

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4621

To establish a National Academy of Space, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 21, 1994

Mr. TRAFICANT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To establish a National Academy of Space, 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. NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SPACE.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF ACADEMY.—The Adminis-
5 trator shall establish a National Academy of Space for the
6 instruction and preparation of selected individuals for
7 service in a space-related capacity in the employ of the
8 United States or a United States corporation. The Acad-
9 emy shall consist of a program of instruction leading to
10 baccalaureate degrees in science, mathematics, and engi-
11 neering at not less than 6 nor more than 10 universities

1 selected under subsection (b)(3), with uniform curriculum
2 criteria established by the Board, in conjunction with the
3 Director. The Academy shall establish a permanent head-
4 quarters within 85 miles of an existing National Aero-
5 nautics and Space Administration facility for its adminis-
6 trative staff and for use by the Board.

7 (b) BOARD.—

8 (1) MEMBERSHIP.—The Administrator shall
9 appoint a Board of the National Academy of Space
10 (in this section referred to as the “Board”) consist-
11 ing of a broadly representative group of scientists,
12 engineers, educators, and businessmen representing
13 space-related industries, along with the president of
14 each university selected under paragraph (3).

15 (2) FUNCTIONS.—The Board shall—

16 (A) develop an exam for secondary stu-
17 dents testing knowledge in science, mathe-
18 matics, and engineering, or select an exam from
19 among existing national exams, and annually
20 administer such exam;

21 (B) establish uniform curriculum criteria
22 for Member Institutes;

23 (C) provide for the placement at one of the
24 Member Institutes of students awarded scholar-
25 ships under this section at the Academy;

1 (D) administer the awarding of such schol-
2 arships; and

3 (E) establish a placement program to as-
4 sist recipients of awards under this section in
5 obtaining positions described in subsection
6 (k)(1)(A).

7 (3) SELECTION OF UNIVERSITIES FOR ACAD-
8 EMY.—The Board shall select not less than 6 nor
9 more than 10 State universities that are regional in
10 scope and that have outstanding degree programs in
11 science, mathematics, and engineering to be des-
12 ignated as Member Institutes of the Academy. The
13 selections shall come from universities that have ap-
14 plied to the Board and that have demonstrated the
15 willingness and capability to provide room, in a sep-
16 arate dormitory or portion of a dormitory, and board
17 to scholarship winners and to offer the Academy's
18 uniform curriculum.

19 (c) RESULTS OF EXAM.—The Board shall annually
20 certify the top 10 scorers in each congressional district
21 on the exam developed or selected under subsection
22 (b)(2)(A), and award to the top 2 scorers in each State,
23 and to the top scorer in each district who is not one of
24 the top 2 scorers in the State, a scholarship under this
25 section.

1 (d) SCHOLARSHIPS AUTHORIZED.—(1) The Board
2 shall establish a scholarship program for students to at-
3 tend the Academy who are willing to commit themselves
4 to service described in subsection (k).

5 (2) A student who satisfies the requirements of sub-
6 section (f)(1) may receive a scholarship for a period of
7 1 academic year of undergraduate study at the Academy.

8 (3) A student who satisfies the requirements of sub-
9 section (f)(2) may receive additional scholarships, each
10 awarded for a period of 1 academic year, in order to com-
11 plete his or her undergraduate course of study to a maxi-
12 mum of 3 such additional awards.

13 (4) The individuals awarded scholarships under this
14 section shall be referred to as the “Space Corps”.

15 (e) DISBURSAL OF SCHOLARSHIP PROCEEDS.—
16 Scholarship proceeds shall be disbursed on behalf of stu-
17 dents who receive scholarships under this section to the
18 institutions of higher education at which the students are
19 enrolled. No scholarship proceeds shall be disbursed on be-
20 half of a student unless the student is enrolled at an insti-
21 tution of higher education.

22 (f) ELIGIBILITY.—

23 (1) INITIAL ELIGIBILITY.—Only individuals who
24 are—

1 (A) citizens or nationals of the United
2 States, or aliens lawfully admitted to the
3 United States for permanent residence;

4 (B) majoring in the physical, life, or com-
5 puter sciences, mathematics, or engineering;
6 and

7 (C) enrolled in an institution of higher
8 education as a full-time undergraduate student
9 (as determined by the institution of higher edu-
10 cation),

11 shall be eligible for awards under this section.

