

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1270

To establish a partnership for education progress.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 23, 1999

Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. DOMENICI) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Edu-  
cation, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To establish a partnership for education progress.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Education Express Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
7 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. Purpose.
- Sec. 4. Definitions.

### TITLE I—DIRECT CHECK

- Sec. 101. State options.
- Sec. 102. Direct check fund.

Sec. 103. Federal statute option.

#### TITLE II—CHALLENGE FUND

Sec. 201. Challenge fund.

#### TITLE III—TEACHER QUALITY

Sec. 301. Teacher quality.

#### TITLE IV—ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITY FUND

Sec. 401. Academic opportunity fund.

#### TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 501. Plan and report.

Sec. 502. Authorized activities.

Sec. 503. Federal role.

### 1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) The benefits of a quality education are  
 4 clear. The benefits are economic independence and  
 5 prosperity, preservation of our Nation's democratic  
 6 society, and endless opportunity for personal growth  
 7 and enrichment. An emphasis should be placed on  
 8 student achievement in education and new funding  
 9 should be provided to focus on improving student  
 10 learning and achievement. Innovative reforms taking  
 11 place in our Nation's States and local communities  
 12 must not be stifled.

13 (2) Every child must have the opportunity to  
 14 attend school in an environment where teachers and  
 15 administrators expect achievement, where every child  
 16 is respected and nurtured, and where parents are an  
 17 integral part of the education process. All of our Na-

1       tion’s students deserve a quality education whether  
2       the students are poor, academically struggling, gift-  
3       ed and talented, or living in our Nation’s cities, sub-  
4       urbs or rural communities.

5           (3) Schools must be places where most of the  
6       school day is reserved for learning instead of dis-  
7       cipline, paperwork, or dealing with the limiting con-  
8       straints of categorical funding.

9           (4) Parents, community leaders, and local and  
10      State governments, not the Federal Government,  
11      know best the education needs of their children. All  
12      across the United States, States and local commu-  
13      nities are implementing innovative solutions to our  
14      Nation’s education challenges.

15          (5) With increased funding and flexibility, more  
16      will be expected from States and local communities,  
17      and the States and local communities will be in-  
18      creasingly accountable to parents, students, and tax-  
19      payers. Federal education policy has focused a great  
20      deal of attention on educational inputs. Instead, our  
21      Federal dollars should provide incentives to States  
22      and local communities to place a much greater em-  
23      phasis on educational achievement, with a minimum  
24      amount of interference from the Federal Govern-  
25      ment.

1           (6) Where the Federal Government can help is  
2           in facilitating the education reform efforts of States  
3           by enhancing their efforts through unbiased research  
4           and statistics gathering, by facilitating the exchange  
5           of ideas and strategies through dissemination of best  
6           practices, and by encouraging collaboration among  
7           education leaders from across our Nation.

8 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

9           The purpose of this Act is—

10           (1) to infuse significant new dollars into the  
11           hands of parents, communities, and State and local  
12           governments to improve the educational achievement  
13           of students; and

14           (2) to provide an additional \$36,500,000,000  
15           during the period 2000 through 2004 from the Fed-  
16           eral Government as part of a larger consolidation of  
17           duplicative and limiting categorical programs into a  
18           much more streamlined and direct funding stream to  
19           States and localities to use for a variety of edu-  
20           cational purposes.

21 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

22           In this Act—

23           (1) the terms “elementary school”, “local edu-  
24           cational agency”, “secondary school”, “Secretary”,  
25           and “State educational agency” have the meanings

given the terms in section 14101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801);

(2) the term “Governor” means—

“(A) the chief executive of a State; or

“(B) in the case of a State for which the constitution of the State or a State statute designates an individual, entity or agency in the State to be responsible exclusively for public elementary or secondary education, the individual, entity or agency;

(3) the term “outlying area” means the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau; and

(4) the term “State” means each of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

## **TITLE I—DIRECT CHECK**

### **SEC. 101. STATE OPTIONS.**

(a) STATE OPTIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Governor of each State shall notify the Secretary regarding the State’s election to receive the

1 State’s portion of the applicable funding described in sub-  
2 section (b) according to one of the following options:

3 (1) DIRECT CHECK OPTION.—The State may  
4 receive the funding pursuant to a State allotment  
5 described in section 102(a).

