

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1617

To promote youth entrepreneurship education.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH (for himself, Mr. ANDREWS, and Mr. SOUDER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To promote youth entrepreneurship education.

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. EMPOWERING FUTURE ENTREPRENEURS.**

4 Title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education
5 Act of 1965 is amended—

6 (1) by striking the title heading and inserting
7 the following:

8 **“TITLE V—PROMOTING EQUITY**
9 **AND EMPOWERMENT”**; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new part:

“PART D—EMPOWERING FUTURE

ENTREPRENEURS

“SEC. 5401. SHORT TITLE AND FINDINGS.

“(a) SHORT TITLE.—This part may be cited as the
“Future Entrepreneurs of America Act”.

“(b) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

“(1) In order to reach their career goals in our
dynamic American economy, young people need to
take personal responsibility to obtain the skills,
knowledge, constructive attitudes, and experiences
that will enable them to function as creative, self-
confident participants in the workforce.

“(2) Research has found that 61 percent of
high school students are interested in starting their
own business and 75 percent of students believe it
is important for the Nation’s schools to teach more
about entrepreneurship and starting a business.

“(3) States have begun to express increased in-
terest in entrepreneurship education. State edu-
cational leaders are recognizing that self-employment
is a viable career option for young people and are
exploring ways to better prepare them to own and
operate their own businesses.

“(4) As part of a lifelong learning process, en-
trepreneurship education helps to increase the moti-
vation of young people to learn, helps them develop

1 a sense of individual opportunity, enhances their
2 personal growth, helps them develop an appreciation
3 of the importance of innovation, helps develop their
4 problem solving and leadership skills, helps them
5 learn to manage their finances, and helps them de-
6 velop the sort of optimistic outlook and self-reliant
7 attitudes that will benefit them for their entire work-
8 ing lives.

9 “(5) Entrepreneurship education integrates in-
10 struction in economic literacy, including how the
11 economy functions, the workings of the social secu-
12 rity system, and the importance of personal savings.

13 “(6) The entrepreneurs and inventors of tomor-
14 row are in our schools today. The entrepreneurial
15 spirit needs to be nurtured at all levels of our Na-
16 tion’s educational system especially beginning with
17 students in grades 7 through 12.

18 **“SEC. 5402. STATE GRANT PROGRAM.**

19 “(a) AUTHORITY.—In any fiscal year in which the ap-
20 propriations under section 5408(a) equal or exceed
21 \$50,000,000, the Secretary shall make grants to States
22 from allocations under subsection (d) to enable them to
23 carry out entrepreneurship education programs for stu-
24 dents in grades 7 through 12.

1 “(b) AGENCY TO RECEIVE GRANT.—A grant award
2 to a State under subsection (a) shall be made to the State
3 educational agency.

4 “(c) STATE PLAN.—

5 “(1) APPROVED STATE PLAN REQUIRED.—No
6 State shall receive a grant under subsection (a) un-
7 less it has submitted to the Secretary a plan, which
8 the Secretary has approved.

9 “(2) STATE PLAN CONTENTS.—The State plan
10 described in paragraph (1) shall include—

11 “(A) a description of how the State will
12 use a grant;

13 “(B) a description of how the programs
14 supported by a grant will—

15 “(i) involve the business community;
16 and

17 “(ii) be coordinated with other rel-
18 evant Federal, State, regional, and local
19 programs; and

20 “(C) a description of how the State will
21 evaluate program performance.

22 “(d) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—

23 “(1) ALLOCATION FACTORS.—Except as other-
24 wise provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall
25 allocate the amounts made available to carry out

1 this section pursuant to subsection (a) to each State
2 according to the relative populations in all the States
3 of students in grades 7 through 12, as determined
4 by the Secretary based on the most recent satisfac-
5 tory data.

6 “(2) MINIMUM ALLOCATION.—Subject to the
7 availability of appropriations and notwithstanding
8 paragraph (1), a State that has submitted an ap-
9 proved plan under subsection (c) shall be allocated
10 an amount not less than \$400,000 for a fiscal year.

11 “(3) REALLOCATION.—In any fiscal year an al-
12 location under this subsection—

13 “(A) for a State that has not submitted a
14 plan under subsection (c); or

15 “(B) for a State whose plan submitted
16 under subsection (c) has been disapproved by
17 the Secretary;

18 shall be reallocated to the remaining States in ac-
19 cordance with paragraph (1).

20 “(e) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—

21 “(1) REQUIRED USES.—A grant made to a
22 State under subsection (a) shall be used—

23 “(A) to provide funds to local educational
24 agencies and public schools to carry out entre-
25 preneurship education programs for students in

1 grades 7 through 12 based on the concept of
2 lifelong learning necessary to encourage the en-
3 trepreneurial spirit; and

4 “(B) to monitor and evaluate programs
5 supported under subparagraph (A).

6 “(2) PERMISSIBLE USE.—A grant made to a
7 State under subsection (a) may be used for profes-
8 sional development that helps to prepare teachers
9 and administrators for entrepreneurial education.

10 “(3) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—
11 A State receiving a grant under subsection (a) may
12 use not more than 4 percent of the total amount of
13 the grant in each fiscal year for the administrative
14 costs of carrying out this section.

15 “(f) REPORT TO THE SECRETARY.—Each agency re-
16 ceiving a grant as described in subsection (b) shall trans-
17 mit a report to the Secretary with respect to each fiscal
18 year for which a grant was received. The report shall de-
19 scribe the programs supported by the grant and the re-
20 sults of the State’s monitoring and evaluation of such pro-
21 grams.

