

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1743

To amend the Educational Organizational Act to establish an Office of Women's Equity and to amend part A of title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to encourage gender equity throughout the education system in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 20, 1993

Mrs. MINK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Educational Organizational Act to establish an Office of Women's Equity and to amend part A of title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to encourage gender equity throughout the education system in the United States.

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. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF WOMEN'S**
4 **EQUITY.**

5 (a) OFFICE OF WOMEN'S EQUITY.—The Department
6 of Education Organization Act is amended—

7 (1) by redesignating section 215 as 216; and

1 (2) by inserting after section 214 the following:

2 **“SEC. 215. OFFICE OF WOMEN’S EQUITY.**

3 “(a) There shall be in the Department, an Office of
4 Women’s Equity, to be administered by a Director of
5 Women’s Equity, who shall be appointed by the Secretary.
6 The Director shall promote, coordinate and evaluate gen-
7 der equity programs, disseminate information, provide
8 technical assistance, coordinate research activities, and ad-
9 minister grant programs. The Director shall report di-
10 rectly to the Secretary, and shall perform such additional
11 functions as the Secretary shall prescribe.

12 “(b) The Director shall, not later than the final day
13 of each fiscal year, submit a report to the President and
14 the Congress setting forth the programs and activities as-
15 sisted under the Women’s Educational Equity Act, and
16 provide for the distribution of such report to all interested
17 groups and individuals.”.

18 (b) ORGANIZATIONAL ENTITY.—For purposes of sec-
19 tion 413(a) of the Department of Education Organization
20 Act, the Office of Women’s Equity shall be considered to
21 be an organizational entity established under such Act and
22 shall not be subject to the reorganization authority of the
23 Secretary of Education under such section or any other
24 provision of law.

1 **SEC. 2. WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL EQUITY PROGRAM.**

2 Part A of title IV of the Elementary and Secondary
3 Education Act of 1965 is amended to read as follows:

4 **“PART A—WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL EQUITY**

5 **“SEC. 4001. SHORT TITLE.**

6 “This part may be cited as the ‘Women’s Educational
7 Equity Act of 1993’.

8 **“SEC. 4002. FINDINGS AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

9 “(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds and declares
10 that—

11 (1) educational programs in the United States
12 are frequently inequitable as such programs relate to
13 women and girls;

14 (2) such inequities limit the full participation of
15 all individuals in American society; and

16 (3) efforts to improve the quality of public edu-
17 cation also must include efforts to ensure equal ac-
18 cess to quality education programs for all women
19 and girls.

20 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this part is to pro-
21 vide gender equity in education in the United States, to
22 provide financial assistance to enable educational agencies
23 and institutions to meet the requirements of title IX of
24 the Educational Amendments of 1972, and to provide eq-
25 uity in education to women and girls who suffer multiple

1 forms of discrimination based on sex, race, ethnic origin,
2 limited English proficiency, disability, or age.

3 **“SEC. 4003. PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED.**

4 “The Director of the Office of Women’s Educational
5 Equity (referred to in this part as the ‘Director’ is author-
6 ized—

7 “(1) to promote, coordinate and evaluate gen-
8 der equity policies, programs, activities and initia-
9 tives in all Federal education programs and offices;

10 “(2) to develop, maintain, and disseminate ma-
11 terials, resources, analyses and research relating to
12 education equity for women and girls;

13 “(3) to provide information and technical as-
14 sistance to assure the effective implementation of
15 gender equity programs;

16 “(4) coordinate gender equity programs and ac-
17 tivities with other Federal agencies that have juris-
18 diction over education and related programs;

19 “(5) to provide grants to develop model equity
20 programs;

21 “(6) to provide funds for the implementation of
22 equity programs in schools throughout the Nation;
23 and

1 “(7) to coordinate or provide any other activi-
2 ties consistent with achieving the purposes of this
3 part.

4 **“SEC. 4004. LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.**

5 “(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary is authorized to
6 make grants to, and enter into contracts with, public agen-
7 cies, private nonprofit agencies, organizations, and institu-
8 tions, including students and community groups, for ac-
9 tivities designed to achieve the purposes of this part at
10 all levels of education, including preschool, elementary and
11 secondary education, higher education, adult education
12 and vocational and technical education; for the establish-
13 ment and operation, for a period not exceeding 4 years,
14 of local programs to ensure—

15 “(1) educational equity for women and girls;

16 “(2) equal opportunities for both sexes; and

17 “(3) to conduct activities incident to achieving
18 compliance with title IX of the Education Amend-
19 ments of 1972.

