

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8570

To establish a Teacher Advisory Committee and a Parents and Families
Advisory Committee.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 9, 2020

Miss RICE of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to
the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To establish a Teacher Advisory Committee and a Parents
and Families Advisory Committee.

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 “Teachers and Parents
5 at the Table Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TEACHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) Expert teachers offer an important resource
9 to policymakers as they can bring their expertise and
10 perspective from the classroom to inform policy so

1 that positive outcomes for all students will be maxi-
2 mized.

3 (2) State Teachers of the Year represent a val-
4 uable resource with a body of expert knowledge and
5 skill about instructional practice, 21st century learn-
6 ing, and school functioning that can be infused into
7 policymaking to promote better outcomes for elemen-
8 tary and secondary students.

9 (3) State Teachers of the Year have been se-
10 lected by their communities and States as models of
11 their profession and represent every State in the Na-
12 tion and every discipline and grade level.

13 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish
14 an advisory committee, to be known as the Teacher Advi-
15 sory Committee (referred to in this section as the “Com-
16 mittee”).

17 (c) DUTY.—The duty of the Committee shall be to
18 bring the perspective of expert teachers to policymakers
19 and monitor the implementation and impact of the Every
20 Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114–95). The Com-
21 mittee shall make policy recommendations on given sets
22 of topics to improve elementary and secondary education.

23 (d) MEMBERSHIP.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The membership of the
25 Committee shall consist of not more than 10 teach-

1 ers employed in a public elementary school and not
2 more than 10 teachers employed in a public sec-
3 ondary school who—

4 (A) are past or present finalists or State
5 Teachers of the Year, or are nominated from
6 organizations representing teachers and have
7 demonstrated similar evidence of expertise;

8 (B) have experience working with edu-
9 cational policy;

10 (C) have a demonstrated history of holding
11 teacher leadership roles among other teachers
12 and school leaders; and

13 (D) have submitted an application to the
14 Secretary to serve on the Committee.

15 (2) LIST; APPOINTMENT.—The Secretary shall
16 compile a list of teachers submitting applications
17 under paragraph (1)(D). The members of the Com-
18 mittee shall be appointed sequentially as follows, ex-
19 cept that no appointer may appoint more than two
20 public elementary and two public secondary school
21 teachers:

22 (A) The Secretary shall appoint 4 teachers
23 from the list.

24 (B) The majority leader of the Senate shall
25 appoint 4 teachers from the list.

1 (C) The minority leader of the Senate shall
2 appoint 4 teachers from the list.

3 (D) The Speaker of the House of Rep-
4 resentatives shall appoint 4 teachers from the
5 list.

6 (E) The minority leader of the House of
7 Representatives shall appoint 4 teachers from
8 the list.

9 (3) SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS.—

10 (A) FINALISTS OR STATE TEACHERS OF
11 THE YEAR.—Not less than half of the members
12 of the Committee shall be past or present final-
13 ists or State Teachers of the Year.

14 (B) REPRESENTATION REQUIREMENT.—
15 The members of the Committee shall represent
16 the diversity of the teaching workforce. The
17 committee shall include members—

18 (i) working in a diversity of geo-
19 graphic regions, including urban, subur-
20 ban, and rural areas across the country;

21 (ii) holding a variety of specializa-
22 tions, such as special education teachers,
23 teachers of English learners, and those
24 who work with high-ability learners; and

1 (iii) serving a diverse variety of stu-
2 dent populations, including—

3 (I) economically disadvantaged
4 students;

5 (II) students from major racial
6 and ethnic groups;

7 (III) children with disabilities;

8 (IV) English learners;

9 (V) students who are members of
10 an Indian tribe or tribal organization,
11 as defined in section 4 of the Indian
12 Self-Determination and Education As-
13 sistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b);

14 (VI) students who identify as les-
15 bian, gay, bisexual, and transgender
16 youth;

17 (VII) migrant students;

18 (VIII) children in foster care;

19 and

20 (IX) homeless children and
21 youths.

22 (4) TERM.—Each member of the Committee
23 shall serve on the Committee for a 3-year term.

24 (e) ANNUAL REPORT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall submit
2 to the Committee on Education and Labor of the
3 House of Representatives and the Committee on
4 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Sen-
5 ate and the Secretary 2 reports per year on the
6 monitoring carried out under subsection (c).

7 (2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The reports sub-
8 mitted under paragraph (1) shall provide the per-
9 spective of members of the Committee, and informa-
10 tion collected from surveys of teachers in the net-
11 works represented on the Committee, on not more
12 than 3 topics per year determined by the Committee
13 in consultation with policymakers. Such topics might
14 include—

15 (A) testing and assessment;

16 (B) the equitable distribution of teachers;

17 (C) the diversity of the teaching workforce;

18 (D) implementation and impact of the

19 Every Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114–
20 95) in rural public schools;

21 (E) school resource equity, including per-
22 pupil expenditures of Federal, State, and local
23 funds;

24 (F) fostering a positive school climate
25 through the implementation of evidence-based

1 practices that promote safe and supportive
2 learning environments for all students; and

3 (G) other topics of relevance determined by
4 the Committee in consultation with policy-
5 makers and members of other Department
6 school and family engagement fellowships (such
7 as the School Ambassadors Program).

