

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1891

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve literacy through family literacy projects.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 9, 1999

Mr. L. CHAFEE 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 improve literacy through family literacy projects.

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 “Literacy Involves Fam-
5 ilies Together Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 Section 1002(b) of the Elementary and Secondary
8 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6302(b)) is amended
9 by striking “\$118,000,000 for fiscal year 1995” and in-
10 serting “\$500,000,000 for fiscal year 2000”.

1 **SEC. 3. 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 secondary school diploma or its recog-
 18 nized equivalent or who have low levels of literacy.”.

19 **SEC. 4. EVEN START FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAMS.**

20 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

21 (1) RESERVATION FOR MIGRANT PROGRAMS,
 22 OUTLYING AREAS, AND INDIAN TRIBES.—Section
 23 1202(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
 24 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6362(a)) is
 25 amended—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “(or, if
 2 such appropriated amount exceeds
 3 \$250,000,000, 6 percent of such amount)”
 4 after “1002(b)”;

5 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “If the
 6 amount of funds made available under this sub-
 7 section exceeds \$4,600,000,” and inserting
 8 “After the date of the enactment of the Lit-
 9 eracy Involves Families Together Act,”; and

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

11 “(3) COORDINATION OF PROGRAMS FOR AMER-
 12 ICAN INDIANS.—The Secretary shall ensure that
 13 programs under paragraph (1)(C) are coordinated
 14 with family literacy programs operated by the Bu-
 15 reau of Indian Affairs in order to avoid duplication
 16 and to encourage the dissemination of information
 17 on high-quality family literacy programs serving
 18 American Indians.”.

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

23 “(b) RESERVATION FOR FEDERAL ACTIVITIES.—

24 “(1) EVALUATION, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE,
 25 PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT, AND REPLICATION ACTIVI-

1 TIES.—From amounts appropriated under section
 2 1002(b), the Secretary may reserve not more than 3
 3 percent of such amounts or the amount reserved to
 4 carry out the activities described in paragraphs (1)
 5 and (2) of subsection (a) for the fiscal year 1994,
 6 whichever is greater, for purposes of—

7 “(A) carrying out the evaluation required
 8 by section 1209; and

9 “(B) providing, through grants or con-
 10 tracts with eligible organizations, technical as-
 11 sistance, program improvement, and replication
 12 activities.

13 “(2) RESEARCH.—In the case of fiscal years
 14 2000 through 2004, if the amounts appropriated
 15 under section 1002(b) for any of such years exceed
 16 such amounts appropriated for the preceding fiscal
 17 year, the Secretary shall reserve from such excess
 18 amount \$2,000,000 or 50 percent, whichever is less,
 19 to carry out section 1211(b).

20 (b) USES OF FUNDS.—Section 1204 of the Elemen-
 21 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 22 6364) is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(A)—

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

1 (B) by striking clause (v) and adding the
 2 following:

3 “(v) 50 percent in the fifth, sixth, sev-
 4 enth, and eighth such years; and

5 “(vi) 35 percent in any subsequent
 6 such year.”; and

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

8 “(c) USE OF FUNDS FOR FAMILY LITERACY SERV-
 9 ICES.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—States may use a portion of
 11 funds received under this part to assist eligible enti-
 12 ties receiving a subgrant under section 1203(b) in
 13 improving the quality of family literacy services pro-
 14 vided under Even Start programs under this part,
 15 except that in no case may a State’s use of funds
 16 for this purpose for a fiscal year result in a decrease
 17 from the level of activities and services provided to
 18 program participants in the preceding year.

19 “(2) PRIORITY.—In carrying out paragraph (1),
 20 a State shall give priority to programs that were of
 21 low quality, as evaluated based on the indicators of
 22 program quality developed by the State under sec-
 23 tion 1210.

24 “(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.—
 25 Assistance under paragraph (1) shall be in the form

1 of technical assistance and training, provided by a
 2 State through a grant, contract, or cooperative
 3 agreement with an entity that has experience in of-
 4 fering high quality training and technical assistance
 5 to family literacy providers.”.

6 (c) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—Section 1205 of the Ele-
 7 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 8 6365) is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (9) and (10)
 10 as paragraphs (10) and (11), respectively; and

11 (2) by inserting after paragraph (8) the fol-
 12 lowing:

13 “(9) use instructional programs based on sci-
 14 entifically based reading research (as defined in sec-
 15 tion 2252) for children and, to the extent such re-
 16 search is available, for adults;”.