20 “(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—Authorized activities under
21 subsection (a) may include—

22 “(1) introduction into the curriculum and class-
23 room of curricula, textbooks, and other material de-
24 signed to achieve equity for women and girls;

1 “(2) implementation of preservice and inservice
2 training with special emphasis on programs and ac-
3 tivities designed to provide educational equity for
4 women and girls;

5 “(3) evaluation of promising or exemplary
6 model programs to assess the ability of such pro-
7 grams to improve local efforts to advance edu-
8 cational equity for women and girls;

9 “(4) implementation of programs and policies
10 to address sexual harassment and violence against
11 women and girls and to ensure that educational in-
12 stitutions are free from threats to the safety of stu-
13 dents and personnel;

14 “(5) implementation of guidance and counseling
15 activities, including career education programs, de-
16 signed to ensure educational equity for women and
17 girls;

18 “(6) implementation of nondiscriminatory tests
19 of aptitude and achievement and of alternative as-
20 sessments that eliminate biased assessment instru-
21 ments from use;

22 “(7) implementation of programs to increase
23 educational opportunities, including higher edu-
24 cation, vocational training, and other educational
25 programs for low-income women; including under-

1 employed and unemployed women and women receiv-
2 ing Aid to Families with Dependent Children bene-
3 fits;

4 “(8) implementation of programs to improve
5 representation of women in educational administra-
6 tion at all levels; and

7 “(9) planning, development and initial imple-
8 mentation of—

9 “(A) comprehensive plans for implementa-
10 tion of equity programs in State and local edu-
11 cational agencies and institutions of higher edu-
12 cation, including community colleges;

13 “(B) innovative approaches to school-com-
14 munity partnerships for educational equity; and

15 “(C) innovative approaches to equity pro-
16 grams addressing combined bias, stereotyping,
17 and discrimination on the basis of sex and race,
18 ethnic origin, limited English proficiency, and
19 disability.

20 “(c) APPLICATION; PARTICIPATION.—A grant may be
21 made, and a contract may be entered into, under this part
22 only upon application to the Secretary, at such time, in
23 such form, and containing or accompanied by such infor-
24 mation as the Secretary may prescribe. Each such applica-
25 tion shall—

1 “(1) provide that the program or activity for
2 which assistance is sought will be administered by or
3 under the supervision of the applicant and in co-
4 operation with appropriate educational and commu-
5 nity leaders, including parent, teacher and student
6 organizations, educational institutions, business
7 leaders, community-based organizations serving
8 women, and other significant groups and individuals;

9 “(2) describe a program for carrying out the
10 purposes described in section 4004(b) which is likely
11 to make a substantial contribution in attaining such
12 purposes;

13 “(3) describe plans for continuation and institu-
14 tionalization of the program with local support fol-
15 lowing completion of the grant period and termi-
16 nation of Federal support under this part;

17 “(4) establish policies and procedures which en-
18 sure adequate documentation and evaluation of the
19 activities intended to be carried out under the appli-
20 cation.

21 “(d) CRITERIA; PRIORITIES; CATEGORIES OF COM-
22 PETITION.—The Secretary shall establish criteria, prior-
23 ities, and categories of competition for awards under this
24 part to ensure that available funds are used to achieve
25 the purposes of this part.

1 “(1) The criteria shall address the extent to
2 which—

3 “(A) the program addresses the needs of
4 women and girls of color and women and girls
5 with disabilities;

6 “(B) the program meets locally defined
7 and documented educational equity needs and
8 priorities, including compliance with the re-
9 quirements of title IX of the Education Amend-
10 ments of 1972;

11 “(C) the program is a significant compo-
12 nent of a comprehensive plan for educational
13 equity and compliance with the requirements of
14 title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
15 in the particular local educational agency, insti-
16 tution of higher education, vocational-technical
17 institution, or other educational agency or insti-
18 tution; and

19 “(D) the program implements an institu-
20 tional strategy with long-term impact that will
21 continue as a central activity of the applicant
22 agency or institution after the grant is com-
23 pleted.

24 “(2) The Secretary shall establish not more
25 than 4 priorities, 1 of which shall be a priority for

1 compliance with title IX of the Educational Amend-
2 ments of 1972. Not more than 60 percent of the
3 funds available in each fiscal year under this part
4 which implement the 4 priorities.

5 “(3) The Secretary shall establish 3 categories
6 of competition, distinguishing among 3 types of ap-
7 plicants and levels of education that are—

8 “(A) grants to local educational agencies,
9 State education agencies, and other agencies
10 and organizations providing elementary and
11 secondary education;

12 “(B) grants to institutions of higher edu-
13 cation, including community colleges and other
14 agencies and organizations providing post-
15 secondary education, including vocational-tech-
16 nical education, adult education, and other pro-
17 grams; and

18 “(C) grants to nonprofit organizations, in-
19 cluding community-based organizations groups
20 representing students, parents, and women, in-
21 cluding women and girls of color and women
22 and girls with disabilities.

