

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5753

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to award grants to eligible entities to establish, expand, or support an existing school-based mentoring program to assist at-risk middle school students with the transition from middle school to high school.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2010

Mr. CARSON of Indiana 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 award grants to eligible entities to establish, expand, or support an existing school-based mentoring program to assist at-risk middle school students with the transition from middle school to high school.

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. TRANSITION-TO-SUCCESS MENTORING PRO-**
4 **GRAM.**

5 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
6 1803 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
7 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6553) is amended to read as follows:

1 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this
 2 part \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and such sums as
 3 may be necessary for each succeeding fiscal year.”

4 (b) TRANSITION-TO-SUCCESS MENTORING PRO-
 5 GRAM.—Part H of title I (20 U.S.C. 6551 et seq.) is
 6 amended by adding at the end the following:

7 **“Subpart 3—Transition-to-Success Mentoring**
 8 **Program**

9 **“SEC. 1831. TRANSITION-TO-SUCCESS MENTORING PRO-**
 10 **GRAM.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated
 12 to carry out this section, the Secretary shall award grants
 13 to eligible entities to establish, expand, or support school-
 14 based mentoring programs to assist eligible students with
 15 the transition from middle school to high school.

16 “(b) APPLICATION.—To receive a grant under this
 17 section, an eligible entity shall submit an application to
 18 the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and con-
 19 taining such information as the Secretary may require.

20 “(c) USES OF FUNDS.—

21 “(1) REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.—An eligible
 22 entity that receives a grant under this section shall
 23 use the grant funds to establish a mentoring pro-
 24 gram, or expand or support an existing mentoring
 25 program, in all middle schools served by the entity

1 under which each eligible student enrolled in such
2 schools is assigned to a success coach who—

3 “(A) creates a plan for success for the stu-
4 dent that—

5 “(i) is reviewed with the student and
6 teachers and parents of the student;

7 “(ii) includes, for each academic year,
8 the student’s academic, personal, and ca-
9 reer exploration goals, and a strategy on
10 how to accomplish such goals; and

11 “(iii) identifies the student’s
12 strengths, weaknesses, and academic
13 progress;

14 “(B) enters into a signed, written agree-
15 ment with the parents of the student that de-
16 scribes how the parents should assist the stu-
17 dent in carrying out the plan for success;

18 “(C) meets with the student at least once
19 per month to—

20 “(i) assist the student in achieving the
21 goals under the plan for success;

22 “(ii) identify the student’s academic
23 areas of weaknesses and work with the
24 parents and teachers of the student to pro-
25 vide the student with the tools necessary to

1 develop the student’s potential for aca-
2 demic excellence and ensure the student’s
3 successful transition from middle school to
4 high school; and

5 “(iii) in the case of a student with be-
6 havioral issues, assist the student in behav-
7 ior management techniques;

8 “(D) at least quarterly, meets with the stu-
9 dent and the parents, teachers, or counselors of
10 the student to—

11 “(i) evaluate the student’s progress in
12 achieving the goals under the plan for the
13 current academic year; and

14 “(ii) revise or establish new goals for
15 the next academic year; and

16 “(E) serves as the student’s advocate be-
17 tween the teachers and parents of the student
18 to ensure that the teachers and parents under-
19 stand the student’s plan.

20 “(2) AUTHORIZED USES OF FUNDS.—An eligi-
21 ble entity that receives a grant under this section
22 may use such funds to—

23 “(A) develop and carry out a training pro-
24 gram for success coaches; and

1 “(B) cover the cost of any materials used
2 by success coaches under the mentoring pro-
3 gram.

4 “(d) GRANT DURATION.—A grant under this section
5 shall be awarded for a period of 5 years.