22 **“SEC. 5403. DIRECT LOCAL GRANT PROGRAM.**

23 “In any fiscal year in which the appropriations under
24 section 5408(a) are less than \$50,000,000, the Secretary
25 may make grants directly to local educational agencies and

1 public schools to provide entrepreneurship education to
2 students in grades 7 through 12.

3 **“SEC. 5404. CLEARINGHOUSE.**

4 “(a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary shall make a grant
5 to or execute a contract with an organization or institution
6 with substantial experience in the field of entrepreneurship
7 education to establish, operate, and maintain a national
8 clearinghouse (in this part referred to as the “Clearing-
9 house”) for instructional materials and information re-
10 garding exemplary entrepreneurship education programs
11 and best practices.

12 “(b) **APPLICATION.**—An organization or institution
13 desiring to establish, operate, and maintain the Clearing-
14 house shall submit an application to the Secretary at such
15 time, in such manner, and accompanied by such informa-
16 tion, as the Secretary may reasonably require.

17 “(c) **BASIS AND TERM.**—The Secretary shall make
18 the grant or contract authorized by subsection (a) on a
19 competitive, merit basis for a term of 5 years.

20 “(d) **USE OF FUNDS.**—The Clearinghouse shall use
21 the funds provided under a grant or contract made under
22 subsection (a)—

23 “(1) to maintain a repository of instructional
24 materials and related information regarding entre-
25 preneurship education programs for secondary

1 schools, including middle schools, for use by States,
2 localities, and the general public;

3 “(2) to disseminate to States, localities, and the
4 general public, through electronic and other means,
5 instructional materials and related information re-
6 garding entrepreneurship education programs for
7 secondary schools, including middle schools; and

8 “(3) to the extent that resources allow, to pro-
9 vide technical assistance to States, localities, and the
10 general public on the design, establishment, and im-
11 plementation of entrepreneurship education pro-
12 grams for secondary schools, including middle
13 schools.

14 “(e) CONSULTATION.—The Clearinghouse shall con-
15 sult with the Small Business Administration with respect
16 to its activities under subsection (d).

17 “(f) SUBMISSION TO CLEARINGHOUSE.—Each Fed-
18 eral agency or department that develops entrepreneurship
19 education programs or instructional materials for such
20 programs shall submit to the Clearinghouse information
21 on the programs and copies of the materials.

22 “(g) APPLICATION OF COPYRIGHT LAWS.—In car-
23 rying out this section the Clearinghouse shall ensure com-
24 pliance with title 17, United States Code.

1 **“SEC. 5405. EVALUATION.**

2 “(a) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—The Secretary
3 shall develop measures to evaluate the performance of pro-
4 grams assisted under sections 5402 and 5403.

5 “(b) EVALUATION ACCORDING TO PERFORMANCE
6 MEASURES.—Applying the performance measures devel-
7 oped under subsection (a), the Secretary shall evaluate
8 programs assisted under sections 5402 and 5403—

9 “(1) to judge their performance and effective-
10 ness;

11 “(2) to identify which of the programs rep-
12 resent the best practices of entities developing entre-
13 preneurship education programs for students in
14 grades 7 through 12; and

15 “(3) to identify which of the programs can be
16 replicated and used to provide technical assistance to
17 States, localities, and the general public.

18 **“SEC. 5406. REPORT TO THE CONGRESS.**

19 “For each fiscal year for which there are appropria-
20 tions under section 5408(a), the Secretary shall transmit
21 a report to the Congress describing the status of the im-
22 plementation of this part. The report shall include the re-
23 sults of the evaluation required by section 5405 and a de-
24 scription of the programs supported under sections 5402
25 and 5403.

1 **“SEC. 5407. DEFINITIONS.**

2 “In this part—

3 “(1) the term ‘entrepreneurship education’
4 means educational activities and experiences,
5 planned and supervised by qualified teachers, that
6 enable students to explore business ownership oppor-
7 tunities, acquire the skills and knowledge necessary
8 to start a business, and develop a range of entrepre-
9 neurial competencies that will help them to explore
10 and identify their lifelong career goals as business
11 owners or as competent employees; and

12 “(2) the term ‘qualified teacher’ means a teach-
13 er who holds a valid teaching certification or is con-
14 sidered to be qualified by the State educational
15 agency in the State in which the teacher works.

16 **“SEC. 5408. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 “(a) AUTHORIZATION.—For the purposes of carrying
18 out this part, there are authorized to be appropriated
19 \$60,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2002 through
20 2006.

21 “(b) LIMITATION ON FUNDS FOR CLEARING-
22 HOUSE.—The Secretary may use not less than 2 percent
23 and not more than 5 percent of amounts appropriated
24 under subsection (a) for each fiscal year to carry out sec-
25 tion 5404.

1 “(c) LIMITATION ON FUNDS FOR SECRETARY’S
2 EVALUATION.—The Secretary may use not more than
3 \$200,000 from the amounts appropriated under sub-
4 section (a) for each fiscal year to carry out section 5405.

5 “(d) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Ex-
6 cept as provided in subsection (b) and as necessary to
7 carry out section 5405 using amounts described in sub-
8 section (c), the Secretary shall not use any portion of the
9 amounts appropriated under subsection (a) for the costs
10 of administering this part.

11 “(e) FUNDS FOR GRANTS.—For each fiscal year the
12 Secretary shall use all amounts appropriated under sub-
13 section (a), other than the amounts described in sub-
14 sections (b) and (c), only for grants under section 5402
15 or 5403.”.

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