

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4043

To establish a national leadership initiative to promote and coordinate knowledge utilization in education, thereby increasing student achievement consistent with the objectives of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 25, 2004

Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. HINOJOSA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To establish a national leadership initiative to promote and coordinate knowledge utilization in education, thereby increasing student achievement consistent with the objectives of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Knowledge Utilization
5 in Education Act of 2004”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) Knowledge utilization allows information
2 generated by scientifically valid research to be avail-
3 able to, and usable by, educators in the classroom.

4 (2) Limited knowledge utilization has impeded
5 the progress of schools in increasing academic
6 achievement of students.

7 (3) Research shows that student achievement
8 increases when education practices based on scientif-
9 ically valid research are used by classroom teachers.

10 (4) To facilitate the coordination and use of re-
11 search-based practices by classroom teachers, effec-
12 tive knowledge utilization is essential, including the
13 development and use of products and strategies
14 based on scientifically valid research.

15 (5) The active involvement of teachers, prin-
16 cipals, district administrators, and chief State school
17 officers in knowledge utilization activities is essential
18 to the effective application of research-based knowl-
19 edge to policy and practice.

20 (6) Although the No Child Left Behind Act of
21 2001 (which amended the Elementary and Sec-
22 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et
23 seq.)) requires educators to use instructional prac-
24 tices and innovations supported by scientifically valid
25 research, such practices and innovations are in short

1 supply and not widely available and coordinated for
2 use in classrooms.

3 (7) Given that a significant percentage of public
4 schools in the United States are not making ade-
5 quate yearly progress under the No Child Left Be-
6 hind Act of 2001, steps must be taken to coordinate
7 the use of knowledge utilization by classroom edu-
8 cators.

9 (8) Particular subgroups of students are not
10 making adequate yearly progress, as defined by the
11 No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, including eco-
12 nomically disadvantaged students, students from
13 major racial and ethnic groups, students with dis-
14 abilities, and students with limited English pro-
15 ficiency. Such students require targeted efforts to
16 ensure that they are receiving instruction supported
17 by scientifically valid research.

18 (9) More instructional activities and practices
19 supported by scientifically valid research need to be
20 developed to meet the current and expected demands
21 of educators in schools.

22 (10) Although existing federal research, devel-
23 opment, dissemination, and technical assistance pro-
24 grams have been proven to be effective, these pro-
25 grams need to be brought to national scale and co-

1 ordinated through a national, knowledge utilization
2 initiative.

3 (11) Effective knowledge utilization in edu-
4 cation brings together the professional wisdom of
5 practitioners and the best available empirical evi-
6 dence generated through scientifically valid research.

7 (12) Too often exemplary innovations in teach-
8 ing, curriculum, and assessment are demonstrated to
9 be effective, but have minimal impact because they
10 are not brought to scale.

11 (13) Educational practices that are supported
12 by scientifically valid research need to be brought to
13 greater scale in school districts across the country in
14 order to have broad influence on student achieve-
15 ment.

16 (14) National leadership is needed to provide
17 targeted initiatives, collaboration, and coordination
18 of knowledge utilization programs to ensure that
19 classroom educators have access to, and utilize prac-
20 tices supported by, scientifically valid research.

21 (15) A national leadership office intended to co-
22 ordinate Department of Education programs and
23 promote knowledge utilization in education will fa-
24 cilitate the effective implementation of the No Child
25 Left Behind Act of 2001.

1 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP OFFICE FOR KNOWLEDGE**
2 **UTILIZATION IN EDUCATION.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be in the Depart-
4 ment of Education the National Leadership Office for
5 Knowledge Utilization in Education (in this section re-
6 ferred to as the “Office”), to be headed by a Director ap-
7 pointed under subsection (c).

8 (b) DUTIES.—The duties of the Office shall be the
9 following:

10 (1) Promoting the use of scientifically valid re-
11 search in education practice and innovation.

12 (2) Providing leadership to the Nation in devel-
13 oping and promoting policies, practices, and invest-
14 ments that result in the provision of instruction sup-
15 ported by scientifically valid research to elementary
16 and secondary school students.

17 (3) Developing and promoting policies, prac-
18 tices, and investments that result in bringing to
19 scale successful educational practices that are based
20 on scientifically valid research.

21 (4) Informing the public about the significance
22 of using scientifically valid research in education.

23 (5) Encouraging the use of new technologies in
24 appropriate knowledge utilization efforts.

25 (6) Supporting the effective coordination of cur-
26 rent federally supported knowledge utilization pro-

grams, including regional educational laboratories, research and development centers, technical assistance centers and consortia, national clearinghouses, and other entities involved in research, development, dissemination, technical assistance, and evaluation.

(7) Administering the partnership established pursuant to subsection (e).

(8) Producing the biennial report required by subsection (f).

(9) Using the expertise of existing knowledge utilization programs to assist in the implementation of this section.