6 “(e) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

7 “(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An eligible entity
8 receiving a grant under this section shall submit to
9 the Secretary, at the end of each academic year dur-
10 ing the grant period, a report that includes—

11 “(A) the number of students who partici-
12 pated in the school-based mentoring program
13 that was funded in whole or in part with the
14 grant funds under this section;

15 “(B) data on the academic achievement of
16 such students;

17 “(C) the number of contact hours between
18 such students and their success coaches; and

19 “(D) any other information that the Sec-
20 retary may require to evaluate the success of
21 the school-based mentoring program.

22 “(2) SECRETARY.—

23 “(A) INTERIM REPORT.—At the end of the
24 third fiscal year for which funds are made
25 available to carry out this section, the Secretary

1 shall submit to Congress an interim report on
2 the success of the school-based mentoring pro-
3 grams funded with grant funds received under
4 this section that includes the information re-
5 ceived under paragraph (1).

6 “(B) FINAL REPORT.—At the end of the
7 fifth fiscal year for which funds are made avail-
8 able to carry out this section, the Secretary
9 shall submit to Congress a final report on the
10 success of the school-based mentoring programs
11 funded with grant funds received under this
12 section that includes the information received
13 under paragraph (1).

14 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 “(1) AT-RISK STUDENT.—The term ‘at-risk stu-
16 dent’ means a student who has been identified as a
17 student that has below a 2.0 grade point average or
18 the equivalent and who may—

19 “(A) be at-risk of academic failure;

20 “(B) be dropping out of school;

21 “(C) have a drug or alcohol problem;

22 “(D) be pregnant or a parent;

23 “(E) have come into contact with the juve-
24 nile justice system in the past;

25 “(F) have limited English proficiency;

1 “(G) be a gang member;

2 “(H) have dropped out of school in the
3 past; or

4 “(I) have a high absenteeism rate at
5 school.

6 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
7 tity’ means—

8 “(A) a local educational agency that—

9 “(i) receives, or is eligible to receive,
10 funds under part A of title I; or

11 “(ii) is a high-need local educational
12 agency; or

13 “(B) a partnership between a local edu-
14 cational agency described in subparagraph (A)
15 and a nonprofit, community-based organization.

16 “(3) ELIGIBLE STUDENT.—The term ‘eligible
17 student’ means a student who—

18 “(A) is enrolled in a middle school served
19 by an eligible entity; and

20 “(B) is an at-risk student.

21 “(4) HIGH-NEED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-
22 CY.—The term ‘high-need local educational agency’
23 has the meaning given to the term in section
24 2102(3)(A) of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
25 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6602(3)(A)).

1 “(5) MIDDLE SCHOOL.—The term ‘middle
2 school’ means a nonprofit institutional day or resi-
3 dential school, including a public charter school, that
4 provides middle school education, as determined
5 under State law, except that the term does not in-
6 clude any education below grade 6 or beyond grade
7 9.

8 “(6) SCHOOL-BASED MENTORING.—The term
9 ‘school-based mentoring’ refers to mentoring activi-
10 ties that—

11 “(A) are closely coordinated with a school
12 by involving teachers, counselors, and other
13 school staff who may identify and refer stu-
14 dents for mentoring services; and

15 “(B) assist at-risk students in improving
16 academic achievement, reducing disciplinary re-
17 ferrals, and increasing positive regard for
18 school.

19 “(7) SUCCESS COACH.—The term ‘success
20 coach’ means an individual who—

21 “(A) is—

22 “(i) an employee of a local educational
23 agency in which a mentoring program re-
24 ceiving support under this section is being
25 carried out; or

1 “(ii) a volunteer from a nonprofit,
2 community-based organization that pro-
3 vides volunteers for mentoring programs in
4 secondary schools; and

5 “(B) prior to becoming a success coach—

6 “(i) received training and support in
7 mentoring from an eligible entity; and

8 “(ii) underwent a screening by an eli-
9 gible entity that included—

10 “(I) appropriate job reference
11 checks;

12 “(II) child and domestic abuse
13 record checks; and

14 “(III) criminal background
15 checks.”.

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