

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 579

To provide for grants from the Secretary of Education to State and local educational agencies for EnergySmart schools and Energy Star programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 15, 2009

Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. HONDA, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. SIRES, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Mr. POLIS of Colorado, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. WU, and Ms. CLARKE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To provide for grants from the Secretary of Education to State and local educational agencies for EnergySmart schools and Energy Star programs.

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 “School Building En-
5 hancement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 The Secretary of Education may provide grants—

1 (1) to State educational agencies and local edu-
2 cational agencies for providing intensive technical as-
3 sistance for, and assisting the implementation of, the
4 EnergySmart Schools Program of the Department
5 of Energy and the Energy Star for K–12 School
6 Districts program of the Environmental Protection
7 Agency;

8 (2) to local educational agencies that become
9 partners through the Energy Star for K–12 School
10 Districts program of the Environmental Protection
11 Agency; and

12 (3) to State educational agencies for use in the
13 development of State-level school energy efficiency
14 quality plans, in partnership with the Department of
15 Energy, including—

16 (A) standards for school building design,
17 construction, and renovation; and

18 (B) proposals for the systematic improve-
19 ment (including benchmarks and timelines) of
20 environmental conditions in and around schools
21 throughout the State, including—

22 (i) environmentally preferable pur-
23 chasing of products for instruction and
24 maintenance;

- 1 (ii) increasing the use of alternative
2 energy fuels in school buses; and
3 (iii) maximization of transportation
4 choices for students, staff, and other mem-
5 bers of the community.

6 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL SHARE.**

7 The Federal share of the cost of a project or activity
8 carried out using funds from a grant under this Act shall
9 not exceed 90 percent.

10 **SEC. 4. GRANT PRIORITY.**

11 In providing grants under section 2(1), the Secretary
12 of Education shall give priority to projects to provide as-
13 sistance to school districts that have a demonstrated need
14 for energy efficiency improvement.

15 **SEC. 5. DEFINITION.**

16 For purposes of this Act, the terms “State edu-
17 cational agency” and “local educational agency” have the
18 meanings given those terms in section 9101 of the Ele-
19 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
20 7801).

21 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
23 retary of Education to carry out this Act such sums as

- 1 may be necessary for the period encompassing fiscal years
- 2 2009 through 2014.