(c) DIRECTOR; STAFF.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Secretary of Education shall appoint the Director of the Office.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Director of the Office shall be selected from among individuals who are experts in—

(A) knowledge utilization, including promoting the effective implementation of the results of research in the classroom; and

(B) managing large institutions or consortia that conduct a broad array of research applications.

1 (3) DUTIES.—The Director of the Office
2 shall—

3 (A) report directly to the Secretary;

4 (B) be responsible for the duties of the Of-
5 fice described in subsection (b); and

6 (C) perform such additional functions as
7 the Secretary may prescribe.

8 (4) COMPENSATION.—Section 5315 of title 5,
9 United States Code, relating to level IV of the Exec-
10 utive Schedule, is amended by adding at the end of
11 the list in such section the following new item:

12 “Director of the National Leadership Office for
13 Knowledge Utilization in Education.”.

14 (5) STAFF.—The Director of the Office may se-
15 lect, appoint, and employ such officers and employ-
16 ees as may be necessary to carry out the functions
17 of the Office, subject to the provisions of title 5,
18 United States Code, governing appointments in the
19 competitive service, and the provisions of chapter 51
20 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title, relat-
21 ing to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

22 (d) INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.—

23 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—To promote coordina-
24 tion and cooperation among Federal departments
25 and agencies administering knowledge utilization

1 programs and activities, the Director of the Office
2 shall convene the Interagency Task Force on Knowl-
3 edge Utilization in Education (in this subsection re-
4 ferred to as the “Task Force”).

5 (2) DUTIES.—The Task Force shall—

6 (A) identify and review Federal programs,
7 activities, and projects with respect to knowl-
8 edge utilization in education (including any
9 plans for such programs, activities, and
10 projects); and

11 (B) prepare, for inclusion in the biennial
12 report under subsection (f), recommendations
13 on ways to improve the coordination and col-
14 laboration of such programs, activities, and
15 projects.

16 (3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Task Force shall be
17 composed of the following members:

18 (A) The Director of the Institute of Edu-
19 cation Sciences.

20 (B) The Director of the National Institute
21 of Child Health and Human Development.

22 (C) The Director of the National Science
23 Foundation.

24 (D) The Director of the Office.

1 (E) Such Assistant Secretaries and other
2 officials from the Department of Education as
3 the Secretary may designate.

4 (F) Such other members as the President,
5 the Secretary, or the Director of the Office may
6 invite.

7 (4) CHAIRPERSON.—The Director of the Office
8 shall serve as the Chairperson of the Task Force.

9 (5) TERMINATION.—The Task Force shall ter-
10 minate 2 years after the date of the enactment of
11 this Act, subject to renewal at the discretion of the
12 Director of the Office.

13 (e) KNOWLEDGE UTILIZATION PARTNERSHIP IN
14 EDUCATION.—

15 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director of the Of-
16 fice shall establish a network of private and public
17 entities throughout the Nation, to be known as the
18 Knowledge Utilization Partnership in Education (in
19 this subsection referred to as the “Partnership”).

20 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Partnership
21 is to promote and advance knowledge utilization in
22 education in conjunction with private and public or-
23 ganizations and entities throughout the Nation.

24 (3) DUTIES.—The Partnership shall—

1 (A) encourage private-public venture part-
2 nerships for knowledge utilization;

3 (B) identify needs in relation to knowledge
4 utilization programs, activities, and projects
5 supported by the Federal Government;

6 (C) provide general advice to the Office;
7 and

8 (D) provide ambassadors to the elementary
9 and secondary education community to encour-
10 age the adoption of education practices sup-
11 ported by scientifically valid research.

12 (4) ADVISORY PANEL.—

13 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director of
14 the Office may establish a Partnership Advisory
15 Panel (in this paragraph referred to as the
16 “Panel”).

17 (B) MEMBERSHIP.—The Director shall se-
18 lect the members of the Panel from among indi-
19 viduals who represent entities participating in
20 the Partnership and have expertise in knowl-
21 edge utilization.

22 (C) DUTIES.—The duties of the Panel
23 shall be the following:

24 (i) To provide advice to the Director
25 regarding the opportunities and challenges

1 of promoting knowledge utilization activi-
2 ties at the local, State, and Federal levels
3 through the Partnership.

4 (ii) To offer suggestions to the Direc-
5 tor for promoting knowledge utilization
6 policies and strategies in the future
7 through the Partnership.

8 (f) BIENNIAL REPORT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office
10 shall—

11 (A) conduct a biennial analysis of the state
12 of knowledge utilization in education practice
13 and innovation; and

14 (B) submit a report on the results of each
15 such analysis to the Committee on Education
16 and the Workforce of the House of Representa-
17 tives and the Committee on Health, Education,
18 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

19 (2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under
20 this subsection shall—

21 (A) include an assessment of efforts to in-
22 crease the use of education practices supported
23 by scientifically valid research;

24 (B) include the recommendations of the
25 Interagency Task Force on Knowledge Utiliza-

1 tion in Education prepared pursuant to sub-
2 section (d)(2); and

3 (C) recommend changes in policies to fur-
4 ther promote progress in knowledge utilization.

