

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1556

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to strengthen the involvement of parents in the education of their children, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 1999

Mr. REED (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. BINGAMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to strengthen the involvement of parents in the education of their children, and for other purposes.

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 “Parental Account-
5 ability, Recruitment, and Education National Training
6 Act of 1999”.

7 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES.**

8 Except as otherwise specifically provided, whenever in
9 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms

1 of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other
2 provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to
3 a section or other provision of the Elementary and Sec-
4 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

5 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress makes the following findings:

7 (1) Parents are the first and most influential
8 educators of their children.

9 (2) The Federal Government must provide lead-
10 ership, technical assistance, and financial support to
11 States and local educational agencies, as partners, in
12 helping the agencies implement successful and effec-
13 tive parental involvement policies and programs that
14 lead to improved student achievement.

15 (3) State and local education officials, as well
16 as teachers, principals, and other staff at the school
17 level, must work as partners with the parents of the
18 children they serve.

19 (4) Research has documented that, regardless
20 of the economic, ethnic, or cultural background of
21 the family, parental involvement in a child's edu-
22 cation is a major factor in determining success in
23 school.

24 (5) Parental involvement in a child's education
25 contributes to positive outcomes such as improved

1 grades and test scores, higher expectations for stu-
2 dent achievement, better school attendance, im-
3 proved homework completion rates, decreased vio-
4 lence and substance abuse, and higher rates of grad-
5 uation and enrollment in postsecondary education.

6 (6) Numerous education laws now require
7 meaningful parental involvement, including title I of
8 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
9 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), the Goals 2000:
10 Educate America Act (20 U.S.C. 5801 et seq.), the
11 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.), and the
12 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20
13 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.), and elements of these laws
14 should be extended to other Federal education pro-
15 grams.

16 **SEC. 4. BASIC PROGRAMS.**

17 (a) STATE PLAN.—Section 1111 (20 U.S.C. 6311)
18 is amended—

19 (1) in subsection (b)(2)(B)(ii), by striking
20 “other measures” and inserting “academic achieve-
21 ment and other measures, such as a school or local
22 educational agency’s responsibilities under sections
23 1118 and 1119”;

1 (2) in subsection (c)(1)(B), by inserting before
 2 the semicolon the following: “, and parental involve-
 3 ment under section 1118”;

4 (3) by redesignating subsections (d) through (g)
 5 as subsections (e) through (h), respectively; and

6 (4) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
 7 lowing:

8 “(d) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.—Each State plan
 9 shall demonstrate that the State has identified or devel-
 10 oped effective research-based best practices designed to
 11 foster meaningful parental involvement. Such best prac-
 12 tices shall—

13 “(1) be disseminated to all schools and local
 14 educational agencies in the State;

15 “(2) be implemented in all schools in the State;
 16 and

17 “(3) address the full range of parental involve-
 18 ment activities required under section 1118.”.

19 (b) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY PLANS.—Section
 20 1112 (20 U.S.C. 6312) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (c)(1)—

22 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (D)
 23 through (H) as subparagraphs (E) through (I);
 24 and

1 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (C)
2 the following:

3 “(D) work in consultation with schools as
4 the schools develop and implement their plans
5 or activities under sections 1118 and 1119;”;
6 and

7 (2) in subsection (e)(3), by inserting before the
8 period the following: “and if such agency’s parental
9 involvement activities are in accordance with section
10 1118”.

11 (c) SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAMS.—Section 1114 (20
12 U.S.C. 6314) is amended—

13 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(E), by inserting after
14 “involvement” the following: “in accordance with
15 section 1118”; and

16 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(A)(iv), by inserting
17 after “results” the following: “in a language the
18 family can understand”.

19 (d) TARGETED ASSISTANCE.—Section 1115(c)(1)(H)
20 (20 U.S.C. 6315(c)(1)(H)) is amended by inserting after
21 “involvement” the following: “in accordance with section
22 1118”.

23 (e) ASSESSMENTS.—Section 1116 (20 U.S.C. 6317)
24 is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and
 2 (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

3 (B) by inserting after paragraph (2) the
 4 following:

5 “(3) review the effectiveness of the actions and
 6 activities the schools are carrying out under this
 7 part with respect to parental involvement, profes-
 8 sional development, and other activities assisted
 9 under this Act;” and

10 (C) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated by
 11 subparagraph (3))—

12 (i) by inserting “of yearly progress”
 13 after “annual review”; and

14 (ii) by striking “of all” and inserting
 15 “and the review conducted under para-
 16 graph (3), with respect to all”;

17 (2) in subsection (c)(4), by inserting after “ele-
 18 ments of student performance problems” the fol-
 19 lowing: “, that addresses school problems, if any, in
 20 implementing the parental involvement requirements
 21 in section 1118 and the professional development re-
 22 quirements in section 1119,”; and