6 (2) FEDERAL STATUTE OPTION.—The State  
7 may receive the funding according to the provisions  
8 of law described in subsection (b).

9 (b) DEFINITION OF APPLICABLE FUNDING.—In this  
10 title, the term “applicable funding” means all funds that  
11 are appropriated for the Department of Education for  
12 each of the fiscal years 2000 through 2004 to carry out  
13 programs or activities under the following provisions of  
14 law:

15 (1) Part A of title II of the Elementary and  
16 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6621  
17 et seq.).

18 (2) Part B of title II of the Elementary and  
19 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6641  
20 et seq.).

21 (3) Part C of title II of the Elementary and  
22 Secondary Education Act of 1965.

23 (4) Title III of the Elementary and Secondary  
24 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq.).

1           (5) Title IV of the Elementary and Secondary  
2       Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.).

3           (6) Part A of title V of the Elementary and  
4       Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7201  
5       et seq.).

6           (7) Part B of title V of the Elementary and  
7       Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7231  
8       et seq.).

9           (8) Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary  
10      Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7301 et seq.).

11          (9) Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary  
12      Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.).

13          (10) Part A of title X of the Elementary and  
14      Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8001  
15      et seq.).

16          (11) Part B of title X of the Elementary and  
17      Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8031  
18      et seq.).

19          (12) Part C of title X of the Elementary and  
20      Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8061  
21      et seq.).

22          (13) Subpart 1 of part D of title X of the Ele-  
23      mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
24      U.S.C. 8091).

1           (14) Part F of title X of the Elementary and  
2       Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8141  
3       et seq.).

4           (15) Part G of title X of the Elementary and  
5       Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8161  
6       et seq.).

7           (16) Part I of title X of the Elementary and  
8       Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8241  
9       et seq.).

10          (17) Part K of title X of the Elementary and  
11       Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8331  
12       et seq.).

13          (18) Part A of title XIII of the Elementary and  
14       Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8621  
15       et seq.).

16          (19) Part C of title XIII of the Elementary and  
17       Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8671  
18       et seq.).

19       (c) REFERENCES.—References to funds for the provi-  
20       sions of law described in subsection (b) shall be considered  
21       to be references to funds for this title.

22       **SEC. 102. DIRECT CHECK FUND.**

23       (a) ALLOTMENTS.—

24           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
25       from the total applicable funding available for a fis-



1 cal year, the Secretary shall make allotments under  
 2 this section to each Governor selecting the direct  
 3 check option described in section 101(a)(1) in an  
 4 amount that bears the same relation to such total  
 5 applicable funding as the amount the State received  
 6 under part B of title II of the Elementary and Sec-  
 7 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6641 et  
 8 seq.) for fiscal year 1998 bears to the total amount  
 9 received under such part by all States for fiscal year  
 10 1998.

11 (2) HOLD HARMLESS.—A State shall not re-  
 12 ceive an allotment under this section for a fiscal year  
 13 in an amount that is less than the total amount the  
 14 State received for the preceding fiscal year under  
 15 those provisions of law described in section 101(b)  
 16 that distribute funds according to a formula.

17 (b) STATE USES.—Each Governor receiving an allot-  
 18 ment under this section shall use—

19 (1) not less than 98 percent of the allotted  
 20 funds to award assistance to local educational agen-  
 21 cies in the State—

22 (A) according to a formula developed by  
 23 the Governor that targets the funds to the low-  
 24 est achieving school districts according to most  
 25 recent State assessments; and

1 (B) to enable the local educational agencies  
 2 to carry out the authorized activities described  
 3 in section 502; and  
 4 (2) not more than 2 percent of the allotted  
 5 funds for administrative expenses.