5 (3) INITIAL REPORT.—The Director of the Of-
6 fice shall submit the first report under this sub-
7 section not later than 2 years after the date of the
8 enactment of this Act.

9 **SEC. 4. GRANTS TO PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE UTILIZATION IN**
10 **EDUCATION.**

11 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Edu-
12 cation shall make competitive grants to, and enter into
13 contracts with, eligible entities to support projects that
14 promote knowledge utilization in education.

15 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may not make
16 a grant to an eligible entity under this section unless the
17 entity agrees to use the grant for 1 or more of the fol-
18 lowing:

19 (1) Helping educators become more informed
20 consumers of research-based knowledge utilization
21 programs and services through sustained profes-
22 sional development activities, including annual con-
23 ferences, summer teacher academies, on-line semi-
24 nars, and school-based workshops.

1 (2) Creating incentives for States and districts
2 to expand and coordinate their investments in
3 knowledge utilization initiatives.

4 (3) Focusing special knowledge utilization ef-
5 forts on high-need, low-capacity areas such as rural
6 schools.

7 (4) Developing a national corps of regionally
8 based research-to-practice coordinators to work in
9 schools on the effective implementation, utilization,
10 and dissemination of education practices supported
11 by scientifically valid research.

12 (5) Targeting efforts to classroom educators
13 working with subgroups whose test scores indicate
14 that they need improvement under the adequate
15 yearly progress calculation required by section
16 1111(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
17 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b)(2)), includ-
18 ing economically disadvantaged students, students
19 from major racial and ethnic groups, students with
20 disabilities, and students with limited English pro-
21 ficiency.

22 (6) Conducting research on knowledge utiliza-
23 tion.

24 (7) Coordinating and enhancing existing feder-
25 ally supported knowledge utilization programs, in-

1 including regional educational laboratories, research
2 and development centers, technical assistance cen-
3 ters and consortia, national clearinghouses, and
4 other entities involved in research, development, dis-
5 semination, technical assistance, and evaluation.

6 (8) Supporting efforts to identify and dissemi-
7 nate promising practices in the implementation of
8 education innovation that are supported by scientif-
9 ically valid research.

10 (9) Promoting entrepreneurship in developing
11 new solutions, innovations, and choices in education
12 for consumers that are supported by scientifically
13 valid research.

14 (10) Establishing fellowship programs to en-
15 courage expert capacity in knowledge utilization.

16 (11) Using Internet-based technology to enable
17 classroom teachers to access, in all content areas, in-
18 structional practice and innovation that are ground-
19 ed in scientifically valid research.

20 (12) Developing means and methods for making
21 the information from the What Works Clearinghouse
22 and other clearinghouses available to, and accessible
23 by, classroom teachers.

24 (13) Developing strategies to support the use of
25 scientifically valid research by classroom teachers

1 and school administrators in managing and improv-
2 ing student behavior and school climate.

3 (c) APPLICATIONS.—To seek a grant or a contract
4 under this section, an eligible entity shall submit an appli-
5 cation to the Secretary at such time and in such manner
6 as the Secretary may reasonably require.

7 (d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—In this section, the term
8 “eligible entity”—

9 (1) means a private or public, for-profit or non-
10 profit organization, institution, agency, institution of
11 higher education, or partnership of such entities,
12 that has demonstrated expertise in knowledge utili-
13 zation in education; and

14 (2) includes existing federally supported knowl-
15 edge utilization programs, such as regional edu-
16 cational laboratories, research and development cen-
17 ters, technical assistance centers and consortia, na-
18 tional clearinghouses, and other entities involved in
19 research, development, dissemination, technical as-
20 sistance, and evaluation.

21 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

22 In this Act:

23 (1) APPLIED RESEARCH.—The term “applied
24 research” has the meaning given to that term in sec-

tion 102 of the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9501).

(2) KNOWLEDGE UTILIZATION.—The term “knowledge utilization”—

(A) means the interactive processes involving research, development, dissemination, technical assistance, and evaluation in which research-based knowledge is applied to improving instructional practice; and

(B) includes such activities essential to school improvement as—

(i) development and evaluation of practical applications of research, such as procedures, policies, practices, programs, materials, and training;

(ii) the use of research-based technical assistance and professional development for policymakers, practitioners, and other stakeholders;

(iii) collection and dissemination of information, data, and statistics;

(iv) initiatives for building linkages among research, policy, and practice; and

1 (v) an infrastructure for increasing
2 capacity for the use of research and its ap-
3 plications.

4 (3) OFFICE.—The term “Office” means the
5 National Leadership Office for Knowledge Utiliza-
6 tion in Education established by section 3.

7 (4) SCIENTIFICALLY VALID RESEARCH.—The
8 term “scientifically valid research” has the meaning
9 given to that term in section 102 of the Education
10 Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9501).

11 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
12 the Secretary of Education.

13 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
15 as may be necessary to carry out this Act for each of fiscal
16 years 2005 through 2008.

○