

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4030

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 22, 2004

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education,  
Labor, and Pensions

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## AN ACT

To establish the Congressional Medal for Outstanding Contributions in Math and Science Education program to recognize private entities for their outstanding contributions to elementary and secondary science, technology, engineering, and mathematics 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Congressional Medal  
5       for Outstanding Contributions in Math and Science Edu-  
6       cation Act of 2004”.

7       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8       In this Act:

9               (1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means  
10       the Director of the National Science Foundation.

11              (2) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND SECONDARY  
12       SCHOOL.—The terms “elementary school” and “sec-  
13       ondary school” have the meaning given those terms  
14       in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary  
15       Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

16       **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**

17       The Director shall establish a Congressional Medal  
18       for Outstanding Contributions in Math and Science Edu-  
19       cation program, which shall be designed to—

20              (1) recognize private entities for outstanding ef-  
21       forts supporting elementary and secondary schools  
22       in improving student achievement in science, tech-  
23       nology, engineering, and mathematics;

24              (2) encourage private entities to support ele-  
25       mentary and secondary schools to improve and un-

1       derscore the importance of science, technology, engi-  
2       neering, and mathematics education; and

3           (3) make information about medal recipients  
4       available to schools, institutions of higher education,  
5       educators, parents, administrators, policymakers, re-  
6       searchers, public and private entities, and the gen-  
7       eral public.

8   **SEC. 4. MEDALS.**

9       (a) **FINALISTS.**—Beginning not later than 2 years  
10   after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall  
11   annually name as finalists for medals under this Act—

12           (1) not more than 20 private entities with more  
13       than 500 employees; and

14           (2) not more than 20 private entities with 500  
15       or fewer employees.

16   Each finalist shall receive a citation describing the basis  
17   for the entity achieving status as a finalist.

18       (b) **MEDAL WINNERS.**—Beginning not later than 2  
19   years after the date of enactment of this Act, from among  
20   finalists named under subsection (a), the Director shall  
21   annually award medals under this Act to—

22           (1) not more than 5 private entities with more  
23       than 500 employees; and

24           (2) not more than 5 private entities with 500  
25       or fewer employees.

1 (c) DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.—(1) The Di-  
2 rector shall distribute information about the Congressional  
3 Medal for Outstanding Contributions in Math and Science  
4 Education recipients in a timely and efficient manner (in-  
5 cluding through the use of a searchable online database)  
6 to schools, institutions of higher education, educators, par-  
7 ents, administrators, policymakers, researchers, public  
8 and private entities, and the general public.

9 (2) Any entity that is a finalist or receives a medal  
10 under this section may use such information for adver-  
11 tising and other publicity purposes.

12 **SEC. 5. ELIGIBILITY.**

13 Eligibility to receive medals under section 4 of this  
14 Act shall be limited to private entities that—

15 (1) have, whether working alone or in partner-  
16 ship with for-profit or nonprofit entities, assisted  
17 students, teachers, administrators, or other support  
18 staff to improve student achievement in science,  
19 technology, engineering, and mathematics in a  
20 school or community; and

21 (2) have been involved in such activities in a  
22 sustained manner for at least 2 years with at least  
23 one elementary or secondary school.

1 **SEC. 6. APPLICATION.**

2       The Director shall establish a system for accepting  
3 applications from entities seeking to be considered for a  
4 medal under this Act. Applications shall include at least  
5 two letters of support, which may come from teachers,  
6 professional support staff, administrators, professional or  
7 business organizations, local, county, or State Depart-  
8 ments of Education, or any other category of persons as  
9 designated by the Director. Letters of support shall de-  
10 scribe the reasons the entity deserves the medal.

11 **SEC. 7. SELECTION.**

12       In selecting entities to receive medals under this Act,  
13 the Director shall give priority consideration to evidence  
14 of improved achievement in science, technology, engineer-  
15 ing, or mathematics by students, including improved  
16 achievement by individuals identified in section 33 or 34  
17 of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act  
18 (42 U.S.C. 1885a or 1885b). In addition to any other cri-  
19 teria the Director may establish, the Director shall also  
20 consider the following:

21           (1) Evidence of innovative approaches to in-  
22 crease interest in science, technology, engineering,  
23 and mathematics by students, including individuals  
24 identified in section 33 or 34 of the Science and En-  
25 gineering Equal Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885a  
26 or 1885b). One measure of such evidence may be an

1 increase in the number of students enrolled in ad-  
2 vanced courses related to such fields.

3 (2) Evidence of employee interaction with stu-  
4 dents or teachers to support and improve science,  
5 technology, engineering, and mathematics learning.

6 (3) Evidence of success in positively influencing  
7 student attitudes and promoting education and ca-  
8 reer opportunities in science, technology, engineer-  
9 ing, and mathematics.

10 (4) Evidence of successful outreach to students,  
11 parents, and the community regarding the impor-  
12 tance of science, technology, engineering, and mathe-  
13 matics education to the Nation's prosperity, job cre-  
14 ation, and standard of living, as well as future earn-  
15 ing potential for the individual.

16 (5) Evidence of a strong and sustained commit-  
17 ment to the students and schools.

18 **SEC. 8. BIENNIAL REPORT.**

19 Section 37(a) of the Science and Engineering Equal  
20 Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885d(a)) is amended by  
21 striking "By January 30, 1982, and biennially thereafter"  
22 and inserting "By January 30 of each odd-numbered  
23 year".

**1 SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 For each of fiscal years 2005 through 2007, there  
3 are authorized to be appropriated to the National Science  
4 Foundation such sums as may be necessary for carrying  
5 out this Act, to be derived from amounts authorized by  
6 the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of  
7 2002.

Passed the House of Representatives April 21, 2004.

Attest: **JEFF TRANDAH**,  
*Clerk.*