

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 3950

To provide grants to local entities to improve the academic performance and social development of at-risk children.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 3, 1994

Mr. GEPHARDT (for himself, Mr. FORD of Michigan, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. WASHINGTON, Mr. GLICKMAN, Mr. MILLER of California, Mr. OWENS, Mr. JOHNSTON of Florida, Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. TUCKER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. SCHROEDER, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MARTINEZ, and Mr. WHEAT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To provide grants to local entities to improve the academic performance and social development of at-risk children.

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 “Family and Commu-
5 nity Endeavor Schools Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

1 (1) children in areas with high incidences of
2 poverty are more likely to be exposed to problems
3 created by economic depreciation, poor housing,
4 overwhelming family responsibilities, inadequate pa-
5 rental educational background or parental substance
6 abuse and are at risk of failure;

7 (2) students from poor families are 3 times
8 more likely to drop out of school than students from
9 more advantaged homes;

10 (3) without social intervention, at-risk children
11 are often unable to improve academic performance;

12 (4) schools are accessible, central resources in
13 every community where social and educational serv-
14 ices can be coordinated and disseminated to at-risk
15 children and their families;

16 (5) schools are most effective at serving a com-
17 munity when the people of the community are in-
18 volved in school management and help design activi-
19 ties to fulfill the needs of children in the community;
20 and

21 (6) many schools have successfully improved the
22 academic performance and social development of at-
23 risk children by instituting an organizational and
24 management plan that incorporates parental involve-
25 ment in school management and incorporates mental

1 health and social intervention services in the daily
2 academic curriculum.

3 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to im-
4 prove the overall development of at-risk children who re-
5 side in eligible communities as defined in section 12.

6 **SEC. 3. PROGRAM AUTHORITY.**

7 The Secretary may award grants on a competitive
8 basis to eligible local entities to pay for the Federal share
9 of assisting eligible communities to develop and carry out
10 programs in accordance with this Act. No local entity shall
11 receive a grant of less than \$250,000 in a fiscal year.
12 Amounts made available through such grants shall remain
13 available until expended.

14 **SEC. 4. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**

15 (a) IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS.—A local entity that
16 receives funds under this Act shall develop or expand pro-
17 grams that are designed to improve academic and social
18 development by instituting a collaborative structure that
19 trains and coordinates the efforts of teachers, administra-
20 tors, social workers, guidance counselors, parents, and
21 school volunteers to provide concurrent social services for
22 at-risk students at selected public schools in eligible com-
23 munities.

24 (b) OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES.—A local entity that re-
25 ceives funds under this Act may develop a variety of pro-

1 grams to serve the comprehensive needs of students, in-
2 cluding—

3 (1) homework assistance and after-school pro-
4 grams, including educational, social, and athletic ac-
5 tivities;

6 (2) nutrition services;

7 (3) mentoring programs;

8 (4) family counseling; and

9 (5) parental training programs.

10 **SEC. 5. ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY IDENTIFICATION.**

11 The Secretary through regulation shall define the cri-
12 teria necessary to qualify as an eligible community as de-
13 fined in section 12(3).

14 **SEC. 6. GRANT ELIGIBILITY.**

15 To be eligible to receive a grant under this section,
16 a local entity shall—

17 (1) identify an eligible community to be as-
18 sisted;

19 (2) develop a community planning process that
20 includes—

21 (A) parents and family members;

22 (B) local school officials;

23 (C) teachers employed at schools within
24 the eligible community;

1 (D) public housing resident organization
2 members, where applicable; and

3 (E) public and private nonprofit organiza-
4 tions that provide education, child protective
5 services or other human services to low-income,
6 at-risk children and their families; and

7 (3) develop a concentrated strategy for imple-
8 mentation of the community planning process devel-
9 oped under paragraph (2) that targets clusters of at-
10 risk children in the eligible community.

11 **SEC. 7. APPLICATIONS.**

12 (a) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—To be eligible to re-
13 ceive a grant under this Act, a local entity shall submit
14 an application to the Secretary at such time, in such man-
15 ner, and accompanied by such information, as the Sec-
16 retary may reasonably require, and obtain approval of
17 such application.