23 (3) in subsection (d)(1)—

24 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 25 “and” after the semicolon;

1 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as
 2 subparagraph (C);

3 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (A)
 4 the following:

5 “(B) annually review the effectiveness of
 6 the action or activities carried out under this
 7 part by each local educational agency receiving
 8 funds under this part with respect to parental
 9 involvement, professional development, and
 10 other activities assisted under this Act; and”;
 11 and

12 (D) in subparagraph (C) (as redesignated
 13 by subparagraph (B))—

14 (i) by inserting “of yearly progress”
 15 after “State review”; and

16 (ii) by inserting “, and of the review
 17 conducted under subparagraph (B)” after
 18 “1111(b)(3)(I)”.

19 (f) STATE ASSISTANCE.—Section 1117 (20 U.S.C.
 20 6318) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting “parental
 22 involvement,” after “including”; and

23 (2) in subsection (c)—

24 (A) in paragraph (1)(C)—

1 (i) by inserting “parents,” after “in-
2 cluding”; and

3 (ii) by inserting “parental involvement
4 programs,” after “successful”; and

5 (B) by inserting at the end the following:

6 “(4) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.—Each State
7 shall collect and disseminate effective parental in-
8 volvement practices to local educational agencies and
9 schools. Such practices shall—

10 “(A) be based on the most current re-
11 search on effective parental involvement that
12 fosters achievement to high standards for all
13 children;

14 “(B) be geared toward lowering barriers to
15 greater participation in school planning, review,
16 and improvement experienced by parents; and

17 “(C) be implemented by the State in local
18 educational agencies and schools requesting
19 such assistance from the State.”.

20 (g) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.—Section 1118 (20
21 U.S.C. 6319) is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (a)(2)(B), by inserting before
23 the semicolon the following: “activities that will lead
24 to improved student achievement for all students”;

1 (2) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting before the
 2 last sentence the following: “Parents shall be noti-
 3 fied of the policy in their own language.”;

4 (3) in subsection (e)(1), by striking “partici-
 5 pating parents” and inserting “all parents of chil-
 6 dren served by the school or agency, as appro-
 7 priate,”;

8 (4) in subsection (g), by adding at the end the
 9 following: “Such local educational agencies and
 10 schools may use information, technical assistance,
 11 and other support from the parental information
 12 and resource centers to create parent resource cen-
 13 ters in schools.”; and

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

15 “(h) STATE REVIEW.—The State educational agency
 16 shall review the local educational agency’s parental in-
 17 volvement policies and practices to determine if such poli-
 18 cies and practices are meaningful and targeted to improve
 19 home and school communication, student achievement,
 20 and parental involvement in school planning, review, and
 21 improvement.”.

22 **SEC. 5. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.**

23 (a) PURPOSES.—Section 2002(2) (20 U.S.C.
 24 6602(2)) is amended—

1 (1) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and”
2 after the semicolon;

3 (2) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period
4 and inserting a semicolon; and

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

6 “(G) incorporates training in effective
7 practices in order to encourage and offer oppor-
8 tunities to get parents involved in their child’s
9 education in ways that will foster student
10 achievement and well-being; and

11 “(H) includes special training for teachers
12 and administrators to develop the skills nec-
13 essary to work most effectively with parents.”.

14 (b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Section 2102(c) (20
15 U.S.C. 6622(c)) is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (13), by striking “and” after
17 the semicolon;

18 (2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period
19 and inserting “; and”; and

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

21 “(15) the development and dissemination of
22 model programs that teach teachers and administra-
23 tors how best to work with parents and how to en-
24 courage the parent’s involvement in the full range of

1 parental involvement activities described in section
2 1118.”.

3 (c) STATE APPLICATIONS.—Section 2205(b)(2) (20
4 U.S.C. 6645(b)(2)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (N), by striking “and”
6 after the semicolon;

7 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (O) as sub-
8 paragraph (P); and

9 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (N) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(O) describe how the State will train
12 teachers to foster relationships with parents
13 and encourage parents to become collaborators
14 with schools in their children’s education; and”.

15 (d) STATE-LEVEL ACTIVITIES.—Section 2207 (20
16 U.S.C. 6647) is amended—

17 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (12) and (13)
18 as (13) and (14), respectively; and

19 (2) by inserting after paragraph (11) the fol-
20 lowing:

21 “(12) providing professional development pro-
22 grams that enable teachers, administrators, and
23 pupil services personnel to effectively communicate
24 with and involve parents in the education process to
25 support school planning, review, improvement, and

1 classroom instruction, and to work effectively with
2 parent volunteers;”.