23 “(e) REQUIREMENT.—Not less than 25 percent of
24 funds used to support activities covered by subsection (b)

1 shall be used for awards under each category of competi-
2 tion in each fiscal year.

3 “(f) SPECIAL RULE.—The Secretary shall ensure
4 that the grants awarded each year address—

5 “(1) all levels of education, including preschool,
6 elementary and secondary education, higher edu-
7 cation, vocational education, and adult education;

8 “(2) all regions of the United States, including
9 at least 1 grant in each of the 10 Federal regions;
10 and

11 “(3) urban, rural, and suburban educational in-
12 stitutions.

13 **“SEC. 4005. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.**

14 “(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary is authorized to
15 make grants to, and enter into contracts with, public agen-
16 cies, private nonprofit agencies, organizations, and institu-
17 tions, including students, and community groups, for ac-
18 tivities designed to achieve the purpose of this part at all
19 levels of education, including preschool, elementary and
20 secondary education, higher education, adult education,
21 and vocational-technical education, to develop model poli-
22 cies and programs, and to conduct research to address and
23 ensure educational equities for women and girls, including
24 but not limited to—

1 “(1) the development and evaluation of gender-
2 equitable curricula, textbooks, software, and other
3 educational material and technology;

4 “(2) the development of model preservice and
5 inservice training programs for educational person-
6 nel with special emphasis on programs and activities
7 designed to provide educational equity;

8 “(3) the development of guidance and counsel-
9 ing activities, including career education programs,
10 designed to ensure gender equity;

11 “(4) the development and evaluation of non-
12 discriminatory assessment systems;

13 “(5) the development of policies and programs
14 to address and prevent sexual harassment and vio-
15 lence to ensure that educational institutions are free
16 from threats to safety of students and personnel;

17 “(6) the development and improvement of pro-
18 grams and activities to increase opportunity for
19 women, including continuing educational activities,
20 vocational education, and programs for low-income
21 women, including underemployed and unemployed
22 women, and women receiving Aid to Families with
23 Dependent Children;

24 “(7) the development of instruments and strate-
25 gies for program evaluation and dissemination of

1 promising or exemplary programs designed to im-
2 prove local efforts to achieve gender equity;

3 “(8) the development of instruments and proce-
4 dures to assess the presence or absence of gender
5 equity in educational settings; and

6 “(9) the development and evaluation of various
7 strategies to institutionalize gender equity in edu-
8 cation.

9 “(b) APPLICATION.—A grant may be made, and a
10 contract may be entered into, under this part only upon
11 application to the Secretary, at such time, in such form,
12 and containing or accompanied by such information as the
13 Secretary may prescribe. Each such application shall—

14 “(1) provide that the program or activity for
15 which assistance is sought will be administered by or
16 under the supervision of the applicant;

17 “(2) describe a plan for carrying out 1 or more
18 research and development activities authorized in
19 subsection (a) above, which is likely to make sub-
20 stantial contribution toward attaining the purposes
21 of this part; and

22 “(3) set forth policies and procedures which en-
23 sure adequate documentation, data collection, and
24 evaluation of the activities intended to be carried out
25 under the application, including an evaluation or es-

1 estimate of the potential for continued significance fol-
2 lowing completion of the grant period.

3 “(c) CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES.—(1) The Secretary
4 shall establish criteria and priorities to ensure that avail-
5 able funds are used for programs that most effectively will
6 achieve the purposes of this part.

7 (2) The criteria and priorities shall be promulgated
8 in accordance with section 431 of the General Education
9 Provisions Act.

10 (3) In establishing priorities the Secretary shall es-
11 tablish not more than 4 priorities, 1 of which shall be a
12 program which addresses the educational needs of women
13 and girls who suffer multiple or compound discrimination
14 based on sex and on race, ethnic origin, disability, or age.

15 “(d) SPECIAL RULE.—The Secretary shall ensure
16 that the total of grants awarded each year address—

17 “(1) all levels of education, including preschool,
18 elementary and secondary education, higher edu-
19 cation, vocational education, and adult education;

20 “(2) all regions of the United States.

21 “(e) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this part shall be con-
22 strued as prohibiting men and boys from participating in
23 any programs or activities assisted under this part.

1 **“SEC. 4006. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 “There are authorized to be appropriated
3 \$100,000,000 for the fiscal year 1994, and such sums as
4 may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1995, 1996,
5 1997, and 1998, to carry out the provisions of section
6 4004 of this part; and \$10,000,000 for the fiscal year
7 1994, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the
8 fiscal years 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998 to carry out the
9 provisions of section 4005 of this part.”.

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