6 **SEC. 103. FEDERAL STATUTE OPTION.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—From the applicable funding that  
 8 remains after making the allotments under section 102(a)  
 9 for a fiscal year, the Secretary may make awards accord-  
 10 ing to the provisions of law described in section 101(b),  
 11 to State and local recipients, in States selecting the Fed-  
 12 eral statute option described in section 101(a)(2).

13 (b) PERCENTAGE REDUCTIONS.—The Secretary,  
 14 after making the allotments under section 102(a) for a  
 15 fiscal year, shall reduce the total amount of applicable  
 16 funding available to carry out the provisions of law de-  
 17 scribed in section 101(b) for the fiscal year, for any State  
 18 selecting the Federal statute option described in section  
 19 101(a)(2), by an equal percentage for each such provision.

20 **TITLE II—CHALLENGE FUND**

21 **SEC. 201. CHALLENGE FUND.**

22 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized  
 24 to award funds, from allotments under subsection  
 25 (b), to Governors to enable local educational agen-

1       cies to carry out the authorized activities described  
2       in section 502.

3           (2) RESERVATION.—The Secretary shall reserve  
4        $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent of the funds appropriated under sub-  
5       section (d) for a fiscal year to provide assistance to  
6       the outlying areas and the Bureau of Indian Affairs  
7       according to their respective need for assistance  
8       under this title as determined by the Secretary in  
9       accordance with the purpose of this Act.

10       (b) ALLOTMENT.—

11           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
12       from funds appropriated under subsection (d) and  
13       not reserved under subsection (a)(2) for a fiscal  
14       year, the Secretary shall make allotments under this  
15       section to the Governor of each State in an amount  
16       that bears the same relation to such funds as the  
17       amount the State received under part B of title II  
18       of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
19       1965 (20 U.S.C. 6641 et seq.) for fiscal year 1998  
20       bears to the total amount received under such part  
21       by all States for fiscal year 1998.

22           (2) INCREASED ALLOTMENT.—Each State se-  
23       lecting the direct check option described in section  
24       101(a)(1) for a fiscal year shall receive a 10 percent  
25       increase in the amount of the State's allotment

1 under paragraph (1) for the fiscal year. The Sec-  
 2 retary shall proportionately reduce the amount of  
 3 the allotment for States not making such selection  
 4 in order to carry out the preceding sentence.

5 (c) STATE USES.—Each Governor receiving an allot-  
 6 ment under this section shall use—

7 (1) not less than 98 percent of the allotted  
 8 funds to award assistance to local educational agen-  
 9 cies to enable the local educational agencies to carry  
 10 out the authorized activities described in section  
 11 502; and

12 (2) not less than 2 percent of the allotted funds  
 13 for administrative expenses.

14 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
 15 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
 16 \$1,750,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, \$2,000,000,000 for  
 17 fiscal year 2001, \$2,500,000,000 for fiscal year 2002,  
 18 \$5,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2003, and \$5,500,000,000  
 19 for fiscal year 2004.

## 20 **TITLE III—TEACHER QUALITY**

### 21 **SEC. 301. TEACHER QUALITY.**

22 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized  
 24 to award funds to Governors, from allotments under  
 25 subsection (b), to enable the Governors to supple-

1       ment State efforts to improve the quality of elemen-  
2       tary school and secondary school teachers in the  
3       State.

4           (2) RESERVATION.—The Secretary shall reserve  
5        $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent of the funds appropriated under sub-  
6       section (e) for a fiscal year to provide assistance to  
7       the outlying areas and the Bureau of Indian Affairs  
8       according to their respective need for assistance  
9       under this title as determined by the Secretary in  
10      accordance with the purpose of this Act.