3 (e) LOCAL PLAN AND APPLICATION FOR IMPROVING
4 TEACHING AND LEARNING.—Section 2208 (20 U.S.C.
5 6648) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting “parents,”
7 after “administrators,”; and

8 (2) in subsection (d)(1)—

9 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (I)
10 and (J) as subparagraphs (J) and (K), respec-
11 tively; and

12 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (H)
13 the following:

14 “(I) describe the specific professional de-
15 velopment strategies that will be implemented
16 to improve parental involvement in education
17 and how such agency will be held accountable
18 for implementing such strategies.”.

19 (f) LOCAL ALLOCATION.—Section 2210(b)(3) (20
20 U.S.C. 6650(b)(3)) is amended—

21 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (P) and
22 (Q) as subparagraphs (Q) and (R), respectively; and

23 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (O) the fol-
24 lowing:

1 “(P) professional development activities de-
2 signed to enable teachers, administrators, and
3 pupil services personnel to communicate with
4 parents regarding student achievement on as-
5 sessments.”.

6 **SEC. 6. TECHNOLOGY FOR EDUCATION.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Section 3111 (20 U.S.C. 6811) is
8 amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (6), by inserting “and by fa-
10 cilitating mentor relationships,” after “by means of
11 telecommunications,”;

12 (2) in paragraph (14), by striking “and” after
13 the semicolon;

14 (3) in paragraph (15), by striking the period
15 and inserting a semicolon; and

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

17 “(16) access to education technology and teach-
18 ers trained in how to incorporate the technology into
19 their instruction leads to improved student achieve-
20 ment, motivation, and school attendance;

21 “(17) the use of technology in education can
22 enhance the educational opportunities schools can
23 offer students with special needs; and

1 “(18) the introduction of education technology
2 increases parental involvement, which has been
3 shown to improve student achievement.”.

4 (b) STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.—Section 3112 (20
5 U.S.C. 6812) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (11), by striking “and” after
7 the semicolon;

8 (2) in paragraph (12), by striking the period
9 and inserting “; and”; and

10 (3) by adding after paragraph (12), the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(13) development and support for technology
13 and technology programming that will enhance and
14 facilitate meaningful parental involvement.”.

15 (c) NATIONAL LONG-RANGE TECHNOLOGY PLAN.—
16 Section 3121(c)(4) (20 U.S.C. 6831(c)(4)) is amended—

17 (1) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and”
18 after the semicolon;

19 (2) in subparagraph (F), by inserting “and”
20 after the semicolon; and

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

22 “(G) increased parental involvement in
23 schools through the use of technology;”.

24 (d) FEDERAL LEADERSHIP.—Section 3122(c) (20
25 U.S.C. 6832(c)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (15), by striking “and” after
2 the semicolon;

3 (2) in paragraph (16), by striking the period
4 and inserting “; and”; and

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

6 “(17) the development, demonstration, and
7 evaluation of model technology programs designed to
8 improve parental involvement.”.

9 (e) LOCAL USES OF FUNDS.—Section 3134 (20
10 U.S.C. 6844) is amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” after
12 the semicolon;

13 (2) in paragraph (6), by striking the period and
14 inserting a semicolon; and

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

16 “(7) utilizing technology to develop or expand
17 efforts to connect schools and teachers with parents
18 to promote meaningful parental involvement and fos-
19 ter increased communication about curriculum, as-
20 signments, and assessments; and

21 “(8) providing ongoing training and support for
22 parents to help the parents learn and use the tech-
23 nology being applied in their children’s education, so
24 as to equip the parents to reinforce and support
25 their children’s learning.”.

1 (f) LOCAL APPLICATIONS.—Section 3135 (20 U.S.C.
2 6845) is amended—

3 (1) in paragraph (1)(D)—

4 (A) in clause (i), by striking “and” after
5 the semicolon;

6 (B) in clause (ii), by inserting “and” after
7 the semicolon; and

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

9 “(iii) a description of how parents will be
10 informed of, and trained in, the use of tech-
11 nologies, so that the parents will be equipped to
12 reinforce at home the instruction their children
13 receive at school;”;

14 (2) in paragraph (3)—

15 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
16 “and” after the semicolon; and

17 (B) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(C) improve parental involvement in
19 schools;”;

20 (3) in paragraph (4)(B), by striking the period
21 and inserting “; and”; and

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

23 “(5) describe how the local educational agency
24 will effectively use technology to promote parental

1 involvement and increase communication with par-
 2 ents.”.

3 (g) NATIONAL CHALLENGE GRANTS.—Section
 4 3136(c) (20 U.S.C. 6846(c)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” after
 6 the semicolon;

7 (2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period and
 8 inserting “; and”; and

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

10 “(6) the project will enhance parental involve-
 11 ment by providing parents the means and the skills
 12 needed to more fully participate in their child’s
 13 learning.”.

