

Calendar No. 373

103D CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2455

AN ACT

To help local school systems achieve Goal Six of the National Education Goals, which provides that by the year 2000, every school in America will be free of drugs and violence and will offer a disciplined environment conducive to learning, by ensuring that all schools are safe and free of violence.

FEBRUARY 23 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 22), 1994

Received; read twice and placed on the calendar

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To help local school systems achieve Goal Six of the National Education Goals, which provides that by the year 2000, every school in America will be free of drugs and violence and will offer a disciplined environment conducive to learning, by ensuring that all schools are safe and free of violence.

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 “Safe Schools Act of
5 1994”.

1 **SEC. 2. SAFE SCHOOLS PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—With funds appropriated under
3 subsection (b)(1), the Secretary of Education shall make
4 competitive grants to eligible local educational agencies to
5 carry out projects designed to achieve Goal Six of the Na-
6 tional Education Goals, which provides that by the year
7 2000, every school in America will be free of drugs and
8 violence and will offer a disciplined environment conducive
9 to learning, by helping to ensure that all schools are safe
10 and free of violence.

11 (b) MODEL PROJECT.—The Secretary of Education,
12 shall develop a written safe schools model so all schools
13 can develop models that enable all students to participate
14 regardless of any language barriers.

15 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS AND RES-
16 ERVATION.—

17 (1) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to
18 be appropriated to carry out this Act \$50,000,000
19 for fiscal year 1994.

20 (2) RESERVATION.—From the sums appro-
21 priated to carry out this Act for any fiscal year, the
22 Secretary may reserve not more than 5 percent to
23 carry out national leadership activities under section
24 6.

1 **SEC. 3. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.**

2 To be eligible to receive a grant under this Act, a
3 local educational agency shall demonstrate in its applica-
4 tion under section 4(a) that it—

5 (1) serves an area in which there is a high rate
6 of—

7 (A) homicides committed by persons be-
8 tween the ages 5 to 18, inclusive;

9 (B) referrals of youth to juvenile court;

10 (C) youth under the supervision of the
11 courts;

12 (D) expulsions and suspensions of students
13 from school;

14 (E) referrals of youth, for disciplinary rea-
15 sons, to alternative schools; or

16 (F) victimization of youth by violence,
17 crime, or other forms of abuse; and

18 (2) has serious school crime, violence, and dis-
19 cipline problems, as indicated by other appropriate
20 data.

21 **SEC. 4. APPLICATIONS AND PLANS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—In order to receive a grant under
23 this Act, an eligible local educational agency shall submit
24 to the Secretary an application that includes—

25 (1) an assessment of the current violence and
26 crime problems in the schools to be served by the

1 grant and in the community to be served by the ap-
2 plicant;

3 (2) an assurance that the applicant has written
4 policies regarding school safety, student discipline,
5 and the appropriate handling of violent or disruptive
6 acts;

7 (3) a description of the schools and commu-
8 nities to be served by the grant, the activities and
9 projects to be carried out with grant funds, and how
10 these activities and projects will help to reduce the
11 current violence and crime problems in the schools
12 and communities served;

13 (4) a description of educational materials to be
14 developed in the second most predominate language
15 of the schools and communities to be served by the
16 grant, if applicable;

17 (5) if the local educational agency receives Fed-
18 eral education funds, an explanation of how activi-
19 ties assisted under this Act will be coordinated with
20 and support any systemic education improvement
21 plan prepared with such funds;

22 (6) the applicant's plan to establish school-level
23 advisory committees, which include faculty, parents,
24 staff, and students, for each school to be served by
25 the grant and a description of how each committee

1 will assist in assessing that school's violence and dis-
2 cipline problems as well as in designing appropriate
3 programs, policies, and practices to combat those
4 problems;

5 (7) the applicant's plan for collecting baseline
6 and future data, by individual schools, to monitor vi-
7 olence and discipline problems and to measure its
8 progress in achieving the purpose of this Act;

9 (8) a description of how, in subsequent fiscal
10 years, the grantee will integrate the violence preven-
11 tion activities it carries out with funds under this
12 Act with activities carried out under its comprehen-
13 sive plan for drug and violence prevention adopted
14 under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Commu-
15 nities Act of 1986;

16 (9) a description of how the grantee will coordi-
17 nate its school crime and violence prevention efforts
18 with education, law enforcement, judicial, health, so-
19 cial service, programs supported under the Juvenile
20 Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974,
21 and other appropriate agencies and organizations
22 serving the community;

23 (10) a description of how the grantee will in-
24 form parents about the extent of crime and violence

1 in their children's schools and maximize the partici-
2 pation of parents in its violence prevention activities;

3 (11) an assurance that grant funds under this
4 Act will be used to supplement and not supplant
5 State and local funds that would, in the absence of
6 funds under this Act, be made available by the appli-
7 cant for the purposes of the grant;

8 (12) an assurance that the applicant will co-
9 operate with, and provide assistance to, the Sec-
10 retary in gathering statistics and other data the Sec-
11 retary determines are necessary to determine the ef-
12 fectiveness of projects and activities under this Act
13 or the extent of school violence and discipline prob-
14 lems throughout the Nation; and

15 (13) such other information as the Secretary
16 may require.