11      (b) ALLOTMENT.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
13      from funds appropriated under subsection (e) and  
14      not reserved under subsection (a)(2) for a fiscal  
15      year, the Secretary shall make allotments under this  
16      section to the Governor of each State in an amount  
17      that bears the same relation to such funds as the  
18      amount the State received under part B of title II  
19      of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
20      1965 (20 U.S.C. 6641 et seq.) for fiscal year 1998  
21      bears to the total amount received under such part  
22      by all States for fiscal year 1998.

23           (2) INCREASED ALLOTMENT.—Each State se-  
24      lecting the direct check option described in section  
25      101(a)(1) for a fiscal year shall receive a 10 percent

1       increase in the amount of the State's allotment  
2       under paragraph (1) for the fiscal year. The Sec-  
3       retary shall proportionately reduce the amount of  
4       the allotment for States not making such selection  
5       in order to carry out the preceding sentence.

6       (c) STATE USES.—Each Governor receiving an allot-  
7       ment under this section shall use—

8               (1) not less than 85 percent of the allotted  
9       funds to award assistance to local educational agen-  
10      cies in the State to enable the local educational  
11      agencies to carry out the authorized activities de-  
12      scribed in subsection (d);

13              (2) not more than 13 percent of the allotted  
14      funds for statewide efforts to improve elementary  
15      school and secondary school teacher quality; and

16              (3) not more than 2 percent of the allotted  
17      funds for administrative expenses.

18      (d) LOCAL AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—A local edu-  
19      cational agency may use funds received under this section  
20      for—

21              (1) hiring highly qualified teachers for every  
22      classroom;

23              (2) professional development for educators;

24              (3) rewarding successful teaching through ini-  
25      tiatives such as merit pay;

- 1 (4) higher teacher salaries;
- 2 (5) improving the quality of teacher training at
- 3 the postsecondary level;
- 4 (6) alternative certification of teachers;
- 5 (7) continuing teach education (CTE) credits;
- 6 (8) State teacher examinations;
- 7 (9) scholarships or teacher internship programs;
- 8 or
- 9 (10) any other activities the Governor or local
- 10 educational agency determine will improve the re-
- 11 cruitment and retention of highly qualified teachers.

12 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
 13 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
 14 \$1,750,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, \$26,400,000,000 for  
 15 fiscal year 2001, \$2,400,000,000 for fiscal year 2002,  
 16 \$3,400,000,000 for fiscal year 2003, and \$4,400,000,000  
 17 for fiscal year 2004.

## 18 **TITLE IV—ACADEMIC**

## 19 **OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### 20 **SEC. 401. ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITY FUND.**

21 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized  
 23 to award funds, from allotments under subsection  
 24 (b), to Governors who select the direct check option  
 25 described in section 101(a)(1) to enable the Gov-

ernors to reward elementary schools, secondary schools, or local educational agencies that meet or exceed State-determined goals and performance objectives for student achievement and teacher quality.

(2) RESERVATION.—The Secretary shall reserve  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent of the funds appropriated under subsection (d) for a fiscal year to provide assistance to the outlying areas and the Bureau of Indian Affairs according to their respective need for assistance under this title as determined by the Secretary in accordance with the purpose of this Act.

(b) ALLOTMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), from funds appropriated under subsection (d) and not reserved under subsection (a)(2) for a fiscal year the Secretary shall make allotments under this section to the Governor of a State who selects the direct check option described in section 101(a)(1) in an amount that bears the same relation to such funds as the amount the State received under part B of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6641 et seq.) for fiscal year 1998 bears to the total amount received under such part by all States for fiscal year 1998.



1           (2) INCREASED ALLOTMENT.—The Secretary  
2       shall increase the total amount of a State’s allot-  
3       ment under paragraph (1) by 10 percent if the  
4       State—

5           (A) agrees to devote 25 percent or more of  
6       the allotted funds under this section to meet the  
7       educational needs of children with disabilities in  
8       a manner that supplements and does not sup-  
9       plant existing Federal, State, and local funding  
10      for such children;

11          (B) demonstrates that the State has im-  
12      proved the educational performance of—

13           (i) limited English proficient students;

14           (ii) students who, at one time or an-  
15      other, have dropped out of school; and

16           (iii) students who are eligible for a  
17      free school lunch; or

18          (C) adopts or shows improved performance  
19      on the State-level National Assessment of Edu-  
20      cational Progress.

