

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1559

To increase the level of funding for the Partnerships in Character Education Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 12, 2005

Mr. FORD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To increase the level of funding for the Partnerships in Character Education Program, 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 “Character Education
5 Act of 2005”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCREASED FUNDING FOR PARTNERSHIPS IN**
7 **CHARACTER EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

8 Section 5401 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
9 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7241) is amended—

1 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
2 striking “There are” and inserting “(a) IN GEN-
3 ERAL.—There are”;

4 (2) in paragraph (5), by striking
5 “\$650,000,000 for fiscal year 2006” and inserting
6 “\$675,000,000 for fiscal year 2006”;

7 (3) in paragraph (6), by striking
8 “\$675,000,000 for fiscal year 2007” and inserting
9 “\$700,000,000 for fiscal year 2007”; and

10 (4) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(b) PARTNERSHIPS IN CHARACTER EDUCATION.—
12 From the amount appropriated to carry out this part for
13 each of fiscal years 2006, 2007, and 2008, the Secretary
14 shall reserve \$50,000,000 to carry out subpart 3.”.

15 **SEC. 3. MODEL STATE CHARACTER EDUCATION CUR-**
16 **RICULUM.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the
18 United States shall—

19 (1) conduct a study of best practices in the field
20 of character education; and

21 (2) develop a model State character education
22 curriculum for kindergarten through grade 12.

23 (b) MODEL STATE CHARACTER EDUCATION CUR-
24 RICULUM.—

1 (1) PRINCIPLES OF CURRICULUM.—The model
2 State character education curriculum developed
3 under this section shall embody the principles that
4 character education—

5 (A) is premised on the notion that widely
6 shared core ethical values, including honesty,
7 fairness, justice, caring, responsibility, and re-
8 spect for self and others, form the basis of good
9 character;

10 (B) by promoting the validity of these val-
11 ues and the responsibility to uphold them, af-
12 firms human dignity, promotes the development
13 and welfare of the individual, serves the com-
14 mon good, and promotes the exercise of citizen-
15 ship in a democratic society; and

16 (C) should be an integral part of the cur-
17 riculum at all grade levels, should be part of a
18 comprehensive approach that integrates char-
19 acter development into every aspect of school
20 life, and should reach out to families and in-
21 clude them in character-building efforts.

22 (2) FOCUS ON ASPECTS OF CHARACTER.—The
23 model State character education curriculum devel-
24 oped under this section shall focus on aspects of

1 character including honesty, fairness, justice, caring,
2 responsibility, and respect for self and others.

3 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
4 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of
5 the United States shall submit to the Congress a report
6 containing—

7 (1) the results of the study conducted under
8 this section; and

9 (2) the model State character education cur-
10 rriculum developed under this section.

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