

104TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4175

To require the Secretary of Education to investigate the feasibility of establishing a National Environmental Science and Policy Academy.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 25, 1996

Mr. LAZIO of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Education to investigate the feasibility of establishing a National Environmental Science and Policy Academy.

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 “Environmental De-  
5 fense Act of 1996”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that the Federal Government  
8 should make a commitment to battle the Nation’s environ-

1 mental problems and ensure that the country's leadership  
2 needs are met in the fields of environmental science and  
3 policy.

4 **SEC. 3. INVESTIGATION AND REPORT.**

5 (a) INVESTIGATION.—The Secretary of Education  
6 shall conduct an investigation of the feasibility of estab-  
7 lishment by the Federal Government of a National Envi-  
8 ronmental Science and Policy Academy that would fulfill  
9 the purposes described in subsection (c). In conducting  
10 such investigation, the Secretary shall—

11 (1) consider the feasibility of establishing a na-  
12 tional academy for undergraduate and graduate pro-  
13 grams in a broad spectrum of environmental fields;

14 (2) consider academy management, funding,  
15 and location, the selection process for academy stu-  
16 dents, curriculum requirements for graduation, and  
17 service requirements for academy graduates; and

18 (3) consult with other appropriate Federal  
19 agencies and with existing national nonprofit organi-  
20 zations that have generally recognized ethical or  
21 technical standards (or both) for environmental pro-  
22 fessionals.

23 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Within 6 months after  
24 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Edu-  
25 cation shall submit to the Congress a report on the results

1 of the investigation conducted pursuant to subsection (a).

2 Such report shall include—

3           (1) a recommendation on the feasibility of es-  
4           tablishing a National Environmental Science and  
5           Policy Academy and the most appropriate operating  
6           and management policy for that academy;

7           (2) a recommendation on fields of study and de-  
8           grees;

9           (3) a determination of the most appropriate  
10          funding mechanism for the academy, such as oper-  
11          ational grants, private endowments, or requirements  
12          for matching funds;

13          (4) a recommendation on academy location,  
14          such as single site, use of existing campuses, or es-  
15          tablishment of national-level programs at the “land  
16          grant” colleges;

17          (5) a recommendation on service requirements  
18          of academy graduates, at Federal, State, or local  
19          levels; and

20          (6) the Secretary’s recommendations for legisla-  
21          tive or administrative action to achieve the establish-  
22          ment of a National Environmental Science and Pol-  
23          icy Academy.

1           (c) PURPOSES OF ACADEMY.—The establishment of  
2 a National Environmental Science and Policy Academy  
3 should be directed at achieving the following purposes:

4           (1) to serve as a national symbol of commit-  
5 ment to the environment, much as West Point and  
6 other service academies have done for defense; and

7           (2) to provide common points of reference for  
8 environmental issues.

○