12 (2) REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUATION
13 AWARDS.—A student who has received a scholarship
14 under this section may receive a continuation award
15 under subsection (d)(3) for a subsequent academic
16 year of undergraduate education if the student—

17 (A) maintains a high level of academic
18 achievement, as determined in accordance with
19 the regulations of the Administrator;

20 (B) continues to major in one of the phys-
21 ical, life, or computer sciences, mathematics, or
22 engineering; and

23 (C) continues to be enrolled at an institu-
24 tion of higher education as a full-time under-

1 graduate student (as determined by the institu-
2 tion).

3 (g) WAIVER OF FULL-TIME ATTENDANCE REQUIRE-
4 MENT.—The Administrator may waive the full-time at-
5 tendance requirements in this section in unusual cir-
6 cumstances.

7 (h) FAILURE TO MEET ELIGIBILITY REQUIRE-
8 MENTS.—In the event that the student fails to meet the
9 requirements of this section, the student's eligibility to re-
10 ceive further scholarships (or scholarship proceeds) under
11 this section shall be suspended in accordance with the reg-
12 ulations of the Administrator.

13 (i) REINSTATEMENT OR ELIGIBILITY.—The Adminis-
14 trator shall determine circumstances under which eligi-
15 bility of a scholarship recipient under this section may be
16 reinstated if the recipient seeks to reenter school after an
17 interruption of schooling for personal reasons, including,
18 but not limited to, pregnancy, child-rearing, and other
19 family responsibilities.

20 (j) SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT.—

21 (1) AMOUNT OF AWARD.—Except as provided
22 in paragraph (2), the amount of a scholarship
23 awarded under this section shall cover the full tui-
24 tion and fees of the student at the Academy.

1 (2) ADJUSTMENTS FOR INSUFFICIENT APPRO-
2 PRIATIONS.—In the event that funds available in a
3 fiscal year are insufficient to fully fund all awards
4 under this section, the amount paid to each student
5 shall be reduced proportionately.

6 (k) SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—

7 (1) SPACE SCHOLARSHIPS.—Each recipient of
8 an award under this section shall, as a condition of
9 the receipt of such award, agree to complete 4 years
10 of—

11 (A) service in a space-related capacity in
12 the employ of the United States or any corpora-
13 tion or other entity, organized under the laws of
14 the United States or of a State of the United
15 States, at least 50 percent of which is owned by
16 United States nationals, and which is engaged
17 in space-related research or endeavor;

18 (B) postgraduate education in physical,
19 life, or computer science, mathematics, or engi-
20 neering at an institution of higher education; or

21 (C) a combination of service and education
22 described under subparagraphs (A) and (B).

23 (2) REPAYMENT OBLIGATION.—As part of the
24 agreement required under paragraph (1), each recip-
25 ient shall agree, in the event of failure to complete

1 the service obligation described in paragraph (1), to
2 repay an amount equal to—

3 (A) the total amount of awards received by
4 such individual under this section; plus

5 (B) the interest on such amounts which
6 would be payable if at the time the amounts
7 were received the amounts were loans bearing
8 interest at the maximum legal prevailing rate,
9 as determined by the Treasurer of the United
10 States.

11 Such repayment shall be made within 1 year after
12 the recipient has ceased to perform the service obli-
13 gation described in paragraph (1).

14 (3) EXCEPTIONS.—The Administrator may pro-
15 vide for the partial or total waiver or suspension of
16 any service obligation or payment by an individual
17 under this section in the same manner as is per-
18 mitted under section 558 of the Higher Education
19 Act of 1965 with respect to scholarships under sub-
20 part 1 of part D of title V of the Higher Education
21 Act of 1965, except that pregnancy, child-rearing, or
22 comparable family responsibilities shall also be
23 grounds for deferral.

1 (I) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this sec-
3 tion—

4 (1) \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 1996, of which
5 \$5,000,000 shall be for the establishment of a per-
6 manent headquarters for the Academy pursuant to
7 section 1(a);

8 (2) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 1997;

9 (3) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 1998;

10 (4) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 1999; and

11 (5) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.

12 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

13 For purposes of this Act—

14 (1) the term “Administrator” means the Ad-
15 ministrator of the National Aeronautics and Space
16 Administration;

17 (2) the term “institution of higher education”
18 has the meaning given such term in section 1201(a)
19 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; and

20 (3) the term “State” means each of the 50
21 States and any other Commonwealth, territory, or
22 possession of the United States represented in the
23 Congress by a Member or Delegate.

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