

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1052

To create and expand innovative teacher and principal preparation programs known as teacher and principal preparation academies.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23, 2013

Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KIRK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. LANDRIEU) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To create and expand innovative teacher and principal preparation programs known as teacher and principal preparation academies.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Growing Education Achievement Training Academies for
6 Teachers and Principals Act” or the “GREAT Teachers
7 and Principals Act”.

8 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
9 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 Sec. 2. Purpose.
 Sec. 3. Definitions.
 Sec. 4. State grants.
 Sec. 5. Subgrants to teacher or principal preparation academies.
 Sec. 6. Coordination with the Corporation for National and Community Service.
 Sec. 7. Authorization of appropriations.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 The purpose of this Act is to encourage innovation
 3 in the field of teacher and principal preparation by cre-
 4 ating and expanding teacher or principal preparation
 5 academies that will increase the number of effective teach-
 6 ers and principals serving in high-needs schools and hard-
 7 to-staff subjects.

8 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

10 (1) **PRINCIPAL PREPARATION ACADEMY.**—The
 11 term “principal preparation academy” means a pub-
 12 lic or other nonprofit institution for preparing prin-
 13 cipals that—

14 (A) enters into a charter with a State au-
 15 thorizer that specifies the goals and outcomes
 16 expected of the principal preparation academy
 17 and the obligations of the State authorizer, in-
 18 cluding—

19 (i) a requirement that—

20 (I) principal candidates, or prin-
 21 cipals serving on alternative certifi-
 22 cates, licenses, or credentials, who are

1 enrolled in the principal preparation
2 academy receive a significant part of
3 their training through clinical prepa-
4 ration that partners the principal can-
5 didate with a mentor principal; and

6 (II) the academy will provide in-
7 struction to the principal candidate
8 that links to the clinical preparation
9 experience;

10 (ii) the number of principals the prin-
11 cipal preparation academy will produce and
12 the minimum number and percentage of
13 effective principals with a demonstrated
14 track record of success in getting a
15 school's students on track to being career
16 and college ready;

17 (iii) a requirement that a certificate of
18 completion (or degree, if the principal
19 preparation academy is, or is affiliated
20 with, an institution of higher education)
21 will be conferred upon a graduate from the
22 principal preparation academy only after
23 the graduate demonstrates a track record
24 of success in getting a school's students on
25 track to being college and career ready;

1 (iv) a requirement that the principal
2 preparation academy survey the academy's
3 alumni not less than once every 3 years to
4 track the number of alumni employed as
5 principals and in education; and

6 (v) timelines for producing cohorts of
7 graduates and conferring certificates of
8 completion (or degrees, if the principal
9 preparation academy is, or is affiliated
10 with, an institution of higher education)
11 from the principal preparation academy;

12 (B) shall not have unnecessary restrictions
13 on the methods the principal preparation acad-
14 emy will use to train principal candidates, in-
15 cluding restrictions or requirements—

16 (i) obligating the faculty of the prin-
17 cipal preparation academy faculty to hold
18 advanced degrees;

19 (ii) obligating such faculty to conduct
20 academic research;

21 (iii) related to the physical infrastruc-
22 ture of the principal preparation academy;

23 or

1 (iv) related to the number of course
 2 credits required as part of the program of
 3 study; and

4 (C) limits admission to its program to can-
 5 didates who demonstrate strong potential to be
 6 effective principals, based on a rigorous, com-
 7 petency-based selection process that reviews a
 8 candidate's prior academic achievement or
 9 record of professional accomplishment.

10 (2) STATE AUTHORIZER.—The term “State au-
 11 thorizer” means an entity designated by the State to
 12 recognize teacher or principal preparation academies
 13 within the State that—

14 (A) may be a nonprofit organization, State
 15 educational agency, or other public entity, or
 16 consortium of such entities (including a consor-
 17 tium of States); and

18 (B) does not renew a teacher or principal
 19 preparation academy's charter if the academy
 20 fails to produce the minimum number or per-
 21 centage of effective teachers or principals, re-
 22 spectively, identified in the academy's charter.

23 (3) TEACHER OR PRINCIPAL PREPARATION
 24 ACADEMY.—The term “teacher or principal prepara-

tion academy” means a teacher preparation academy
or a principal preparation academy.