14 **SEC. 7. DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES.**

15 (a) STATE APPLICATIONS.—Section 4112 (20 U.S.C.
 16 7112) is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (b)—

18 (A) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, in-
 19 cluding how the agency will receive input from
 20 parents regarding the use of such funds” after
 21 “4113(b)”; and

22 (B) in paragraph (6), by inserting “, and
 23 how such review will include input from par-
 24 ents” after “4115”; and

25 (2) in subsection (c)—

1 (A) in paragraph (5), by striking “and”
 2 after the semicolon;

3 (B) in paragraph (6), by striking the pe-
 4 riod and inserting “; and”; and

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

6 “(7) a specific description of how input from
 7 parents will be sought regarding the use of funds
 8 under section 4114(a).”.

9 (b) EVALUATION AND REPORTING.—Section 4117
 10 (20 U.S.C. 7117) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (b)(1)—

12 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 13 “and” after the semicolon;

14 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
 15 period and inserting “; and”; and

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

17 “(C) on the State’s efforts to inform par-
 18 ents of and include parents in violence and drug
 19 prevention efforts.”; and

20 (2) in the first sentence of subsection (c), by
 21 striking the period and inserting “and a description
 22 of how parents were informed of and participated in
 23 violence and drug prevention efforts.”.

1 **SEC. 8. INNOVATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM STRATEGIES.**

2 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 6003 (20 U.S.C. 7303) is
3 amended—

4 (1) by striking “children, and (3)” and insert-
5 ing “children, (3) adopting meaningful parental in-
6 volvement policies and practices, and (4)”; and

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

8 “(F) A climate that promotes meaningful
9 parental involvement in the classroom and in
10 site-based activities.”.

11 (b) STATE APPLICATIONS.—Section 6202(a) (20
12 U.S.C. 7332(a)) is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (6), by striking “and” after
14 the semicolon;

15 (2) in paragraph (7), by striking the period and
16 inserting “; and”; and

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

18 “(8) provides information on the parental in-
19 volvement policies and practices promoted by the
20 State.”.

21 (c) TARGETED USES OF FUNDS.—Section 6301(b)
22 (20 U.S.C. 7351(b)) is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (8), by striking “and” after
24 the semicolon;

25 (2) in paragraph (9), by striking the period and
26 inserting “; and”; and

1 (3) by inserting after paragraph (9) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(10) programs to promote the meaningful in-
4 volvement of parents.”.

5 (d) LOCAL APPLICATIONS.—Section 6303(a)(1)(A)
6 (20 U.S.C. 7353(a)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting “, in-
7 cluding parental involvement,” before “designed”.

8 **SEC. 9. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

9 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 14101 (20 U.S.C. 8801)
10 is amended—

11 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (23) through
12 (29) as paragraphs (24) through (30), respectfully;
13 and

14 (2) by inserting after paragraph (22) the fol-
15 lowing:

16 “(23) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.—The term
17 ‘parental involvement’ means the participation of
18 parents on all levels of a school’s operation, includ-
19 ing all of the activities described in section 1118.”.

20 (b) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.—Title XIV (20
21 U.S.C. 8801 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
22 the following:

1 **“PART H—PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

2 **“SEC. 14901. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.**

3 “(a) STATE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN.—In
4 order to receive Federal funding for any program author-
5 ized under this Act, a State educational agency shall (as
6 part of a consolidated application, or other State plan or
7 application submitted under this Act) submit to the
8 Secretary—

9 “(1) a description of the agency’s parental in-
10 involvement policies, consistent with section 1118, in-
11 cluding specific details about—

12 “(A) how Federal funds will be used to im-
13 plement such policies; and

14 “(B) successful research-based practices in
15 schools throughout the State; and

16 “(2) a description of how such policies will be
17 evaluated with respect to increased parental involve-
18 ment in the schools throughout the State.

19 “(b) PARENTAL REVIEW OF STATE PARENTAL IN-
20 VOLVEMENT PLAN.—Prior to making the submission de-
21 scribed in subsection (a), a State educational agency shall
22 involve parents in the development of the policies described
23 in such subsection by—

24 “(1) providing public notice of the policies in a
25 manner and language understandable to parents;

1 “(2) providing the opportunity for parents and
2 other interested individuals to comment on the poli-
3 cies; and

4 “(3) including the comments received with the
5 submission.

6 “(c) LANGUAGE APPLICABILITY.—Each State edu-
7 cational agency and local educational agency that is re-
8 quired to establish a parental involvement plan or policy
9 under a program assisted under this Act shall make avail-
10 able, to the parents of children eligible to participate in
11 the program, the plan or policy in the language most fa-
12 miliar to the parents and in an easily understandable man-
13 ner.”.

○