8 (f) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT APPLICA-
9 BILITY.—The provisions of the Federal Advisory Com-
10 mittee Act (Public Law 92–463; 5 U.S.C. App.) shall
11 apply to the Committee.

12 (g) COMPENSATION.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each member of the Com-
14 mittee may be compensated at not to exceed the
15 daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in
16 effect for a position at level IV of the Executive
17 Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United
18 States Code, for each day during which that member
19 is engaged in the actual performance of the duties
20 of the Committee.

21 (2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—While away from
22 their homes or regular places of business in the per-
23 formance of services for the Committees, members of
24 the Committee shall be allowed travel expenses, in-
25 cluding per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same

1 manner as persons employed intermittently in the
2 Government service are allowed expenses under sec-
3 tion 5703(b) of title 5, United States Code.

4 (h) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—The following ad-
5 ditional requirements shall apply to the Committee:

6 (1) The Committee shall meet in person at least
7 once per year for deliberation.

8 (2) The Committee shall be available for con-
9 sultation with officials at the Department of Edu-
10 cation, the Committee on Education and Labor of
11 the House of Representatives, and the Committee on
12 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Sen-
13 ate regarding the contents of the reports submitted
14 under subsection (e).

15 (i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) The term “State Teacher of the Year”
17 means any person who has been recognized as a
18 State Teacher of the Year by the Council of Chief
19 State School Officers.

20 (2) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
21 of Education.

22 (j) AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts ap-
23 propriated to, and available at the discretion of, the Sec-
24 retary for programmatic and administrative expenditures
25 for fiscal years 2020 through 2024, a total of \$500,000

1 shall be used to establish and carry out the functions of
2 the Committee established under this section.

3 **SEC. 3. PARENTS AND FAMILIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Parents and families have a major influence
6 on their children’s achievement in public school and
7 throughout life.

8 (2) Parents and family members offer an im-
9 portant resource to policymakers as they provide a
10 unique perspective as consumers of our Nation’s
11 public schools.

12 (3) All parents and family members—regardless
13 of income, education, or cultural background—are
14 critical in their child’s learning and development and
15 want their child to reach their fullest potential.

16 (4) Parental engagement improves school cul-
17 ture and community well-being, as well as drive im-
18 provements in student outcomes.

19 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish
20 an advisory committee, to be known as the Parents and
21 Families Advisory Committee (referred to in this section
22 as the “Committee”).

23 (c) DUTIES AND FOCUS.—The duty of the Committee
24 shall be to monitor the effects and implementation of the
25 Every Student Success Act (Public Law 114–95) on chil-

1 dren and families, and review and analyze implementation
2 of State and local parent and family engagement policies,
3 school-parent compacts, and other family engagement ac-
4 tivities described in section 1116 and part E of title IV
5 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
6 (20 U.S.C. 6318; 20 U.S.C. 7241 et seq.).

7 (d) MEMBERSHIP.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The membership of the
9 Committee shall consist of 10 parents or family
10 members of children enrolled in a public elementary
11 school and 10 parents or family members of children
12 enrolled in a public secondary school who—

13 (A) have a demonstrated history of paren-
14 tal involvement and family engagement in pub-
15 lic schools; and

16 (B) have submitted an application to the
17 Secretary to serve on the Committee.

18 (2) LIST; APPOINTMENT.—The Secretary shall
19 compile a list of parents and family members sub-
20 mitting applications under paragraph (1)(B). The
21 members of the Committee shall be appointed se-
22 quentially as follows:

23 (A) The Secretary shall appoint 4 parents
24 or family members from the list.

1 (B) The majority leader of the Senate shall
2 appoint 4 parents or family members from the
3 list.

4 (C) The minority leader of the Senate shall
5 appoint 4 parents or family members from the
6 list.

7 (D) The Speaker of the House of Rep-
8 resentatives shall appoint 4 parents or family
9 members from the list.

10 (E) The minority leader of the House of
11 Representatives shall appoint 4 parents or fam-
12 ily members from the list.

13 (3) REPRESENTATION REQUIREMENT.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—The members of the
15 Committee shall represent geographically di-
16 verse areas, including urban, suburban, and
17 rural areas across the country, and a diversity
18 of students, and shall include at least one par-
19 ent or family member representing each of the
20 following student groups:

21 (i) Economically disadvantaged stu-
22 dents.

23 (ii) Students from major racial and
24 ethnic groups.

25 (iii) Children with disabilities.

1 (iv) English learners.

