

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2862

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish an accurate and reliable graduation rate for measuring student academic achievement.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 2007

Mr. CASTLE (for himself and Mr. McKEON) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

---

## A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish an accurate and reliable graduation rate for measuring student academic achievement.

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 “Reliable and Accurate  
5 Graduation Rate Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CREATING A RELIABLE AND ACCURATE GRADUA-**  
2 **TION RATE TO IMPROVE THE ACADEMIC**  
3 **ACHIEVEMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.**

4 Section 1111 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
5 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)(2)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (C)(vi) by striking  
8 “as the percentage of students who graduate  
9 from secondary school with a regular diploma in  
10 the standard number of years” and inserting  
11 “in subparagraph (K)”;

12 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (K) as  
13 subparagraph (M); and

14 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (J)  
15 the following:

16 “(K) GRADUATION RATE.—

17 “(i) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose  
18 of this section, a State shall calculate its  
19 graduation rate by dividing the number of  
20 students in the school or local educational  
21 agency who receive a regular diploma by  
22 the number of first time ninth-grade stu-  
23 dents who enrolled in the school or local  
24 educational agency four years earlier, tak-  
25 ing into account—

1                   “(I) the movement of students  
2                   transferring into and out of the school  
3                   or local educational agency, docu-  
4                   mented through such evidence as a  
5                   transcript, over the four-year period;  
6                   and

7                   “(II) the limited one time identi-  
8                   fication of recently arrived limited  
9                   English proficient students, students  
10                  with documented enrollment in a fully  
11                  articulated early college high school,  
12                  and children with disabilities who re-  
13                  quire a fifth year to receive a regular  
14                  high school diploma.

15                  “(ii) SCHOOLS AND LOCAL EDU-  
16                  CATIONAL AGENCIES.—A State shall re-  
17                  quire local educational agencies and  
18                  schools in the State to calculate its gradua-  
19                  tion rate consistent with clause (i).

20                  “(L) ADDITIONAL COMPLETION MEASURES  
21                  FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN ALTERNATIVE  
22                  SETTINGS.—A State may publish and report  
23                  additional completion measures for those stu-  
24                  dents who completed high school or some equiv-  
25                  alent measure in more than four years. Such

1           measures could include those students that  
2           dropped out of high school and passed a Gen-  
3           eral Educational Development exam or trans-  
4           ferred to an alternative school and successfully  
5           completed their education, or those children  
6           with disabilities who completed their edu-  
7           cational program in more than five years.”.

○