

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1486

To direct the Secretary of Education to conduct a study of the rate at which Native Americans and students who reside in American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam drop out of secondary schools in the United States, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2003

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (for herself, Mr. CASE, Ms. WATSON, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. FROST, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Education to conduct a study of the rate at which Native Americans and students who reside in American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam drop out of secondary schools in the United States, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. STUDY AND REPORT REGARDING THE DROP**  
2 **OUT RATE OF NATIVE AMERICANS AND STU-**  
3 **DENTS WHO RESIDE IN AMERICAN SAMOA,**  
4 **THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AND**  
5 **GUAM.**

6 (a) STUDY.—Not later than three years after the  
7 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Edu-  
8 cation shall complete a study of the following:

9 (1) The number of Native Americans and stu-  
10 dents who reside in American Samoa, the Northern  
11 Mariana Islands, and Guam enrolled in a secondary  
12 school in the United States on the first day of Octo-  
13 ber of each year for the period of time that the  
14 study examines.

15 (2) The number of Native Americans and stu-  
16 dents who reside in American Samoa, the Northern  
17 Mariana Islands, and Guam who were enrolled in a  
18 secondary school in the United States at some time  
19 during the previous year, but who are not enrolled  
20 on the first day of October of each year for the pe-  
21 riod of time that the study examines.

22 (3) Of the number described in paragraph (2),  
23 the number who are not enrolled—

24 (A) because they are enrolled in another  
25 public or private school;

1 (B) because they are being taught in home  
2 schools;

3 (C) because they have completed a General  
4 Equivalency Diploma; or

5 (D) for other permissible reasons, such as  
6 illness, suspension, or death.

7 (4) Factors that contribute to Native Ameri-  
8 cans and students who reside in American Samoa,  
9 the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam ceasing  
10 attendance at secondary schools before they have  
11 graduated.

12 (5) Potential actions to increase the number of  
13 Native Americans and students who reside in Amer-  
14 ican Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and  
15 Guam who graduate from secondary school.

16 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after comple-  
17 tion of the study required by subsection (a), the Secretary  
18 shall transmit to Congress a report containing the fol-  
19 lowing:

20 (1) The results of the study.

21 (2) A demographic breakdown of the results of  
22 the study.

23 (3) Recommendations for actions likely to in-  
24 crease the number of Native Americans and students  
25 who reside in American Samoa, the Northern Mar-

1 iana Islands, and Guam who graduate from sec-  
2 ondary school.

3 **SEC. 2. REPORT REGARDING PROGRAMS TO REDUCE THE**  
4 **DROP OUT RATE.**

5 Not later than three years after the date of the enact-  
6 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall transmit  
7 to Congress a report describing Federal programs funded  
8 during the three-year period immediately preceding the  
9 date that the report is completed which were designed to  
10 decrease or otherwise address the rate at which students  
11 cease attending secondary schools in the United States be-  
12 fore they have graduated.

13 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

14 For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions  
15 apply:

16 (1) NATIVE AMERICAN.—The term “Native  
17 American” means a person who is—

18 (A) an enrolled member of an Indian tribe,  
19 band, nation, pueblo, or other organized group  
20 or community, including any Alaska Native vil-  
21 lage or regional corporation as defined in or es-  
22 tablished pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims  
23 Settlement Act, which is recognized as eligible  
24 for the special programs and services provided

1 by the United States to Indians because of their  
2 status as Indians; or

3 (B) a Native Hawaiian (as defined in sec-  
4 tion 12(3) of the Native Hawaiian Health Care  
5 Improvement Act (42 U.S.C. 11711)).

6 (2) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term “sec-  
7 ondary school” has the meaning given such term in  
8 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
9 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

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