

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 565

To expand and enhance postbaccalaureate opportunities at Hispanic-serving institutions, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 13, 2007

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SALAZAR, and Mrs. BOXER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To expand and enhance postbaccalaureate opportunities at Hispanic-serving institutions, 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 “Next Generation His-
5 panic-Serving Institutions Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. POSTBACCALAUREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIS-**
2 **PANIC AMERICANS.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—Title V of the
4 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.)
5 is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating part B as part C;

7 (2) by redesignating sections 511 through 518
8 as sections 521 through 528, respectively; and

9 (3) by inserting after section 505 (20 U.S.C.
10 1101d) the following new part:

11 **“PART B—PROMOTING POSTBACCALAUREATE**
12 **OPPORTUNITIES FOR HISPANIC AMERICANS**

13 **“SEC. 511. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

14 “(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

15 “(1) According to the United States Census, by
16 the year 2050 one in four Americans will be of His-
17 panic origin.

18 “(2) Despite the dramatic increase in the His-
19 panic population in the United States, the National
20 Center for Education Statistics reported that in
21 1999, Hispanics accounted for only 4 percent of the
22 master’s degrees, 3 percent of the doctor’s degrees,
23 and 5 percent of first-professional degrees awarded
24 in the United States.

25 “(3) Although Hispanics constitute 10 percent
26 of the college enrollment in the United States, they

1 comprise only 3 percent of instructional faculty in
2 colleges and universities.

3 “(4) The future capacity for research and ad-
4 vanced study in the United States will require in-
5 creasing the number of Hispanics pursuing
6 postbaccalaureate studies.

7 “(5) Hispanic-serving institutions are leading
8 the Nation in increasing the number of Hispanics
9 attaining graduate and professional degrees.

10 “(6) Among Hispanics who received master’s
11 degrees in 1999–2000, 25 percent earned them at
12 Hispanic-serving institutions.

13 “(7) Between 1991 and 2000, the number of
14 Hispanic students earning master’s degrees at His-
15 panic-serving institutions grew 136 percent, the
16 number receiving doctor’s degrees grew by 85 per-
17 cent, and the number earning first-professional de-
18 grees grew by 47 percent.

19 “(8) It is in the national interest to expand the
20 capacity of Hispanic-serving institutions to offer
21 graduate and professional degree programs.

22 “(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this part are—

23 “(1) to expand postbaccalaureate educational
24 opportunities for, and improve the academic attain-
25 ment of, Hispanic students; and

1 “(2) to expand and enhance the
 2 postbaccalaureate academic offerings, and program
 3 quality, that are educating the majority of Hispanic
 4 college students and helping large numbers of His-
 5 panic students and other low-income individuals
 6 complete postsecondary degrees.

7 **“SEC. 512. PROGRAM AUTHORITY AND ELIGIBILITY.**

8 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—Subject to the avail-
 9 ability of funds appropriated to carry out this part, the
 10 Secretary shall award competitive grants to Hispanic-serv-
 11 ing institutions that offer postbaccalaureate certifications
 12 or degrees.

13 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—In this part, an ‘eligible institu-
 14 tion’ means an institution of higher education that—

15 “(1) is an eligible institution under section 502;
 16 and

17 “(2) offers a postbaccalaureate certificate or de-
 18 gree granting program.

19 **“SEC. 513. AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.**

20 “Grants awarded under this part shall be used for
 21 1 or more of the following activities:

22 “(1) Purchase, rental, or lease of scientific or
 23 laboratory equipment for educational purposes, in-
 24 cluding instructional and research purposes.

1 “(2) Construction, maintenance, renovation,
2 and improvement in classroom, library, laboratory,
3 and other instructional facilities, including purchase
4 or rental of telecommunications technology equip-
5 ment or services.

6 “(3) Purchase of library books, periodicals,
7 technical and other scientific journals, microfilm,
8 microfiche, and other educational materials, includ-
9 ing telecommunications program materials.

10 “(4) Support for needy postbaccalaureate stu-
11 dents including outreach, academic support services,
12 mentoring, scholarships, fellowships, and other fi-
13 nancial assistance to permit the enrollment of such
14 students in postbaccalaureate certificate and degree
15 granting programs.

16 “(5) Support of faculty exchanges, faculty de-
17 velopment, faculty research, curriculum development,
18 and academic instruction.

19 “(6) Creating or improving facilities for Inter-
20 net or other distance learning academic instruction
21 capabilities, including purchase or rental of tele-
22 communications technology equipment or services.

23 “(7) Collaboration with other institutions of
24 higher education to expand postbaccalaureate certifi-
25 cate and degree offerings.

1 “(8) Other activities proposed in the application
2 submitted pursuant to section 514 that—

3 “(A) contribute to carrying out the pur-
4 poses of this part; and

5 “(B) are approved by the Secretary as part
6 of the review and acceptance of such applica-
7 tion.

8 **“SEC. 514. APPLICATION AND DURATION.**

9 “(a) APPLICATION.—Any eligible institution may
10 apply for a grant under this part by submitting an applica-
11 tion to the Secretary at such time and in such manner
12 as determined by the Secretary. Such application shall
13 demonstrate how the grant funds will be used to improve
14 postbaccalaureate education opportunities for Hispanic
15 and low-income students and will lead to greater financial
16 independence.

17 “(b) DURATION.—Grants under this part shall be
18 awarded for a period not to exceed 5 years.

19 “(c) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not award
20 more than 1 grant under this part in any fiscal year to
21 any Hispanic-serving institution.”.

22 (b) COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.—Section 524(a)
23 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (as redesignated by
24 subsection (a)(2)) is amended by inserting “and section
25 513” after “section 503”.

1 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
 2 528(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (as redesign-
 3 nated by subsection (a)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

4 “(a) AUTHORIZATIONS.—

5 “(1) PART A.—There are authorized to be ap-
 6 propriated to carry out part A of this title
 7 \$175,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as
 8 may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal
 9 years.

10 “(2) PART B.—There are authorized to be ap-
 11 propriated to carry out part B of this title
 12 \$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as
 13 may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal
 14 years.”.

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