#### 112TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

# S. 620

To authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to support fire safety education programs on college campuses.

#### IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

March 17, 2011

Mr. Lautenberg (for himself and Mr. Menendez) 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 make grants to support fire safety education programs on college campuses.

- 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 "Campus Fire Safety
- 5 Education Act of 2011".
- 6 SEC. 2. PURPOSE.
- 7 The purpose of this Act is to help provide fire safety
- 8 education and training to students attending institutions
- 9 of higher education.

1	SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY
2	EDUCATION COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.
3	(a) Authorization of Grant Program.—From
4	the amounts appropriated under section 7, the Secretary,
5	in consultation with the Administrator, shall establish a
6	grant program to award grants, on a competitive basis,
7	to eligible entities for—
8	(1) initiating, expanding, or improving fire safe-
9	ty education programs at institutions of higher edu-
10	cation; and
11	(2) increasing fire safety awareness among stu-
12	dents enrolled at such institutions, including stu-
13	dents living in off-campus housing.
14	(b) APPLICATION.—To seek a grant under this Act,
15	an eligible entity shall submit an application to the Sec-
16	retary at such time, in such manner, and containing such
17	information as the Secretary may require.
18	(c) Selection Priority.—In making grants under
19	this Act, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible enti-
20	ties that plan to use grant funds received under this Act
21	to initiate, expand, or improve fire safety education pro-
22	grams that include educational material specifically pre-
23	pared for students with physical, sensory, or cognitive dis-
24	abilities.
25	(d) Grant Period.—Grants under this Act shall be
26	awarded for not longer than a 2-year period, and may be

- 1 renewed for an additional 2-year period, at the Secretary's
- 2 discretion.
- 3 (e) Grant Size.—The Secretary shall ensure that
- 4 grants awarded under this Act are of sufficient size and
- 5 scope to enable grantees to carry out all required activities
- 6 and otherwise meet the purpose of this Act, except that
- 7 an eligible entity may not be awarded more than \$250,000
- 8 per fiscal year under this Act.
- 9 (f) Matching Requirement.—An eligible entity re-
- 10 ceiving a grant under this Act shall provide non-Federal
- 11 matching funds in an amount equal to not less than 25
- 12 percent of the costs of the activities for which assistance
- 13 is sought. Such non-Federal matching funds may be in
- 14 cash or in kind.
- 15 (g) Supplement Not Supplant.—Funds made
- 16 available under this Act shall be used to supplement, not
- 17 supplant, other Federal, State, or private funds that would
- 18 otherwise be expended to carry out fire safety education
- 19 programs.
- 20 SEC. 4. REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.
- 21 (a) REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity
- 22 receiving a grant under this Act shall use grant funds to
- 23 initiate, expand, or improve a fire safety education pro-
- 24 gram that—

1	(1) in the case of an eligible entity that is an
2	institution of higher education, reaches, to the ex-
3	tent practicable, all students enrolled in the institu-
4	tion of higher education, including students living
5	on-campus and off-campus;
6	(2) is carried out in a manner to ensure max-
7	imum exposure to, increased awareness of, and effec-
8	tuate change in behavior with respect to fire safety
9	by students through—
10	(A) conducting outreach to students at a
11	minimum of twice per academic year (at the be-
12	ginning of the fall and spring semesters, or the
13	equivalent); and
14	(B) measures that provide fire safety infor-
15	mation to any student upon the request of the
16	student;
17	(3) includes minimum instruction with respect
18	to—
19	(A) awareness of fire behavior;
20	(B) mechanisms of fire injury and death;
21	(C) common ignition scenarios;
22	(D) fire safety systems such as automatic
23	fire sprinklers;
24	(E) fire alarms;
25	(F) fire extinguishers;

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(G) importance of means of egress;

2	(H) fire prevention techniques that may
3	prevent a fire from occurring (such as candle
4	safety, cooking safety, and smoking safety); and
5	(I) fire safety actions to be taken if a fire
6	occurs to minimize the potential for death, in-
7	jury, and property damage (such as knowing
8	how to use a fire extinguisher, how to put out
9	a cooking fire, calling 911, and evacuating);
10	and
11	(4) includes a mechanism for carrying out the
12	evaluations described in subsection (b).
13	(b) Evaluations.—Not later than 6 months after
14	the end of an eligible entity's grant period, the eligible en-
15	tity shall—
16	(1) conduct an evaluation on the effectiveness
17	of the program carried out by the entity in increas-
18	ing awareness or improving fire safety behavior at
19	such entity; and
20	(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary a re-
21	port on the results of the evaluation conducted by
22	the entity.
23	SEC. 5. REPORTS.
24	(a) Report to Congress.—Not later than 12
25	months after the date of receipt of the first report sub-

- 1 mitted pursuant to section 4(b)(2) and annually there-
- 2 after, the Secretary shall provide to Congress a report that
- 3 includes the following:
- 4 (1) The number and types of eligible entities re-5 ceiving assistance under this Act.
- 6 (2) The fire safety education programs being 7 implemented with assistance under this Act and the 8 costs of such programs.
- 9 (3) Any other information determined by the 10 Secretary to be useful in evaluating the overall effec-11 tiveness of the program established under this Act in 12 improving the fire safety knowledge of college stu-13 dents.
- 14 (b) BEST PRACTICES REPORT.—The Secretary, in 15 consultation with the Administrator, shall use the infor-16 mation provided under subsection (a) to publish a report 17 of best practices for initiating, expanding, or improving 18 fire safety education programs that shall be made avail-19 able to all institutions of higher education and other inter-20 ested parties.
- 21 SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.
- In this Act:
- 23 (1) Administrator.—The term "Adminis-
- 24 trator' means the Administrator of the United

- 1 States Fire Administration of the Federal Emer-2 gency Management Agency.
- 3 (2) FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The
  4 term "fire safety education program" means a pro5 gram that provides fire safety and prevention activi6 ties.
  - (3) Institution of Higher Education.—The term "institution of higher education" has the meaning given to such term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).
  - (4) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term "eligible entity" means an institution of higher education, or consortium of institutions of higher education located in the same State, in a collaborative partnership with a nonprofit organization or a public safety department. Such a collaborative partnership may also include a social fraternity or sorority exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 501(a)), the active membership of which consists primarily of students enrolled at the institution or institutions.
  - (5) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Education.

### 1 SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

- 2 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
- 3 this Act \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through

4 2016.

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