Elimination Act) to ensure chil-
20 dren enter school ready to learn to read;” and

21 (5) in paragraph (14) (as so redesignated), by
22 striking “program.” and inserting “program to be
23 used for program improvement.”.

1 (i) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS.—Section 1206 of the
2 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
3 U.S.C. 6366) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)(1)(B) by striking “part;”
5 and inserting “part, or who are attending secondary
6 school;”; and

7 (2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the
8 following:

9 “(3) CHILDREN 8 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER.—
10 If an Even Start program assisted under this part
11 collaborates with a program under part A, and funds
12 received under such part A program contribute to
13 paying the cost of providing programs under this
14 part to children 8 years of age or older, the Even
15 Start program, notwithstanding subsection (a)(2),
16 may permit the participation of children 8 years of
17 age or older.”.

18 (j) PLAN.—Section 1207(c) of the Elementary and
19 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6367(c)) is
20 amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (1)—

22 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
23 (A), by inserting “and continuous improve-
24 ment” after “plan of operation”;

1 (B) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 2 “goals;” and inserting “objectives, strategies to
 3 meet such objectives, and how they are con-
 4 sistent with the program indicators established
 5 by the State;”;

6 (C) in subparagraph (E), by striking
 7 “and” at the end;

8 (D) in subparagraph (F)—

9 (i) by striking “Act, the Goals 2000:
 10 Educate America Act,” and inserting
 11 “Act”; and

12 (ii) by striking the period at the end
 13 and inserting “; and”; and

14 (E) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(G) a description of how the plan pro-
 16 vides for rigorous and objective evaluation of
 17 progress toward the program objectives de-
 18 scribed in subparagraph (A) and for continuing
 19 use of evaluation data for program improve-
 20 ment.”; and

21 (2) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding
 22 subparagraph (A), by striking “(1)(A)” and insert-
 23 ing “(1)”.

1 (k) AWARD OF SUBGRANTS.—Section 1208 of the El-
2 ementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
3 U.S.C. 6368) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) in paragraph (1)(B)—

6 (i) by striking “including a high” and
7 inserting “such as a high”; and

8 (ii) by striking “part A;” and insert-
9 ing “part A, a high number or percentage
10 of parents who have been victims of domes-
11 tic violence, or a high number or percent-
12 age of parents who are receiving assistance
13 under a State program funded under part
14 A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42
15 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);”;

16 (B) in paragraph (1)(F), by striking “Fed-
17 eral” and inserting “non-Federal”;

18 (C) in paragraph (1)(H), by inserting
19 “family literacy projects and other” before
20 “local educational agencies”; and

21 (D) in paragraph (3), in the matter pre-
22 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “one or
23 more of the following individuals:” and insert-
24 ing “one individual with expertise in family lit-
25 eracy programs, and may include other individ-

1 uals, such as one or more of the following.”;
 2 and

3 (2) in subsection (b)—

4 (A) by striking paragraph (3) and insert-
 5 ing the following:

6 “(3) CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY.—In awarding
 7 subgrant funds to continue a program under this
 8 part after the first year, the State educational agen-
 9 cy shall review the progress of each eligible entity in
 10 meeting the objectives of the program referred to in
 11 section 1207(c)(1)(A) and shall evaluate the pro-
 12 gram based on the indicators of program quality de-
 13 veloped by the State under section 1210.”; and

14 (B) by amending paragraph (5)(B) to read
 15 as follows:

16 “(B) The Federal share of any subgrant re-
 17 newed under subparagraph (A) shall be limited in
 18 accordance with section 1204(b).”.

19 (l) RESEARCH.—Section 1211 of the Elementary and
 20 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6369b) is
 21 amended—

22 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “subsection
 23 (a)” and inserting “subsections (a) and (b)”;

24 (2) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
 25 section (c); and

1 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(b) SCIENTIFICALLY BASED RESEARCH ON FAMILY
4 LITERACY.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts reserved
6 under section 1202(b)(2), the National Institute for
7 Literacy shall carry out research that—

8 “(A) is scientifically based reading re-
9 search (as defined in section 2252); and

10 “(B) determines—

11 “(i) the most effective ways of improv-
12 ing the literacy skills of adults with read-
13 ing difficulties; and

14 “(ii) how family literacy services can
15 best provide parents with the knowledge
16 and skills they need to support their chil-
17 dren’s literacy development.

18 “(2) USE OF EXPERT ENTITY.—The National
19 Institute for Literacy shall carry out the research
20 under paragraph (1) through an entity, including a
21 Federal agency, that has expertise in carrying out
22 longitudinal studies of the development of literacy
23 skills in children and has developed effective inter-
24 ventions to help children with reading difficulties.”.

