

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2819

To provide education to students in grades 8, 9, and 10 about the importance of higher education.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2004

Mr. SPECTER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To provide education to students in grades 8, 9, and 10 about the importance of higher 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 “Higher Education
5 Preparation Program Act of 2004”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of Education.

1 (2) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term “sec-
 2 ondary school” has the meaning given the term in
 3 section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
 4 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

5 (3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
 6 term “institution of higher education” has the
 7 meaning given the term in section 101(a) of the
 8 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

9 (4) STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
 10 “State educational agency” has the meaning given
 11 the term in section 9101 of the Elementary and Sec-
 12 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

13 **SEC. 3. HIGHER EDUCATION PREPARATION PROGRAM CUR-**
 14 **RICULUM.**

15 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts appro-
 16 priated under section 6 for fiscal year 2005, the Secretary
 17 shall award, on a competitive basis, a grant to a nonprofit
 18 organization to enable the nonprofit organization to de-
 19 velop a curriculum-based higher education preparation
 20 program curriculum for students in grades 8, 9, and 10
 21 that—

22 (1) educates such students about the opportuni-
 23 ties for and the importance of higher education and
 24 prepares such students for the process of applying to
 25 institutions of higher education; and

1 (2) provides 1 class hour of higher education
2 preparation instruction each week for students in
3 grades 8, 9, and 10.

4 (b) APPLICATION.—Each nonprofit organization de-
5 siring a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
6 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
7 accompanied by such information as the Secretary may
8 reasonably require.

9 (c) AWARD BASIS.—In awarding a grant under this
10 section, the Secretary shall take into consideration the
11 ability of the nonprofit organization to develop the higher
12 education preparation program curriculum described in
13 subsection (a).

14 **SEC. 4. HIGHER EDUCATION PREPARATION PROGRAM**
15 **DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.**

16 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts appropriated
18 under section 6, the Secretary shall establish a dem-
19 onstration project under which the Secretary shall
20 award, on a competitive basis, grants to State edu-
21 cational agencies to enable the State educational
22 agencies to provide higher education preparation
23 programs, using the higher education preparation
24 program curriculum designed under section 3, to
25 students in grades 8, 9, and 10 in middle schools

1 and secondary schools served by the State edu-
2 cational agencies.

3 (2) NUMBER.—The Secretary shall award
4 grants under paragraph (1) to not more than 5
5 State educational agencies.

6 (3) DURATION.—The Secretary shall award
7 each grant under paragraph (1) for a period of 5
8 years.

9 (b) APPLICATION.—Each State educational agency
10 desiring a grant under this section shall submit an appli-
11 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
12 accompanied by such information as the Secretary may
13 reasonably require.

14 (c) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—A State educational
15 agency receiving a grant under this section—

16 (1) shall use grant funds to implement the
17 higher education preparation program curriculum
18 developed under section 3 in middle schools and sec-
19 ondary schools served by the State educational agen-
20 cy; and

21 (2) may use grant funds, or any other funds in-
22 cluding private funds, to supplement the program
23 described in paragraph (1) with appropriate enrich-
24 ments, such as guest speakers, videos, or web-based
25 services.

1 (d) AWARD BASIS.—In awarding grants under this
2 section, the Secretary shall take into consideration the
3 number of middle schools and secondary schools served by
4 the State educational agency that have historically low
5 rates of student application and admission to institutions
6 of higher education.

7 (e) REQUIREMENT.—In selecting students in grades
8 8, 9, and 10 to participate in the higher education prepa-
9 ration program, a State educational agency receiving a
10 grant under this section shall give priority to students in
11 the middle schools and secondary schools served by the
12 State educational agency that have historically low rates
13 of student application and admission to institutions of
14 higher education.

15 (f) STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY REPORTS.—A
16 State educational agency receiving a grant under this sec-
17 tion shall—

18 (1) require that each middle school and sec-
19 ondary school participating in the higher education
20 preparation program submit an annual report on the
21 progress of the demonstration project to the State
22 educational agency; and

23 (2) submit an annual report on the progress of
24 the demonstration project to the Secretary.

1 **SEC. 5. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

2 (a) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit
3 to Congress an annual report on the progress of the dem-
4 onstration project described under section 4.

5 (b) FINAL REPORT.—Not less than 90 days after the
6 conclusion of the demonstration project described under
7 section 4, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a final
8 report on the results of the demonstration project, to-
9 gether with recommendations for such legislative or ad-
10 ministrative action as the Secretary determines appro-
11 priate.

12 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
14 this Act \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2005 through
15 2010.

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