21          (3) RATABLE REDUCTION.—The Secretary shall  
22      ratably reduce the amount of the allotment under  
23      this section for each State that does not receive an  
24      increase under paragraph (2) in order to carry out  
25      paragraph (2).

1       (c) STATE USES.—Each Governor receiving an allot-  
2 ment under this section shall use—

3           (1) not less than 98 percent of the allotted  
4 funds—

5           (A) to implement statewide education re-  
6 forms such as implementing standards and as-  
7 sessments; or

8           (B) to provide bonus payments to elemen-  
9 tary schools, secondary schools, or local edu-  
10 cational agencies that adopt reforms or achieve  
11 goals determined important by the Governor,  
12 including rewarding schools that encourage  
13 more students to take honors courses or the  
14 Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), or rewarding  
15 local educational agencies that improve dis-  
16 cipline policies or teacher training; and

17           (2) not more than 2 percent of the allotted  
18 funds for administrative expenses.

19       (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
20 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
21 \$500,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, \$600,000,000 for fis-  
22 cal year 2002, \$1,600,000,000 for fiscal year 2003, and  
23 \$3,100,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.

# 1 **TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

## 2 **SEC. 501. PLAN AND REPORT.**

3 (a) PLAN.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—In order to receive funds  
5 under this Act a Governor or a designee of the Gov-  
6 ernor shall develop a 5-year educational reform plan  
7 for improving the academic achievement of all ele-  
8 mentary school and secondary school students in the  
9 State. Any State-level comprehensive education re-  
10 form plan developed prior to the date of enactment  
11 of this Act that meets the requirements of this sec-  
12 tion shall satisfy the requirements of the preceding  
13 sentence.

14 (2) PLAN DEVELOPMENT.—In developing the  
15 plan the Governor or the designee shall hold regional  
16 hearings in the State so that State and local legisla-  
17 tive officials, parents, teachers, and other edu-  
18 cational leaders are given ample opportunity to pro-  
19 vide input into the State’s educational reform plan.

20 (3) CONTENTS.—The plan shall—

21 (A) demonstrate how the State will use the  
22 funds under this Act to supplement and not  
23 supplant existing State education funding;

24 (B) outline the objective criteria by which  
25 the Governor will determine student achieve-

1           ment, and the testing and other measures the  
 2           Governor will utilize to measure student  
 3           achievement based on such objective criteria,  
 4           which testing and other measures shall be used  
 5           throughout the 5-year period of the plan;

6           (C) describe how decisionmaking will be  
 7           devolved to the local, school, community, and  
 8           parental levels;

9           (D) describe how the funds will be used  
 10          and how schools will meet the State's reform  
 11          goals; and

12          (E) describe how the Governor will provide  
 13          for the equitable participation of nonpublic  
 14          school students in the activities assisted under  
 15          this Act.

16          (b) REPORT.—Each Governor shall report on a yearly  
 17          basis to the public regarding the progress of the State in  
 18          meeting the education goals of the State. Such report shall  
 19          include student achievement data as measured by any  
 20          State-level or other assessments utilized at the State or  
 21          local level, including the National Assessment of Edu-  
 22          cational Progress if applicable.

