

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2392

To direct the Secretary of Education to establish and maintain a public website through which individuals may find a complete database of available scholarships, fellowships, and other programs of financial assistance in the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 16, 2007

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

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Education to establish and maintain a public website through which individuals may find a complete database of available scholarships, fellowships, and other programs of financial assistance in the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

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 “National STEM Schol-
5 arship Database Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL DATABASE ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
2 **FOR STUDY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, EN-**
3 **GINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF DATA-
5 BASE.—

6 (1) DATABASE.—The Secretary of Education
7 shall establish and maintain, on the public website
8 of the Department of Education, a database con-
9 sisting of information on scholarships, fellowships,
10 and other programs of financial assistance available
11 from public and private sources for the study of
12 science, technology, engineering, or mathematics at
13 the post-secondary and post-baccalaureate levels.

14 (2) PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION.—The in-
15 formation maintained on the database established
16 under this section shall be displayed on the website
17 in the following manner:

18 (A) Separate information shall be provided
19 for each of the fields of study referred to in
20 paragraph (1) and for post-secondary and post-
21 baccalaureate programs of financial assistance.

22 (B) The database shall provide specific in-
23 formation on any programs of financial assist-
24 ance which are targeted to individuals of a par-
25 ticular gender, ethnicity, or other demographic
26 group.

1 (C) If the sponsor of any program of fi-
2 nancial assistance included on the database
3 maintains a public website, the database shall
4 provide hyperlinks to the website.

5 (D) In addition to providing the hyperlink
6 to the website of a sponsor of a program of fi-
7 nancial assistance as required under subpara-
8 graph (C), the database shall provide general
9 information that an interested person may use
10 to contact the sponsor, including the sponsor's
11 electronic mail address.

12 (E) The database shall have a search capa-
13 bility which permits an individual to search for
14 information on the basis of each category of the
15 information provided and on the basis of com-
16 binations of categories of the information pro-
17 vided, including whether the scholarship is
18 need- or merit-based and by relevant academic
19 majors.

20 (F) The database shall include a rec-
21 ommendation that students and families should
22 carefully review all of the application require-
23 ments prior to applying for aid, and a dis-
24 claimer that the scholarships presented in the
25 database are not provided or endorsed by the

1 Department of Education or the Federal Gov-
2 ernment.

3 (b) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON DATA-
4 BASE.—The Secretary shall take such actions as may be
5 necessary on an ongoing basis, including sending notices
6 to secondary schools and institutions of higher education,
7 to disseminate information on the database established
8 and maintained under this Act and to encourage its use
9 by interested parties.

10 (c) USE OF VENDOR TO OBTAIN INFORMATION.—In
11 carrying out this Act, the Secretary of Education shall
12 enter into a contract with a private entity under which
13 the entity shall furnish and regularly update all of the in-
14 formation required to be maintained on the database es-
15 tablished under this section.

16 (d) ENCOURAGING THE PROVISION OF INFORMA-
17 TION.—In carrying out this Act, the Secretary of Edu-
18 cation and the contracted entity shall consult with public
19 and private sources of scholarships and make easily avail-
20 able a process for such entities to provide regular and up-
21 dated information.

1 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
3 this Act such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years
4 2008 through 2012.

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