

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 700

To direct the Secretary of Education to carry out the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Education to fund directed development projects to support targeted breakthroughs in teaching and learning.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 14, 2013

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Education to carry out the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Education to fund directed development projects to support targeted breakthroughs in teaching and learning.

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 “ARPA-ED” Act.

5 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ADVANCED RESEARCH**
6 **PROJECT AGENCY-EDUCATION.**

7 (a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—From the amounts
8 appropriated for section 14007 of division A of the Amer-

1 ican Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law
2 111–5), the Secretary of Education may reserve up to 30
3 percent to—

4 (1) establish and carry out the Advanced Re-
5 search Projects Agency-Education (in this Act re-
6 ferred to as “ARPA–ED”) to—

7 (A) identify and promote advances in
8 learning, fundamental and applied sciences, and
9 engineering that may be translated into new
10 learning technologies;

11 (B) develop, test, and evaluate new learn-
12 ing technologies and related processes; and

13 (C) accelerate transformational techno-
14 logical advances in education;

15 (2) convene an advisory panel under subsection
16 (d); and

17 (3) carry out the evaluation and dissemination
18 requirements under subsection (e).

19 (b) APPOINTMENTS.—

20 (1) DIRECTOR.—ARPA–ED shall be under the
21 direction of the Director of ARPA–ED, who shall be
22 appointed by the Secretary.

23 (2) QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS.—The Secretary
24 shall appoint, for a term of not more than 4 years,
25 qualified individuals who represent scientific, engi-

neering, professional, and other personnel with expertise in carrying out the activities described in this section to positions in ARPA-ED, at rates of compensation determined by the Secretary, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, except that such rates of compensation shall not to exceed the rate for level I of the Executive Schedule under section 5312 of such title.

(c) FUNCTIONS OF ARPA-ED.—Upon consultation with the advisory panel convened under subsection (d), the Secretary shall select public and private entities to carry out the activities described in subsection (a)(1) by—

(1) awarding such entities grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, or cash prizes; or

(2) entering into such other transactions with such entities as the Secretary may prescribe in regulations.

(d) ADVISORY PANEL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall convene an advisory panel to advise and consult with the Secretary, Director, and the qualified individuals appointed under subsection (b)(2) on—

(A) ensuring that the awards made and transaction entered into under subsection (c)

1 are consistent with the purposes described in
2 subsection (a)(1); and

3 (B) ensuring the relevance, accessibility,
4 and utility of such awards and transactions to
5 education practitioners.

6 (2) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS.—The Sec-
7 retary shall appoint the following qualified individ-
8 uals to serve on the advisory panel:

9 (A) Education practitioners.

10 (B) Experts in technology.

11 (C) Specialists in rapid gains in student
12 achievement and school turnaround.

13 (D) Specialists in personalized learning.

14 (E) Researchers, including at least one
15 representative from a comprehensive center es-
16 tablished under 203 of the Educational Tech-
17 nical Assistance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9602)
18 or the regional laboratories system established
19 under section 174 of the Education Sciences
20 Reform Act (20 U.S.C. 9564).

21 (F) Other individuals with expertise who
22 will contribute to the overall rigor and quality
23 of ARPA–ED.

24 (3) APPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal Ad-
25 visory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not

1 apply to the panel convened under this subsection
2 and any appointee to such panel shall not be consid-
3 ered an “employee” under section 2105 of title 5,
4 United States Code.

5 (e) EVALUATION AND DISSEMINATION.—

6 (1) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall obtain
7 independent, periodic, and rigorous evaluation of—

8 (A) the effectiveness of the processes
9 ARPA–Ed is using to achieve the purposes de-
10 scribed in subsection (a)(1);

11 (B) the relevance, accessibility, and utility
12 of the awards made and transactions entered
13 into under subsection (c) to education practi-
14 tioners; and

15 (C) the effectiveness of the projects carried
16 out through such awards and transactions,
17 using evidence standards developed in consulta-
18 tion with the Institute of Education Sciences,
19 and the suitability of such projects for further
20 investment or increased scale.

21 (2) DISSEMINATION AND USE.—The Secretary
22 shall disseminate information to education practi-
23 tioners, including teachers, principals, and local and
24 State superintendents, on effective practices and

1 technologies developed under ARPA–ED, as appro-
2 priate, through—

3 (A) the comprehensive centers established
4 under 203 of the Educational Technical Assist-
5 ance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9602);

6 (B) the regional laboratories system estab-
7 lished under section 174 of the Education
8 Sciences Reform Act (20 U.S.C. 9564); and

9 (C) such other means as the Secretary de-
10 termines to be appropriate.

11 (f) ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS.—Notwith-
12 standing section 437(d) of the General Education Provi-
13 sions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232(d)), the Secretary shall estab-
14 lish such processes as may be necessary for the Secretary
15 to manage and administer ARPA–ED, which are not con-
16 strained by other Department-wide administrative require-
17 ments that may prevent ARPA–ED from carrying out the
18 purposes described in subsection (a)(1).

19 (g) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this Act:

20 (1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
21 means the Department of Education.

22 (2) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
23 the Director of ARPA–ED.

- 1 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of Education.