(4) TEACHER PREPARATION ACADEMY.—The
term “teacher preparation academy” means a public
or other nonprofit institution for preparing teachers
that—

(A) enters into a charter with a State au-
thorizer that specifies the goals and outcomes
expected of the teacher preparation academy
and the obligations of the State authorizer, in-
cluding—

(i) a requirement that—

(I) teacher candidates, or teach-
ers teaching on alternative certifi-
cates, licenses, or credentials, who are
enrolled in the teacher preparation
academy receive a significant part of
their training through clinical prepa-
ration that partners teacher can-
didates with mentor teachers with a
demonstrated track record of success
in improving academic achievement in
the classroom; and

(II) the academy will provide in-
struction to teacher candidates that

1 links to the clinical preparation experience;
2

3 (ii) the number of teachers the teacher preparation academy will produce and
4 the minimum number and percentage of
5 effective teachers with a demonstrated
6 track record of success in getting students
7 on track to being college and career ready,
8 based on multiple measures of student
9 achievement;
10

11 (iii) a requirement that a teacher preparation academy will only award a certificate of completion (or degree, if the
12 teacher preparation academy is, or is affiliated with, an institution of higher education) after the graduate demonstrates
13 the track record of success described in
14 clause (ii), either as a student teacher or
15 teacher-of-record on an alternative certificate, license, or credential;
16
17

18 (iv) a requirement that the teacher preparation academy survey the academy's
19 alumni not less than once every 3 years to
20 track the number of alumni employed as
21 teachers and in education; and
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23
24
25

1 (v) timelines for producing cohorts of
 2 graduates and conferring certificates of
 3 completion (or degrees, if the teacher prep-
 4 aration academy is, or is affiliated with, an
 5 institution of higher education) from the
 6 teacher preparation academy;

7 (B) shall not have unnecessary restrictions
 8 on the methods or inputs the teacher prepara-
 9 tion academy will use to train teacher can-
 10 didates or teachers teaching on alternative cer-
 11 tificates, licenses, or credentials, including re-
 12 strictions or requirements—

13 (i) obligating the faculty of the teach-
 14 er preparation academy to hold advanced
 15 degrees;

16 (ii) obligating such faculty to conduct
 17 academic research;

18 (iii) related to the physical infrastruc-
 19 ture of the teacher preparation academy;

20 (iv) related to the number of course
 21 credits required as part of the program of
 22 study;

23 (v) related to the undergraduate
 24 coursework completed by teachers teaching
 25 on alternative certificates, licenses, or cre-

1 dentials, as long as such teachers have suc-
 2 cessfully passed all relevant State-approved
 3 content area examinations; or

4 (vi) related to obtaining additional ac-
 5 creditation from a national accrediting
 6 body; and

7 (C) limits admission to its program to can-
 8 didates who demonstrate strong potential to be
 9 effective teachers, based on a rigorous selection
 10 process that reviews a candidate's prior aca-
 11 demic achievement or record of professional ac-
 12 complishment.

13 **SEC. 4. STATE GRANTS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
 15 award grants to States having applications approved
 16 under subsection (b) to enable such States to create or
 17 expand teacher or principal preparation academies.

18 (b) APPLICATIONS.—Each State that desires a grant
 19 under this Act shall submit an application to the Secretary
 20 at such time, in such manner, and containing such infor-
 21 mation as the Secretary may reasonably require. The ap-
 22 plication shall include—

23 (1) an assurance that the State does not have
 24 in place legal, statutory, or regulatory barriers to the

1 creation or operation of teacher or principal prepara-
2 tion academies;

3 (2) a description of how the State will promote
4 the creation and expansion of teacher or principal
5 preparation academies;

6 (3) a description of how the authorization and
7 approval of teacher or principal preparation acad-
8 emies is separate and distinct from the requirements
9 otherwise established by the State for approval of
10 other teacher or principal preparation programs;

11 (4) a description of the process the State au-
12 thorizer will use to authorize and approve a teacher
13 or principal preparation academy that—

14 (A) enables participants in the academy to
15 be eligible for State financial aid to the same
16 extent as participants in other State-approved
17 teacher or principal preparation programs, in-
18 cluding alternative certification, licensure, or
19 credential programs;

20 (B) enables teachers who are teaching on
21 alternative certificates, licenses, or credentials
22 to teach in the State while enrolled in a teacher
23 preparation academy; and

24 (C) enables graduates from teacher prepa-
25 ration academies to be eligible to teach in such

1 State and graduates from principal preparation
 2 academies to be eligible to be a principal in a
 3 school in such State;

4 (5) a description of the process the State au-
 5 thorizer will use to monitor the success of—

6 (A) a teacher preparation academy in—

7 (i) producing effective teachers that
 8 demonstrate a track record of success in
 9 getting students on track to being college
 10 and career ready, based on multiple meas-
 11 ures of student achievement; and

12 (ii) preparing teachers to teach in
 13 high-needs schools or hard-to-staff sub-
 14 jects, such as science, technology, engineer-
 15 ing, mathematics, and computer science;
 16 and

17 (B) a principal preparation academy in—

18 (i) producing effective principals that
 19 demonstrate a track record of success in
 20 getting students in a school on track to
 21 being career and college ready; and