1 (m) TREATMENT OF RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.—
2 Part B of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
3 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6361 et seq.) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 1213. RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.**

6 “(a) RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDED AS
7 PARTNERSHIP PARTICIPANTS.—In carrying out this part,
8 the Secretary, and any grantee or subgrantee receiving as-
9 sistance under this part, shall treat religious organizations
10 the same as other nongovernmental organizations, so long
11 as this part is implemented in a manner consistent with
12 the Establishment Clause of the first amendment to the
13 Constitution. The Secretary, and any grantee or sub-
14 grantee receiving assistance under this part, shall not dis-
15 criminate against an organization that participates in a
16 partnership that is an eligible entity receiving assistance
17 under this part, or an organization that participates in
18 a partnership that is applying to receive such assistance,
19 on the basis that the organization has a religious char-
20 acter.

21 “(b) RELIGIOUS CHARACTER AND INDEPEND-
22 ENCE.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A religious organization
24 that participates in a partnership that is an eligible
25 entity receiving assistance under this part, or that

1 participates in a partnership that is applying to re-
2 ceive such assistance, shall retain its religious char-
3 acter and control over the definition, development,
4 practice, and expression of its religious beliefs.

5 “(2) ADDITIONAL SAFEGUARDS.—Neither the
6 Federal Government nor a State or local government
7 shall require a religious organization—

8 “(A) to alter its form of internal govern-
9 ance; or

10 “(B) to remove religious art, icons, scrip-
11 ture, or other symbols;

12 in order to be eligible to participate in a partnership
13 that is an eligible entity receiving assistance under
14 this part or to participate in a partnership that is
15 applying to receive such assistance.

16 “(3) EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES.—A religious or-
17 ganization’s exemption provided under section 702
18 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e–
19 1) regarding employment practices shall not be af-
20 fected by its participation in, or receipt of funds
21 from, a program under this part.

22 “(c) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS FOR CERTAIN
23 PURPOSES.—No funds provided to a religious organiza-
24 tion under this part or section 1002(b) shall be expended
25 for sectarian worship or instruction or proselytization.

1 “(d) PROHIBITION ON SERVING AS FISCAL AGENT.—

2 A religious organization may not serve as a fiscal agent
3 for a partnership that is an eligible entity receiving a
4 subgrant under this part.

5 “(e) NONDISCRIMINATION AGAINST BENE-

6 FICIARIES.—Except as otherwise provided in law, a reli-
7 gious organization shall not discriminate against an indi-
8 vidual in regard to rendering services under this part on
9 the basis of religion, a religious belief, or refusal actively
10 to participate in a religious practice.

11 “(f) FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—For pur-

12 poses of any Federal, State, or local law, receipt of finan-
13 cial assistance under this part or section 1002(b) shall
14 constitute receipt of Federal financial assistance or aid.

15 “(g) TREATMENT OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.—An

16 eligible entity may not subject a participant, during an
17 Even Start program assisted under this part, to sectarian
18 worship or instruction or proselytization.

19 **“SEC. 1214. PROHIBITION ON VOUCHERS OR CERTIFICATES.**

20 “Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no
21 services under this part may be provided through voucher
22 or certificate.”.

23 **SEC. 204. EDUCATION OF MIGRATORY CHILDREN.**

24 Section 1304(b) of the Elementary and Secondary
25 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6394(b)) is amended—

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

3 (2) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at
4 the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

6 “(7) a description of how the State will encour-
7 age programs and projects assisted under this part
8 to offer family literacy services if the program or
9 project serves a substantial number of migratory
10 children who have parents who do not have a high
11 school diploma or its recognized equivalent or who
12 have low levels of literacy.”.

13 **SEC. 205. DEFINITIONS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 14101 of the Elementary
15 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801)
16 is amended—

17 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through
18 (29) as paragraphs (16) through (30), respectively;
19 and

20 (2) by inserting after paragraph (14) the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(15) FAMILY LITERACY SERVICES.—The term
23 ‘family literacy services’ means services provided to
24 participants on a voluntary basis that are of suffi-
25 cient intensity in terms of hours, and of sufficient

duration, to make sustainable changes in a family,
and that integrate all of the following activities:

“(A) Interactive literacy activities between
parents and their children.

“(B) Training for parents regarding how
to be the primary teacher for their children and
full partners in the education of their children.

“(C) Parent literacy training that leads to
economic self-sufficiency.

“(D) An age-appropriate education to pre-
pare children for success in school and life ex-
periences.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) EVEN START FAMILY LITERACY PRO-
GRAMS.—Section 1202(e) of the Elementary and
Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
6362(e)) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (3); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and
(5) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively.

(2) READING AND LITERACY GRANTS.—Section
2252 of the Elementary and Secondary Education
Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6661a) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (2); and

1 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (3)
 2 through (5) as paragraphs (2) through (4), re-
 3 spectively.

