

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3837

To establish the Silver Scholarship program to provide transferable educational awards to individuals 55 years of age and older who perform certain volunteer services.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 2002

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To establish the Silver Scholarship program to provide transferable educational awards to individuals 55 years of age and older who perform certain volunteer services.

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. SILVER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

4 Subtitle D of title I of the National and Community
5 Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12601 et seq.) is amended
6 by adding at the end the following new section:

7 **“SEC. 149. SILVER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Chief Executive Officer
9 is authorized to award grants to public agencies and pri-

1 vate nonprofit organizations with experience in admin-
2 istering volunteer programs (including the programs re-
3 ferred to or administered under title II of the Domestic
4 Volunteer Service Act of 1973) to provide scholarships of
5 not more than \$1,000 each in accordance with this sec-
6 tion.

7 “(b) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible agency or organiza-
8 tion desiring a grant under this section shall submit to
9 the Chief Executive Officer an application in such form
10 and accompanied by such information as he may reason-
11 ably require.

12 “(c) REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOLARSHIP.—A public
13 agency or nonprofit organization receiving a grant under
14 subsection (a) may award scholarships of \$1,000 to each
15 individual designated by a senior volunteer who has met
16 the following requirements:

17 “(1) Performed not less than 500 hours of vol-
18 unteer services of the type established to be appro-
19 priate under subsection (d)(2) during a 12-month
20 period (or a prorated amount for an individual who
21 completes not less than 250 hours but less than 500
22 hours in a 12-month period based on compelling per-
23 sonal circumstances)—

24 “(A) after having attained the age of 55
25 years; and

1 “(B) after the date of the enactment of
2 this section.

3 “(2) Received fewer than 2 scholarships under
4 this section within the 5-year period preceding the
5 date that the scholarship is awarded.

6 “(d) CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES.—The Chief Execu-
7 tive Officer shall—

8 “(1) establish criteria and priorities for award-
9 ing grants under this section and for the award by
10 grantees of scholarships under this section; and

11 “(2) establish which types of volunteer services
12 (including tutoring or mentoring in a school setting,
13 afterschool setting, or other community-based edu-
14 cational setting and assisting persons with special
15 needs to continue living independently) are appro-
16 priate to receive credit toward a scholarship awarded
17 under this section.

18 “(e) USE OF SCHOLARSHIPS.—A scholarship award-
19 ed under this section may be used—

20 “(1) by the recipient or any person designated
21 by the recipient;

22 “(2) only for qualified tuition and related ex-
23 penses, as defined in section 117 of the Internal
24 Revenue Code of 1986, and conditions set forth by
25 the Chief Executive Officer through regulation; and

1 “(3) not later than 7 years after award of the
2 scholarship.

3 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
5 appropriated for this section \$20,000,000 for the
6 first fiscal year beginning after the date of the en-
7 actment of this section and such sums as are nec-
8 essary for each fiscal year thereafter.

9 “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Of the funds appro-
10 priated under paragraph (1)—

11 “(A) not more than 50 percent shall be
12 used for administrative purposes by the Chief
13 Executive Officer;

14 “(B) not less than 40 percent shall be
15 granted for use in awarding scholarships to vol-
16 unteers who have performed the hours required
17 for the scholarship providing tutoring or men-
18 toring in a school setting, afterschool setting, or
19 other community-based educational setting, as
20 defined in rules promulgated by the Corpora-
21 tion; and

22 “(C) not less than 10 percent shall be
23 granted for use in awarding scholarships to eli-
24 gible volunteers in assisting persons with special
25 needs to continue to live independently, includ-

1 ing those who are homebound, as defined in
2 rules promulgated by the Corporation.”.

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