2 (v) Students who are members of an
3 Indian tribe or tribal organization, as de-
4 fined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Deter-
5 mination and Education Assistance Act
6 (25 U.S.C. 450b).

7 (vi) Students who identify as lesbian,
8 gay, bisexual, and transgender youth.

9 (vii) Migrant students.

10 (viii) Children in foster care.

11 (ix) Homeless children and youths.

12 (B) SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.—Consider-
13 ation should also be given to representation of
14 students' gender identity, migrant status, and
15 residence in rural areas in the appointment of
16 members of the Committee.

17 (4) ADVISORS.—If requested by the Committee,
18 the Secretary may provide access to 5 research advi-
19 sors to the Committee, such as researchers, practi-
20 tioners or representatives from national nonprofit or-
21 ganizations with expertise in family engagement in
22 education, to provide evidence-based information and
23 materials.

24 (5) TERM.—Each member of the Committee
25 shall serve on the Committee for a 3-year term.

1 (e) ANNUAL REPORT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall submit
3 to the Committee on Education and Labor of the
4 House of Representatives and the Committee on
5 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Sen-
6 ate and the Secretary on an annual basis a report
7 and policy recommendations on the monitoring and
8 analysis carried out under subsection (c).

9 (2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report sub-
10 mitted under paragraph (1) shall provide the per-
11 spective of parents and families on not more than 3
12 topics per year determined by the Committee. Such
13 topics may include the following:

14 (A) The effects of the Elementary and Sec-
15 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301
16 et seq.) on parental involvement and family en-
17 gagement in education, including public schools
18 and classrooms.

19 (B) Direction for State education agencies
20 and local education agencies for implementing
21 written family engagement policies under sec-
22 tion 1116 and part E of title IV of the Elemen-
23 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
24 U.S.C. 6318; 20 U.S.C. 7241 et seq.).

1 (C) Recommendations for strengthening
2 family engagement policy and implementation
3 in order to meet the goals of section 1116 and
4 part E of title IV of the Elementary and Sec-
5 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
6 6318; 20 U.S.C. 7241 et seq.).

7 (D) Recommendations for fostering a posi-
8 tive school climate that promotes safe and sup-
9 portive learning environments for all students,
10 including the reduction of use of exclusionary
11 practices and implementation of evidence-based
12 approaches and interventions.

13 (f) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT APPLICA-
14 BILITY.—The provisions of the Federal Advisory Com-
15 mittee Act (Public Law 92–463; 5 U.S.C. App.) shall
16 apply to the Committee.

17 (g) COMPENSATION.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each member of the Com-
19 mittee may be compensated at not to exceed the
20 daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in
21 effect for a position at level IV of the Executive
22 Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United
23 States Code, for each day during which that member
24 is engaged in the actual performance of the duties
25 of the Committee.

1 (2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—While away from
2 their homes or regular places of business in the per-
3 formance of services for the Committees, members of
4 the Committee shall be allowed travel expenses, in-
5 cluding per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same
6 manner as persons employed intermittently in the
7 Government service are allowed expenses under sec-
8 tion 5703(b) of title 5, United States Code.

9 (h) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—The following ad-
10 ditional requirements shall apply to the Committee:

11 (1) The Committee shall meet in person at least
12 once per year for deliberation.

13 (2) The Committee shall be available for con-
14 sultation with officials at the Department of Edu-
15 cation and the Committee on Education and Labor
16 of the House of Representatives and the Committee
17 on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the
18 Senate regarding the contents of the reports sub-
19 mitted under subsection (e).

20 (i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 (1) The term “family engagement” means a
22 shared responsibility of families and public schools
23 for student success—

24 (A) in which schools and community-based
25 organizations are committed to reaching out to

1 engage families in meaningful ways and families
2 are committed actively to support their chil-
3 dren’s learning and development;

4 (B) that is continuous from birth through
5 young adulthood; and

6 (C) that reinforces learning that takes
7 place in the home, school, and community.

8 (2) The term “parental involvement” means the
9 participation of parents or family members in reg-
10 ular, two-way, and meaningful communication in-
11 volving student academic learning and other public
12 school activities, including ensuring—

13 (A) that parents or family members play
14 an integral role in assisting their child’s learn-
15 ing;

16 (B) that parents or family members are
17 encouraged to be actively involved in their
18 child’s education at school;

19 (C) that parents or family members are
20 full partners in their child’s education and are
21 included, as appropriate, in decision making
22 and on advisory committees to assist in the
23 education of their child; and

24 (D) the carrying out of other activities,
25 such as those described in section 1116 of the

1 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
2 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6318).

3 (3) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
4 of Education.

5 (j) AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts ap-
6 propriated to, and available at the discretion of, the Sec-
7 retary for programmatic and administrative expenditures
8 for fiscal years 2021 through 2025, a total of \$500,000
9 shall be used to establish and carry out the functions of
10 the Committee established under this section.

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