4 **SEC. 206. INDIAN EDUCATION.**

5 (a) EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—

6 Section 1143 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25
 7 U.S.C. 2023) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (b)(1), in the matter pre-
 9 ceding subparagraph (A)—

10 (A) by striking “(f)” and inserting “(g)”;

11 and

12 (B) by striking “(e))” and inserting “(f))”;

13 (2) in subsection (d)(1)—

14 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (D)

15 and (E) as subparagraphs (E) and (F), respec-

16 tively; and

17 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (C)

18 the following:

19 “(D) family literacy services,”;

20 (3) in subsection (e), by striking “(f),” and in-

21 serting “(g),”;

22 (4) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as

23 subsections (f) and (g), respectively; and

24 (5) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-

25 lowing:

1 “(e) Family literacy programs operated under this
 2 section, and other family literacy programs operated by
 3 the Bureau of Indian Affairs, shall be coordinated with
 4 family literacy programs for American Indian children
 5 under part B of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
 6 Education Act of 1965 in order to avoid duplication and
 7 to encourage the dissemination of information on quality
 8 family literacy programs serving American Indians.”.

9 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1146 of the Education
 10 Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2026) is amended—

11 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through
 12 (14) as paragraphs (8) through (15), respectively;
 13 and

14 (2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the fol-
 15 lowing:

16 “(7) the term ‘family literacy services’ has the
 17 meaning given such term in section 14101 of the El-
 18 ementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
 19 U.S.C. 8801);”.

20 **Subtitle B—Inexpensive Book** 21 **Distribution Program**

22 **SEC. 211. INEXPENSIVE BOOK DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM** 23 **FOR READING MOTIVATION.**

24 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—Section 10501(a) of the Ele-
 25 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.

1 8131(a)) is amended by striking “books to students, that
2 motivate children to read.” and inserting “books to young
3 and school-aged children that motivate them to read.”.

4 (b) REQUIREMENTS OF CONTRACT.—Section
5 10501(b)(4) of the Elementary and Secondary Education
6 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8131(b)(4)) is amended by insert-
7 ing “training and” before “technical assistance”.

8 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
9 10501(e) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
10 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8131(e)) is amended by striking
11 “\$10,300,000 for fiscal year 1995” and inserting
12 “\$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2000”.

13 (d) STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.—Section 10501 of the
14 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
15 U.S.C. 8131) is amended—

16 (1) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as
17 subsections (g) and (h), respectively;

18 (2) by redesignating subsections (a) through (c)
19 as subsections (b) through (d), respectively; and

20 (3) by inserting after the section heading the
21 following:

22 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this program is to
23 establish and implement a model partnership between a
24 governmental entity and a private entity, to help prepare
25 young children for reading, and motivate older children

1 to read, through the distribution of inexpensive books.
 2 Local reading motivation programs assisted under this
 3 section shall use such assistance to provide books, training
 4 for volunteers, motivational activities, and other essential
 5 literacy resources, and shall assign the highest priority to
 6 serving the youngest and neediest children in the United
 7 States.”.

8 (e) NEW PROVISIONS.—Section 10501 of the Ele-
 9 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 10 8131) is amended by inserting before subsection (g) (as
 11 so redesignated by subsection (d)) the following:

12 “(e) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN SUBCONTRAC-
 13 TORS.—

14 “(1) FUNDS FROM OTHER FEDERAL
 15 SOURCES.—Subcontractors operating programs
 16 under this section in low-income communities with a
 17 substantial number or percentage of children with
 18 special needs, as described in subsection (c)(3), may
 19 use funds from other Federal sources to pay the
 20 non-Federal share of the cost of the program, if
 21 those funds do not comprise more than 50 percent
 22 of the non-Federal share of the funds used for the
 23 cost of acquiring and distributing books.

24 “(2) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding
 25 subsection (c), the contractor may waive, in whole or

1 in part, the requirement in subsection (c)(1) for a
2 subcontractor, if the subcontractor demonstrates
3 that it would otherwise not be able to participate in
4 the program, and enters into an agreement with the
5 contractor with respect to the amount of the non-
6 Federal share to which the waiver will apply. In a
7 case in which such a waiver is granted, the require-
8 ment in subsection (c)(2) shall not apply.

9 “(f) MULTI-YEAR CONTRACTS.—The contractor may
10 enter into a multi-year subcontract under this section, if—

11 “(1) the contractor believes that such sub-
12 contract will provide the subcontractor with addi-
13 tional leverage in seeking local commitments; and

14 “(2) the subcontract does not undermine the fi-
15 nances of the national program.”.

16 **SEC. 212. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

17 The amendments made by section 211 shall take ef-
18 fect on October 1, 2000.

○