22 (ii) preparing principals to serve in
 23 high-needs schools or hard-to-staff sub-
 24 jects;

1 (6) the criteria the State authorizer will apply
 2 in renewing or denying a teacher or principal prepa-
 3 ration academy's charter, including the minimum
 4 number and percentage of effective teachers or prin-
 5 cipals such academy must produce in order to renew
 6 its charter; and

7 (7) an assurance that the State will recognize
 8 a certificate of completion (from a teacher or prin-
 9 cipal preparation academy that is not, or is unaffili-
 10 ated with, an institution of higher education), as at
 11 least the equivalent of a master's degree in edu-
 12 cation for the purposes of teacher or principal hir-
 13 ing, retention, compensation, and promotion in the
 14 State.

15 (c) USES OF FUNDS.—A State receiving a grant
 16 under this Act shall use grant funds to—

17 (1) implement a process by which to—

18 (A) create or designate State authorizers;

19 and

20 (B) create or approve teacher or principal
 21 preparation academies;

22 (2) support, directly or through a nonprofit
 23 intermediary organization, the establishment and op-
 24 eration of teacher or principal preparation academies

1 by assisting entities with the planning, program de-
2 sign, and implementation of such programs; and

3 (3) award subgrants to teacher or principal
4 preparation academies in the State in accordance
5 with section 5.

6 **SEC. 5. SUBGRANTS TO TEACHER OR PRINCIPAL PREPARA-**
7 **TION ACADEMIES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts made available
9 under section 4(c)(3), a State shall award subgrants to
10 nonprofit entities to carry out activities described in sub-
11 section (d).

12 (b) APPLICATIONS.—Each nonprofit entity desiring a
13 subgrant under this section from a State shall submit an
14 application to a State authorizer designated by the State
15 to receive such applications. The application shall include,
16 at a minimum—

17 (1) a description of the teacher or principal
18 preparation academy's proposed curriculum, training
19 of teacher or principal candidates (including clinical
20 training), and approach to teacher or principal de-
21 velopment;

22 (2) the student achievement outcomes the entity
23 will require of academy graduates before conferring
24 a degree or certificate of completion from the pro-
25 gram, with timelines for obtaining such outcomes;

1 (3) a multi-year financial and operating model
2 for the entity;

3 (4) the qualifications of the entity's chief execu-
4 tive officer or organization leader; and

5 (5) a description of how the teacher or principal
6 preparation academy is designed to prepare teachers
7 or principals to serve in high-need areas (including
8 rural areas and Native American communities), or
9 hard-to-staff subjects.

10 (c) PRIORITY.—In awarding subgrants under this
11 section, a State shall give a priority to entities proposing
12 to expand previously existing teacher or principal prepara-
13 tion programs, as of the date of application, with a dem-
14 onstrated track record of success in getting students on
15 track to being college and career ready.

16 (d) USES OF FUNDS.—An entity that receives a
17 subgrant under this section shall use its subgrant—

18 (1) to establish a teacher or principal prepara-
19 tion academy;

20 (2) to expand the capacity of a teacher or prin-
21 cipal preparation academy;

22 (3) to measure the effectiveness of a teacher or
23 principal preparation academy in improving student
24 academic achievement, as demonstrated by getting
25 students on track to be college and career ready; or

1 (4) to recruit candidates for a teacher or prin-
2 cipal preparation academy who have demonstrated
3 strong potential to be effective teachers or prin-
4 cipals, based on a rigorous, competency-based selec-
5 tion process that reviews a candidate's prior aca-
6 demic achievement or record of professional accom-
7 plishment.

8 **SEC. 6. COORDINATION WITH THE CORPORATION FOR NA-**
9 **TIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.**

10 (a) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT.—The Secretary
11 shall enter into an interagency agreement with the Cor-
12 poration for National and Community Service under sec-
13 tion 121(b) of the National and Community Service Act
14 of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12571(b)) under which the Corpora-
15 tion shall approve positions, for candidates at each teacher
16 or principal preparation academy that receives financial
17 assistance under this Act, as approved national service po-
18 sitions, as defined in section 101 of the National and Com-
19 munity Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12511). Such
20 interagency agreement shall specify how a degree or cer-
21 tificate of completion for a term of service as a participant
22 at a teacher or principal preparation academy will be sub-
23 mitted to the Corporation.

24 (b) SPECIAL RULE.—Notwithstanding section 148 of
25 the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42

1 U.S.C. 12604), the Secretary and the Chief Executive Of-
2 ficer of the Corporation for National and Community
3 Service shall develop a program under which national serv-
4 ice educational awards may be disbursed to a teacher or
5 principal preparation academy to cover or reimburse the
6 costs of attending the academy.

7 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
9 this Act such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal
10 years 2014 through 2018.

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