

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2263

To authorize the Secretary of Education to establish the National Program for Arts and Technology Act as a Federal program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 29, 2012

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. BROWN of Ohio) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Education to establish the National Program for Arts and Technology Act as a Federal program.

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 Program for
5 Arts and Technology Act of 2012”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDING AND PURPOSES.**

7 (a) FINDING.—Congress finds that the national pro-
8 gram for arts and technology established under this Act
9 will be one of the first national replication programs in

1 the United States dedicated to addressing the complex
2 needs of the poor and undereducated by improving the
3 sustainability of neighborhoods, communities, and regions.

4 (b) PURPOSES.—It is the purpose of this Act to es-
5 tablish the national program for arts and technology to
6 provide competitive grants for qualified centers and inter-
7 ested communities to implement or found a qualified cen-
8 ter that adopts the guidelines set forth by the Secretary,
9 for the purposes of—

10 (1) creating an institution within an environ-
11 ment of poverty where individuals feel and foster a
12 sense of belonging, and are valued and treated with
13 dignity;

14 (2) creating professional jobs for instructors,
15 trainers, artists, administrators, and others;

16 (3) collaborating with Federal agencies, private
17 industry, nonprofit philanthropic organizations, and
18 planning and economic development organizations to
19 leverage other investment dollars on behalf of all
20 stakeholders;

21 (4) assisting business and industry to achieve
22 long-term vitality by ensuring the development of a
23 trained and knowledgeable workforce;

1 (5) coordinating with existing social service en-
 2 tities and nonprofit organizations on developing di-
 3 verse and equitable communities;

4 (6) developing industry specific job training
 5 programs for the under- and unemployed that are
 6 both affordable and accessible;

7 (7) bridging the gap between education and life-
 8 long learning for poor performing students through
 9 the discipline of craftsmanship in the visual arts;
 10 and

11 (8) developing complimentary extended day or
 12 year programming in partnership with the local pub-
 13 lic schools to help engage at-risk students by con-
 14 necting classroom instruction with applied and expe-
 15 riential programming in the arts.

16 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

17 In this Act:

18 (1) CENTER OF ORIGIN.—The term “Center of
 19 Origin” means Manchester Bidwell, nonprofit cor-
 20 poration, the education and community development
 21 model upon which the national program for arts and
 22 technology is based.

23 (2) INTERESTED COMMUNITIES.—The term
 24 “interested community” means a community that
 25 does the following:

1 (A) Demonstrates to the Secretary finan-
 2 cial support from 1 or more of the following:

3 (i) Sectors of government.

4 (ii) Education.

5 (iii) Philanthropy.

6 (iv) Social services.

7 (v) Corporations.

8 (vi) Arts organizations.

9 (B) Convenes an advisory committee com-
 10 prised of diverse community stakeholders who
 11 are committed to creating a qualified center in
 12 their community.

13 (C) Has identified potential funding that
 14 will be used to secure the Federal matching re-
 15 quirements described in section 4(c).

16 (3) NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR ARTS AND TECH-
 17 NOLOGY.—The term “national program for arts and
 18 technology” means a program that is based on the
 19 education and training model of Manchester Bidwell.

20 (4) QUALIFIED CENTER.—The term “qualified
 21 center” means a private, nonprofit educational entity
 22 that—

23 (A) operates under the guidelines and
 24 practices established by the national program

1 for arts and technology, in consultation with the
2 Secretary, and—

3 (i) provides education and training to
4 underemployed or unemployed individuals
5 in industry specific job skills;

6 (ii) is accessible to communities and
7 neighborhoods that have limited access to
8 transportation;

9 (iii) compliments the learning of tar-
10 geted public middle school or high school
11 students who are at-risk of dropping out of
12 school; and

13 (iv) is housed in a facility that has
14 been reclaimed and renovated to sustain-
15 able building standards or newly con-
16 structed as a highly efficient green space;
17 and

18 (B) has a valid affiliation agreement with
19 the Center of Origin and complies with the fol-
20 lowing:

21 (i) Meets quarterly performance goals,
22 which may include—

23 (I) students' school attendance
24 and behavior;

25 (II) retention in programming;

1 (III) meeting and exceeding re-
2 cruitment and enrollment metrics;

3 (IV) student outcomes and per-
4 formance in training; and

5 (V) job placement.

6 (ii) Adheres to essential operating
7 conditions including environment, targeted
8 populations, and educational model.

9 (iii) Participates in professional devel-
10 opment opportunities for members of the
11 board, executives, and staff.

12 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
13 the Secretary of Education.

14 **SEC. 4. GRANT PROGRAM.**

15 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From the amounts ap-
16 propriated to carry out this Act, the Secretary shall estab-
17 lish and implement the national program for arts and
18 technology to award grants, on a competitive basis, to
19 qualified centers and interested communities to—

20 (1) provide financial support to the centers and
21 communities to establish a new qualified center to
22 carry out the purposes described in section 2(b); and

23 (2) provide management expertise to guide the
24 centers and communities through the 3-phase rep-
25 lication protocol developed by the Center of Origin

1 to ensure standardization across all qualified centers
2 as to performance goals and objectives, operating
3 culture, and teaching models.

4 (b) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Federal funds
5 received under this Act may not be used for capital ex-
6 penditures or endowment gifts.

7 (c) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.—To be eligible to
8 receive a grant under this Act, a qualified center or inter-
9 ested community shall, for each fiscal year for which the
10 grant is received, provide non-Federal contributions
11 (which may include in-kind contributions) toward the
12 amount of the grant in an amount equal to \$1 for each
13 \$1 of Federal funds provided under the grant.

14 (d) APPLICATION AND ANNUAL REPORT.—

15 (1) APPLICATION.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive
17 a grant under this Act, a qualified center or in-
18 terested community shall submit an application
19 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner,
20 and containing such information as the Sec-
21 retary may require.

22 (B) CONTENT.—An application submitted
23 under subparagraph (A) shall, at a minimum,
24 contain—

- 1 (i) a description of activities to be car-
2 ried out under the grant;
- 3 (ii) information on specific measurable
4 goals and objectives to be achieved through
5 activities carried out under the grant;
- 6 (iii) evidence of an affiliation with a
7 local community; and
- 8 (iv) evidence of a teaching model con-
9 sistent with the Secretary's criteria pre-
10 scribed pursuant to regulations.

11 (2) ANNUAL REPORT.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each qualified center
13 or interested community receiving a grant
14 under this Act shall submit to the Secretary an
15 annual report at such time, in such manner,
16 and containing such information as the Sec-
17 retary may require.

18 (B) CONTENT.—An annual report sub-
19 mitted under subparagraph (A) shall, at a min-
20 imum, describe the degree to which progress
21 has been made toward meeting the specific
22 measurable goals and objectives described in the
23 applications submitted under paragraph (1).

1 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated \$25,000,000 to carry out
3 this Act for the period of fiscal years 2012 through 2016.

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