18 (b) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—Each application
19 submitted under subsection (a) shall—

20 (1) contain a comprehensive plan for the pro-
21 gram that is designed to improve the academic and
22 social development of at-risk children in schools in
23 the eligible community;

24 (2) provide evidence of support for accomplish-
25 ing the objectives of such plan from—

1 (A) community leaders;

2 (B) a school district;

3 (C) local officials; and

4 (D) other organizations that the local en-
5 tity determines to be appropriate;

6 (3) provide an assurance that the local entity
7 will use grant funds received under this section to
8 implement the program requirements listed in sec-
9 tion 4;

10 (4) include an estimate of the number of chil-
11 dren in the eligible community expected to be served
12 under the program;

13 (5) provide an assurance that the local entity
14 will comply with any evaluation requested under sec-
15 tion 11, any research effort authorized under Fed-
16 eral law, and any investigation by the Secretary;

17 (6) provide an assurance that the local entity
18 shall prepare and submit to the Secretary an annual
19 report regarding any program conducted under this
20 Act;

21 (7) provide an assurance that funds made avail-
22 able under this section shall be used to supplement,
23 not supplant, other Federal funds that would other-
24 wise be available for activities funded under this Act;
25 and

1 (8) provide an assurance that the local entity
2 will maintain separate accounting records for the
3 program.

4 (c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants to carry out pro-
5 grams under this Act, the Secretary shall give priority to
6 local entities which submit applications that demonstrate
7 the greatest effort in generating local support for the
8 programs.

9 **SEC. 8. PEER REVIEW PANEL.**

10 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish
11 a peer review panel not to exceed 8 members that shall
12 be comprised of individuals with demonstrated experience
13 in designing and implementing programs to improve the
14 academic and social development of at-risk children.

15 (b) FUNCTIONS.—Such panel shall make rec-
16 ommendations to the Secretary regarding—

17 (1) an illustrative model that effectively
18 achieves the program requirements indicated in sec-
19 tion 4 and a process whereby local entities can re-
20 quest such model; and

21 (2) a design for the evaluation of programs as-
22 sisted under this section.

1 **SEC. 9. INVESTIGATIONS AND INSPECTIONS.**

2 The Secretary may conduct such investigations and
3 inspections as may be necessary to ensure compliance with
4 the provisions of this Act.

5 **SEC. 10. FEDERAL SHARE.**

6 (a) PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall, subject to the
7 availability of appropriations, pay to each local entity hav-
8 ing an application approved under section 7 the Federal
9 share of the costs of developing and carrying out programs
10 referred to in section 4.

11 (b) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of such
12 costs shall be 70 percent.

13 (c) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The non-Federal share of
15 such costs may be in cash or in kind, fairly evalu-
16 ated, including personnel, plant, equipment, and
17 services.

18 (2) SPECIAL RULE.—Not less than 15 percent
19 of the non-Federal share of such costs shall be pro-
20 vided from private or nonprofit sources.

21 **SEC. 11. EVALUATION.**

22 The Secretary shall require a thorough evaluation of
23 the programs assisted under this Act, which shall include
24 an assessment of the academic and social achievement of
25 children assisted with funds provided under this Act.

1 **SEC. 12. DEFINITIONS.**

2 For purposes of this Act—

3 (1) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
4 of the Department of Education;

5 (2) the term “local entity” means—

6 (A) a local educational agency, or

7 (B) a community-based organization as de-
8 fined in section 1471(3) of the Elementary and
9 Secondary Education Act of 1965;

10 (3) the term “eligible community” means an
11 area which meets criteria with respect to significant
12 poverty and significant violent crime, and such addi-
13 tional criteria, as the Secretary may by regulation
14 require; and

15 (4) the term “public school” means a public ele-
16 mentary school as defined in section 1201(t) of the
17 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1141(t)),
18 and a public secondary school, as defined in section
19 1201(d) of such Act.

20 **SEC. 13. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 There are authorized to be appropriated out of the
22 Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund established under
23 section 1115 of title 31, United States Code,
24 \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1995, 1996, 1997,
25 1998, and 1999 to carry out this Act.

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