

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4018

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to expand access to school-wide arts and music programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 5, 2026

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. PADILLA) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to expand access to school-wide arts and music programs, and for other purposes.

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 “Guarantee Access to
5 Arts and Music Education Act of 2026” or the “GAAME
6 Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. SCHOOL-WIDE ACCESS TO ARTS EDUCATION.**

2 Section 1114(b)(7)(A)(iii) of the Elementary and
 3 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 4 6314(b)(7)(A)(iii)) is amended—

5 (1) in subclause (IV) and (V), by striking “;
 6 and” and inserting a semicolon; and

7 (2) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(VI) sequential, standards-based
 9 arts education (which may include
 10 dance, media arts, theater, and visual
 11 arts) taught by certified arts edu-
 12 cators (as defined by the State) and
 13 community arts providers to meet the
 14 challenging State academic standards;
 15 and”.

16 **SEC. 3. SCHOOL-WIDE ACCESS TO MUSIC EDUCATION.**

17 Section 1114(b)(7)(A)(iii) of the Elementary and
 18 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 19 6314(b)(7)(A)(iii)), as amended by section (2), is further
 20 amended by inserting after subclause (VI) the following:

21 “(VII) sequential, standards-
 22 based music education that is aligned
 23 to challenging State academic stand-
 24 ards and is taught by certified music
 25 educators (as defined by the State);
 26 and”.

1 **SEC. 4. TARGETED ASSISTANCE SCHOOLS FOR ARTS EDU-**
 2 **CATION.**

3 Section 1115 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
 4 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6315) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by striking “well-
 6 rounded education;” inserting the following: “well
 7 rounded education, such as—

8 “(i) programmatic assistance for stu-
 9 dents to participate in arts programs that
 10 address their academic needs (including
 11 support for certified arts educators (as de-
 12 fined by the State), arts educator profes-
 13 sional development, supplies, and other ex-
 14 penses associated with instruction in the
 15 arts); and”;

16 (2) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(i) DEFINITION OF ARTS.—For purposes of sub-
 18 section (b)(2)(A)(i), the term ‘arts’ means dance, media
 19 arts, theater, and visual arts.”.

20 **SEC. 5. TARGETED ASSISTANCE SCHOOLS FOR MUSIC EDU-**
 21 **CATION.**

22 Section 1115(b)(2)(A) of the Elementary and Sec-
 23 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6315(b)(2)(A)),
 24 as amended by section 4, is further amended by adding
 25 at the end the following:

1 “(ii) programmatic assistance for stu-
2 dents to participate in music programs
3 that address their academic needs (includ-
4 ing support for certified music educators,
5 music educator professional development,
6 instruments, sheet music, music tech-
7 nology, and other expenses associated with
8 music instruction);”.

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