

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5140

To establish the Congressional Teacher Award Task Force to enter into an agreement with a nonprofit entity for the operation of a program to recognize excellent elementary and secondary school teachers, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 6, 2006

Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Ms. LEE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. WOLF, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. McINTYRE, and Mr. INSLEE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To establish the Congressional Teacher Award Task Force to enter into an agreement with a nonprofit entity for the operation of a program to recognize excellent elementary and secondary school teachers, 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 “Congressional Teacher  
5 Award Act of 2006”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL TEACHER AWARD TASK FORCE.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby established  
4 the Congressional Teacher Award Task Force (here-  
5 after in this Act referred to as the “Task Force”),  
6 consisting of the following members:

7 (A) 6 members of the House of Represent-  
8 atives, of whom 3 shall be appointed by the  
9 Speaker of the House of Representatives and 3  
10 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the  
11 House of Representatives.

12 (B) 6 members of the Senate, of whom 3  
13 shall be appointed by the majority leader of the  
14 Senate and 3 shall be appointed by the minority  
15 leader of the Senate.

16 (2) CO-CHAIRS.—The members of the Task  
17 Force shall designate two of the members, of whom  
18 one shall be a member of the House of Representa-  
19 tives and the other shall be a member of the Senate,  
20 to serve as co-chairs of the Task Force.

21 (b) DUTIES.—It is the duty of the Task Force to find  
22 an appropriate nonprofit entity to operate the Congres-  
23 sional Teacher Award Program described in section 3.

24 (c) DEADLINE.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
25 of the enactment of this Act, the Task Force shall des-  
26 ignate a nonprofit entity which will enter into a written

1 agreement to operate the Congressional Teacher Award  
2 Program described in section 3.

3 (d) PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—

4 (1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

5 There are authorized to be appropriated from the  
6 applicable accounts of the House of Representatives  
7 and the contingent fund of the Senate (in such allo-  
8 cation as the Task Force may establish) such sums  
9 as may be necessary for the operation of the Task  
10 Force.

11 (2) VOUCHERS.—In the case of amounts paid  
12 from the applicable accounts of the House of Rep-  
13 resentatives, payments shall be made on vouchers  
14 signed by the co-chair who is a member of the  
15 House of Representatives and approved in the man-  
16 ner directed by the Committee on House Adminis-  
17 tration.

18 (e) TERMINATION.—The Task Force shall terminate  
19 upon the expiration of the 30-day period which begins on  
20 the date the nonprofit entity enters into the written agree-  
21 ment referred to in subsection (c).

22 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL TEACHER AWARD PROGRAM.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Congressional Teacher  
24 Award Program—

1           (1) shall provide an award each academic year  
2           to one excellent private or public elementary or sec-  
3           ondary school teacher in each congressional district  
4           of the United States (including each district of a  
5           Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Con-  
6           gress); and

7           (2) may provide scholarships for professional  
8           development to teachers receiving an award under  
9           the Program.

10          (b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—The Congres-  
11          sional Teacher Award Program shall include eligibility re-  
12          quirements for a teacher to qualify as a recipient of an  
13          award under the Program, including requirements that  
14          each such recipient—

15                (1) be certified as a teacher;

16                (2) have at least 5 consecutive years of teaching  
17                experience in private or public elementary or sec-  
18                ondary school;

19                (3) demonstrate—

20                      (A) a commitment of service to his or her  
21                      school;

22                      (B) maintenance of high academic stand-  
23                      ards for students; and

24                      (C) incorporation of multiculturalism, tech-  
25                      nology, interdisciplinary studies, student rel-

- 1 evance, and current issues in lessons, classroom
- 2 activities, and special presentations; and
- 3 (4) provide 3 letters of recommendation, includ-
- 4 ing a letter from each of a principal, a fellow teach-
- 5 er, and a student.