17 (b) PRIORITIES.—In awarding grants under this Act,
18 the Secretary shall take into account the special needs of
19 local educational agencies located in both rural and urban
20 communities.

21 **SEC. 5. GRANTS AND USE OF FUNDS.**

22 (a) DURATION AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—Grants
23 under this Act may not exceed—

24 (1) 1 year in duration; and

25 (2) \$3,000,000.

1 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—

2 (1) ACTIVITIES.—A local educational agency
3 may use funds awarded under section 2(a) for 1 or
4 more of the following activities:

5 (A) Identifying and assessing school vio-
6 lence and discipline problems, including coordi-
7 nating needs assessment activities with edu-
8 cation, law-enforcement, judicial, health, social
9 service, juvenile justice programs, gang preven-
10 tion activities, and other appropriate agencies
11 and organizations.

12 (B) Conducting school safety reviews or vi-
13 olence prevention reviews of programs, policies,
14 practices, and facilities to determine what
15 changes are needed to reduce or prevent vio-
16 lence and promote safety and discipline.

17 (C) Planning for comprehensive, long-term
18 strategies for combating and preventing school
19 violence and discipline problems through the in-
20 volvement and coordination of school programs
21 with other education, law-enforcement, judicial,
22 health, social service, and other appropriate
23 agencies and organizations.

1 (D) Activities which involve parents in ef-
2 forts to promote school safety and prevent
3 school violence.

4 (E) Community education programs involv-
5 ing parents, businesses, local government, the
6 medical, and other appropriate entities about
7 the local educational agency's plan to promote
8 school safety and reduce and prevent school vio-
9 lence and discipline problems and the need for
10 community support.

11 (F) Coordination of school-based activities
12 designed to promote school safety and reduce or
13 prevent school violence and discipline problems
14 with related efforts of education, law-enforce-
15 ment, judicial, health, social service, juvenile
16 justice programs, and other appropriate agen-
17 cies and organizations.

18 (G) Developing and implementing violence
19 prevention activities and materials, including—

20 (i) conflict resolution and social skills
21 development for students, teachers, aides,
22 other school personnel, and parents;

23 (ii) disciplinary alternatives to expul-
24 sion and suspension of students who ex-
25 hibit violent or anti-social behavior;

1 (iii) student-led activities such as peer
2 mediation, peer counseling, and student
3 courts; or

4 (iv) alternative after-school programs
5 that provide safe havens for students,
6 which may include cultural, recreational,
7 educational and instructional activities,
8 and mentoring and community service pro-
9 grams.

10 (H) Educating students and parents about
11 the dangers of guns and other weapons and the
12 consequences of their use.

13 (I) Developing and implementing innova-
14 tive curricula to prevent violence in schools and
15 training staff how to stop disruptive or violent
16 behavior if it occurs.

17 (J) Supporting “safe zones of passage” for
18 students between home and school through such
19 measures as Drug- and Weapon-Free School
20 Zones, enhanced law enforcement, and neigh-
21 borhood patrols.

22 (K) Counseling programs for victims and
23 witnesses of school violence and crime.

24 (L) Evaluating its project under this Act.

1 (M) The cost of administering the project
2 of the local educational agency under this Act.

3 (N) Other activities that meet the purposes
4 of this Act.

5 (2) OTHER LIMITATIONS.—A local educational
6 agency may use not more than 5 percent of its grant
7 for activities described in paragraph (1)(M).

8 (3) CONSTRUCTION.—A local educational
9 agency may not use funds under this Act for
10 construction.

11 **SEC. 6. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP.**

12 To carry out the purpose of this Act, the Secretary
13 may use funds reserved under section 2(b)(2) to conduct
14 national leadership activities such as research, program
15 development and evaluation, data collection, public aware-
16 ness activities, training and technical assistance, to pro-
17 vide grants to noncommercial telecommunications entities
18 for the production and distribution of national video-based
19 projects that provide young people with models for conflict
20 resolution and responsible decisionmaking, and to conduct
21 peer review of applications under this Act. The Secretary
22 may carry out such activities directly, through interagency
23 agreements, or through grants, contracts, or cooperative
24 agreements.

1 **SEC. 7. REPORTS.**

2 (a) REPORT TO SECRETARY.—Local educational
3 agencies that receive funds under this part shall submit
4 to the Secretary a report not later than March 1, 1995,
5 that describes progress achieved in carrying out the plan
6 required under section 4.

7 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall
8 submit to the Committee on Education and Labor of the
9 House of Representatives a report not later than October
10 1, 1995, which contains a detailed statement regarding
11 grant awards, activities of grant recipients, a compilation
12 of statistical information submitted by applicants under
13 section 4, and an evaluation of programs established under
14 this part.

15 **SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.**

16 For purposes of this Act:

17 (1) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
18 “local educational agency” has the meaning given
19 such term in section 1471(12) of the Elementary
20 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
21 2891(12)).

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

Passed the House of Representatives February 22, 1994.

Attest: DONNALD K. ANDERSON,
Clerk.