17 (d) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS.—Section 1206(b) of
 18 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
 19 U.S.C. 6366(b)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 20 lowing:

21 “(3) CHILDREN 8 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER.—

22 If an Even Start program assisted under this part
 23 collaborates with a program under part A, and funds
 24 received under such part A program contribute to
 25 paying the cost of providing programs under this

1 part to children 8 years of age or older, the Even
 2 Start program, notwithstanding subsection (a)(2),
 3 may permit the participation of children 8 years of
 4 age or older.”.

5 (e) PLAN.—Section 1207(c)(1)(F) of the Elementary
 6 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 7 6367(c)(1)(F)) is amended by striking “Act, the Goals
 8 2000: Educate America Act,” and inserting “Act”.

9 (f) AWARD OF SUBGRANTS.—Section 1208(b) of the
 10 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
 11 U.S.C. 6368(b)) is amended—

12 (1) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the
 13 following:

14 “(3) CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY.—In awarding
 15 subgrant funds to continue a program under this
 16 part after the first year, the State educational agen-
 17 cy shall review the progress of each eligible entity in
 18 meeting the goals of the program referred to in sec-
 19 tion 1207(c)(1)(A) and shall evaluate the program
 20 based on the indicators of program quality developed
 21 by the State under section 1210.”; and

22 (2) in paragraph (5)—

23 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking the
 24 last sentence; and

1 (B) by amending subparagraph (B) to read
 2 as follows:

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

6 (g) RESEARCH.—Section 1211 of the Elementary
 7 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6369b)
 8 is amended—

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

11 (2) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
 12 section (c); and

13 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
 14 lowing:

15 “(b) SCIENTIFICALLY-BASED RESEARCH ON FAMILY
 16 LITERACY.—

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

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

22 “(B) determines—

23 “(i) the most effective ways of improv-
 24 ing the literacy skills of adults with read-
 25 ing difficulties; and

1 “(ii) how family literacy services can
 2 best provide parents with the knowledge
 3 and skills they need to support their chil-
 4 dren’s literacy development.

5 “(2) USE OF EXPERT ENTITY.—The National
 6 Institute for Literacy shall carry out the research
 7 under paragraph (1) through an entity, including a
 8 Federal agency, that has expertise in carrying out
 9 longitudinal studies of the development of literacy
 10 skills in children and has developed effective inter-
 11 ventions to help children with reading difficulties.”.

12 **SEC. 5. EDUCATION OF MIGRATORY CHILDREN.**

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

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

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

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

20 “(7) a description of how the State will encour-
 21 age programs and projects assisted under this part
 22 to offer family literacy services if the program or
 23 project serves a substantial number of migratory
 24 children who have parents who do not have a sec-

1 ondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent
 2 or who have low levels of literacy.”.

3 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

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

7 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through
 8 (29) as paragraphs (16) through (30), respectively;
 9 and

10 (2) by inserting after paragraph (14) the fol-
 11 lowing:

12 “(15) FAMILY LITERACY SERVICES.—The term
 13 ‘family literacy services’ means services provided to
 14 participants on a voluntary basis that are of suffi-
 15 cient intensity in terms of hours, and of sufficient
 16 duration, to make sustainable changes in a family,
 17 and that integrate all of the following activities:

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

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

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

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

4 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

5 (1) EVEN START FAMILY LITERACY PRO-
 6 GRAMS.—Section 1202(e) of the Elementary and
 7 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (6362(e)) is
 8 amended—

9 (A) by striking paragraph (3); and

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

12 (2) READING AND LITERACY GRANTS.—Section
 13 2252 of the Elementary and Secondary Education
 14 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6661a) is amended—

15 (A) by striking paragraph (2); and

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

19 **SEC. 7. INDIAN EDUCATION.**

20 (a) EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—
 21 Section 1143 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25
 22 U.S.C. 2023) is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (b)(1)—

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

25 and

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

2 (2) in subsection (d)(1)—

3 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (D)

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

5 tively; and

6 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (C)

7 the following:

8 “(D) family literacy services,”;

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

10 serting “(g),”;

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

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

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

14 lowing:

15 “(e) Family literacy programs operated under this

16 section, and other family literacy programs operated by

17 the Bureau of Indian Affairs, shall be coordinated with

18 family literacy programs for American Indian children

19 under part B of title I of the Elementary and Secondary

20 Education Act of 1965 in order to avoid duplication and

21 to encourage the dissemination of information on quality

22 family literacy programs serving American Indians.”.

23 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1146 of the Education

24 Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2026) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through
2 (14) as paragraphs (8) through (15), respectively;
3 and

4 (2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the fol-
5 lowing:

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

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