

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2906

To establish a pilot program under which the Secretary of Education makes grants to establish and support the 10th Congressional District of Illinois School Conservation Corps.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 28, 2007

Mr. KIRK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To establish a pilot program under which the Secretary of Education makes grants to establish and support the 10th Congressional District of Illinois School Conservation Corps.

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 “10th Congressional
5 District of Illinois School Conservation Corps Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SCHOOL CONSERVATION CORPS PILOT PROGRAM.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—From amounts made avail-
8 able to carry out this section, the Secretary of Education

1 shall carry out a pilot program under which the Secretary
 2 makes grants to chapters to establish and support a school
 3 conservation corps.

4 (b) SCOPE.—The pilot program shall be carried out
 5 in the 10th congressional district of Illinois.

6 (c) CHAPTERS.—In this section, the term “chapter”
 7 means a group, at a public high school, consisting of at
 8 least 10 students of that high school and at least one advi-
 9 sor age 21 or older.

10 (d) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each grant under this sec-
 12 tion—

13 (A) shall include a base amount of \$1,000;
 14 and

15 (B) may, at the discretion of the Secretary,
 16 include an additional amount of up to \$5,000,
 17 subject to paragraph (2).

18 (2) MATCHING REQUIREMENT FOR ADDITIONAL
 19 AMOUNTS.—An additional amount under paragraph
 20 (1)(B) may be included only to the following extent:

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—The chapter matches
 22 each \$1 of the additional amount with \$1 from
 23 non-Federal sources raised by the chapter.

24 (B) PARTNERSHIPS.—The chapter
 25 matches each \$1.03 of the additional amount

1 with \$1 from non-Federal sources raised by the
2 chapter for an activity sponsored in collabora-
3 tion with one or more of the following entities:

4 (i) Illinois Open Lands.

5 (ii) Illinois Audubon Society.

6 (iii) Ducks Unlimited.

7 (iv) Environmental Defense.

8 (e) USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts granted under this
10 section shall be used to sponsor activities to improve
11 environmental protection in the region in which the
12 pilot program is being carried out.

13 (2) 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF ILLI-
14 NOIS.—With respect to the congressional district
15 specified in subsection (b), the activities sponsored
16 shall include, in order of priority, the following:

17 (A) Providing volunteers for cleaning up
18 the Lake Michigan watershed.

19 (B) Finding ways for schools and families
20 to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

21 (C) Establishing recycling programs for
22 student and school waste.

23 (D) Becoming volunteers to assist in the
24 cleanup of Waukegan Harbor.

1 (E) Leading seminars for local leaders and
2 the public on the dangers of mercury pollution.

3 (F) Meeting with local mayors and village
4 councils to encourage their reduction of green-
5 house gases and encourage recycling.

6 (G) Forming groups to ask large compa-
7 nies to provide financial tax incentives to lower
8 greenhouse gas emissions.

9 (f) DURATION.—The pilot program shall be carried
10 out in fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

11 (g) EVALUATION.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—After the period of the pilot
13 program, the Secretary shall evaluate the success of
14 the pilot program. In carrying out the evaluation,
15 the Secretary shall determine whether the pilot pro-
16 gram met the following goals:

17 (A) Achieving 29 percent of the activities
18 specified in subsection (e)(2).

19 (B) Involving 21 percent of all public high
20 school students in the congressional district
21 specified in subsection (b) with the program.

22 (2) REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Upon
23 completing the evaluation, the Secretary shall submit
24 to Congress a report on the evaluation. The report

1 shall include the Secretary's recommendations as to
2 whether—

3 (A) to expand the program to other con-
4 gressional districts;

5 (B) to change the current goals; or

6 (C) to allow the program to continue un-
7 changed.

8 (h) FUNDING.—From amounts appropriated to the
9 Environmental Protection Agency, the Administrator of
10 the Environmental Protection Agency shall transfer to the
11 Secretary such sums as may be necessary to carry out the
12 pilot program.

○