

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1819

To amend title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
to provide grants for mentor teacher programs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 28, 1999

Mr. SCHUMER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for mentor teacher programs.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “21st Century Mentor
5 Teacher Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MENTOR TEACHER PROGRAMS.**

7 Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education
8 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.) is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating part E as part F; and

1 (2) by inserting after part D the following new
2 part:

3 **“PART E—MENTOR TEACHER PROGRAM**

4 **“SEC. 2351. PURPOSES.**

5 “The purposes of this part are to give local edu-
6 cational agencies the resources to establish mentor teacher
7 programs to enable experienced teachers to train novice
8 or beginner teachers.

9 **“SEC. 2352. DEFINITIONS.**

10 “In this part:

11 “(1) BOARD CERTIFIED.—The term ‘board cer-
12 tified’ means successful completion of all require-
13 ments to be certified by the National Board for Pro-
14 fessional Teaching Standards.

15 “(2) MENTOR TEACHER.—The term ‘mentor
16 teacher’ means a teacher who—

17 “(A) is permanently certified or licensed;

18 “(B) has demonstrated mastery of peda-
19 gogical and subject matter skills (such as by be-
20 coming board certified);

21 “(C) has provided evidence of superior
22 teaching abilities and interpersonal relationship
23 qualities; and

24 “(D) provides mentor services for not more
25 than 2 academic years out of 5 academic years.

1 “(3) NOVICE TEACHER.—The term ‘novice
2 teacher’ means a teacher who has been teaching not
3 more than 3 years at a public elementary school or
4 secondary school.

5 **“SEC. 2353. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

6 “(a) AUTHORITY.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized
8 to award grants on a competitive basis to local edu-
9 cational agencies to develop and implement mentor
10 teacher programs as described in subsection (d).

11 “(2) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—To the
12 maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall
13 award grants under paragraph (1) so that such
14 grants are distributed among the school districts
15 with the highest concentration of novice teachers.

16 “(b) DURATION.—A grant under subsection (a) shall
17 be awarded for a period of 5 years.

18 “(c) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant awarded
19 under subsection (a), shall be determined based on—

20 “(1) the total amount appropriated for a fiscal
21 year under section 2358 and made available to carry
22 out this part; and

23 “(2) the extent of the concentration of novice
24 teachers in the school district involved.

1 “(d) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—The mentor teacher
 2 programs described in subsection (a) shall provide training
 3 to novice teachers on effective teaching techniques through
 4 observation, instruction, coaching, and mentoring by expe-
 5 rienced educators.

6 **“SEC. 2354. APPLICATIONS.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A local educational agency desir-
 8 ing a grant under section 2353 shall submit an application
 9 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accom-
 10 panied by such information as the Secretary may reason-
 11 ably require.

12 “(b) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted pursu-
 13 ant to subsection (a) shall include—

14 “(1) a statement describing the program activi-
 15 ties for which amounts received under the grant will
 16 be used;

17 “(2) a statement describing the goals and objec-
 18 tives for the program activities described in para-
 19 graph (1), including goals of—

20 “(A) enhancing overall student achieve-
 21 ment;

22 “(B) increasing the number of perma-
 23 nently certified and licensed teachers;

1 “(C) increasing the number of provisionally
2 certified and licensed teachers seeking board
3 certification; and

4 “(D) maximizing the retention in the pro-
5 fession of teaching of certified and licensed
6 teachers; and

7 “(3) a statement describing the manner in
8 which the goals and objectives described in para-
9 graph (2) will be measured.

10 “(c) APPROVAL OF APPLICATION.—The Secretary
11 shall make a determination regarding an application sub-
12 mitted under subsection (a) based on a recommendation
13 of a peer review panel described in subsection (d), and
14 any other criteria that the Secretary determines to be ap-
15 propriate.

16 “(d) PEER REVIEW PANEL.—

17 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-
18 tablish a peer review panel to review and make rec-
19 ommendations as to whether applications submitted
20 pursuant to subsection (a) should be approved.

21 “(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—In making a rec-
22 ommendation described in paragraph (1), the panel
23 shall give consideration to the same factors that the
24 Secretary is required to consider under section
25 2353(a)(2).

1 **“SEC. 2355. PAYMENTS.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Grant payments shall be made
3 under this part on an annual basis.

4 “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Each local edu-
5 cational agency that receives a grant under section 2353
6 shall use not more than 2 percent of the amount awarded
7 under the grant for administrative costs.

8 “(c) DENIAL OF GRANT.—If the Secretary deter-
9 mines that a local educational agency has failed to make
10 substantial progress in attaining the performance objec-
11 tives and goals described in section 2354(b)(2), such an
12 agency shall not be eligible for a grant payment under this
13 part in the next succeeding year.

14 **“SEC. 2356. REPORTS.**

15 “(a) REPORT BY THE SECRETARY.—Not later than
16 6 months after receipt of reports described in subsection
17 (b), the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Com-
18 mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the
19 Senate and the Committee on Education and the Work-
20 force of the House of Representatives a report of program
21 activities funded under this part.

22 “(b) REPORT BY APPLICANT.—Not later than March
23 31, 2004, each local educational agency receiving a grant
24 under this part shall submit a report to the Secretary de-
25 scribing whether the program established under section

1 2353 was effective in meeting the goals described in sub-
2 paragraphs (A) through (D) of section 2354(b)(2).

3 **“SEC. 2357. MATCHING REQUIREMENT.**

4 “The Secretary may not award a grant to a local edu-
5 cational agency under section 2353 unless the local edu-
6 cational agency agrees that, with respect to costs to be
7 incurred by the agency in carrying out activities for which
8 the grant was awarded, the agency shall provide (directly
9 or through donations from public or private entities) in
10 non-Federal contributions an amount equal to 25 percent
11 of the amount of the grant awarded to the agency.

12 **“SEC. 2358. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 “There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
14 this part \$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2000
15 through 2004.”.

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