23   **SEC. 502. AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.**

24          (a) ACTIVITIES.—Each local educational agency re-  
 25          ceiving assistance under title I or II—

1           (1) shall use the assistance to design and imple-  
2           ment programs to improve student learning, such  
3           as—

4                   (A) any activity focused on improved stu-  
5           dent learning;

6                   (B) new books;

7                   (C) additional technology;

8                   (D) high standards and assessments;

9                   (E) teacher hiring and quality improve-  
10          ments;

11                   (F) class size reduction;

12                   (G) alternative schools;

13                   (H) school-to-work programs or partner-  
14          ships with institutions of higher education;

15                   (I) school construction;

16                   (J) special education;

17                   (K) vouchers;

18                   (L) charter schools or other school choice  
19          initiatives;

20                   (M) character education;

21                   (N) dropout prevention;

22                   (O) tutoring and remedial help for strug-  
23          gling students; or

1 (P) any activity determined by the Gov-  
 2 ernor or local educational agency to improve the  
 3 educational achievement of all children; and

4 (2) shall set yearly targets for how to achieve  
 5 the goals in the State plan described in section  
 6 501(a)(3)(D) and describe plans for corrective action  
 7 if the targets are not met.

8 (b) LIMITATION.—A local educational agency may  
 9 not use more than 25 percent of the total amount of funds  
 10 the agency receives under titles I and II for a fiscal year  
 11 to carry out any 1 activity described in subsection (a).

12 **SEC. 503. FEDERAL ROLE.**

13 (a) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made  
 14 available under this Act shall be used to supplement and  
 15 not supplant other Federal, State and local expenditures  
 16 for education.

17 (b) CIVIL RIGHTS.—Nothing in this Act shall be con-  
 18 strued to modify any Federal law governing discrimination  
 19 in the provision of Federal benefits on the basis of race,  
 20 color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability.

21 (c) KEY DEFINITIONS.—Not later than 12 months  
 22 after the date of enactment of this Act the Commissioner  
 23 of Education Statistics, in consultation with leading State  
 24 and local educators, policymakers, and representatives of  
 25 the general public, shall develop key definitions for terms

1 and uniform and comparable reporting methods related to  
2 core indicators of State education performance. Such indi-  
3 cators shall focus on a limited set of critical student-level  
4 educational results and related measures that are closely  
5 associated with such results, including indicators of stu-  
6 dent achievement, graduation or dropout rates, measures  
7 of teacher qualifications and preparation, and student  
8 course-taking patterns. Data may come from State admin-  
9 istrative record systems or from State representative sur-  
10 veys administered by the National Center for Education  
11 Statistics, such as the National Assessment of Edu-  
12 cational Progress.

13 (d) AWARDS.—The Commissioner of Education Sta-  
14 tistics is authorized to make awards through the National  
15 Cooperative Educational Statistics System to assist States  
16 in developing uniform and comparable measures for iden-  
17 tified core indicators of State education performance.

18 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 24 months after the  
19 date of enactment of this Act and every 2 years thereafter,  
20 the Commissioner of Education Statistics shall produce a  
21 report for Congress and the American people regarding  
22 the core indicators of State education performance. The  
23 report shall include data from each State providing uni-  
24 form and comparable data to the National Center for Edu-  
25 cation Statistics on the identified measures and results.

1       (f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Commissioner of  
2 Education Statistics shall provide technical assistance to  
3 States in developing accountability systems relating to the  
4 academic performance goals that States establish under  
5 this Act. The technical assistance shall include electronic  
6 information dissemination through the World Wide Web,  
7 publications, and consultations with State and local edu-  
8 cation officials who are charged with designing and main-  
9 taining such systems. The technical assistance shall be  
10 provided in such areas as the selection of appropriate test-  
11 ing and other measures consistent with specified State  
12 goals, the development of data collection instruments, en-  
13 suring the validity, reliability, and comparability of data,  
14 and assisting States in ensuring that their system for  
15 making bonus payments under title IV is technically  
16 sound.

17       (g) PERSONNEL SUPPORT.—The Secretary shall  
18 work with the Commissioner of Education Statistics to  
19 provide any necessary personnel support to the National  
20 Center for Education Statistics for the purpose of carrying  
21 out this section.

22       (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
23 are authorized to be appropriated to the National Center  
24 for Education Statistics \$18,000,000 for fiscal year 2000,



- 1 and such sums as may be necessary for each succeeding
- 2 fiscal year, to carry out this section.

