

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 98

To establish a Link-up for Learning grant program to provide coordinated services to at-risk youth.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 21 (legislative day, JANUARY 5), 1993

Mr. BRADLEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

A BILL

To establish a Link-up for Learning grant program to provide coordinated services to at-risk youth.

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 “Link-up for Learning
5 Grant Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) growing numbers of children live in an envi-
9 ronment of social and economic conditions that

1 greatly increase the risk of academic failure when
2 such children become students;

3 (2) more than 20 percent of the Nation's chil-
4 dren live in poverty while at the same time the Na-
5 tion's infrastructure of social support for such chil-
6 dren has greatly eroded, for example, 40 percent of
7 eligible children do not receive free or reduced price
8 lunches or benefit from food stamps, 25 percent of
9 such children are not covered by health insurance,
10 and only 20 percent of such children are accommo-
11 dated in public housing;

12 (3) many at-risk students suffer the effects of
13 inadequate nutrition and health care, overcrowded
14 and unsafe living conditions and homelessness, fam-
15 ily and gang violence, substance abuse, sexual abuse,
16 child abuse, involuntary migration, and limited Eng-
17 lish proficiency that often create severe barriers to
18 learning the knowledge and skills needed to become
19 literate, independent, and productive citizens;

20 (4) almost half of all children and youth live in
21 a single parent family for some period of their lives,
22 resulting in greatly reduced parental involvement in
23 their education;

24 (5) high proportions of disadvantaged and mi-
25 nority children live with never married mothers or

1 teenage mothers who have extremely limited re-
2 sources available for early childhood development
3 and education;

4 (6) large numbers of children and youth are re-
5 cent immigrants or children of recent immigrants
6 with limited English proficiency and significant
7 unmet educational needs;

8 (7) services for at-risk students are fragmented,
9 expensive, overregulated, often ineffective and dupli-
10 cative, and focused on narrow problems and not the
11 needs of the whole child and family;

12 (8) school personnel and other support service
13 providers often lack knowledge of and access to
14 available services for at-risk students and their fam-
15 ily in the community, are constrained by bureau-
16 cratic obstacles from providing the services most
17 needed, and have few resources or incentives to co-
18 ordinate services;

19 (9) service providers for at-risk students such
20 as teachers, social workers, health care givers, juve-
21 nile justice workers and others are trained in sepa-
22 rate institutions, practice in separate agencies, and
23 pursue separate professional activities that provide
24 little support for coordination and integration of
25 services;

1 (10) coordination and integration of services for
2 at-risk students emphasizing prevention and early
3 intervention offers a great opportunity to break the
4 cycle of poverty that leads to academic failure, teen-
5 age parenthood, leaving school, low skill levels, un-
6 employment, and low income; and

7 (11) coordination of services is more cost effec-
8 tive for schools and support agencies because it re-
9 duces duplication, improves quality of services, and
10 substitutes prevention for expensive crisis interven-
11 tion.

12 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—It is the purpose of this Act to
14 make demonstration grants to eligible entities to improve
15 the educational performance of at-risk students by—

16 (1) removing barriers to such student’s learn-
17 ing;

18 (2) coordinating and enhancing the effective-
19 ness of educational support services;

20 (3) replicating and disseminating programs of
21 high quality coordinated support services;

22 (4) increasing parental educational involvement;

23 (5) improving the capacity of school and sup-
24 port services personnel to collaborate educational
25 services;

1 (6) integrating services, regulations, data bases,
2 eligibility procedures and funding sources whenever
3 possible; and

4 (7) focusing school and community resources on
5 prevention and early intervention strategies to ad-
6 dress student needs holistically.

7 (b) ADDITIONAL PURPOSES.—It is also the purpose
8 of this Act to foster planning, coordination, and collabora-
9 tion among local, county, State, and Federal educational
10 and other student support service agencies and levels of
11 government, nonprofit organizations, and the private sec-
12 tor to improve the educational performance of at-risk stu-
13 dents by—

14 (1) identifying and removing unnecessary regu-
15 lations, duplication of services, and obstacles to co-
16 ordination;

17 (2) improving communication and information
18 exchange;

19 (3) creating joint funding pools or resource
20 banks;

21 (4) providing cross-training of agency person-
22 nel; and

23 (5) increasing parental and community involve-
24 ment in education.

1 **SEC. 4. GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
3 award grants to eligible entities to pay the Federal share
4 of the costs of the activities described in section 7.

5 (b) SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.—In awarding grants
6 under this Act, the Secretary shall give special consider-
7 ation to—

8 (1) providing an equitable geographic distribu-
9 tion of such grants;

10 (2) providing grants to eligible recipients serv-
11 ing urban and rural districts with high proportions
12 of at-risk students;

13 (3) awarding grants for programs involving
14 interagency teams of collaborators providing case
15 management services; and

16 (4) providing grants to eligible recipients serv-
17 ing areas that experience a significant increase in
18 the number of at-risk students.

19 (c) DURATION.—Grants made under this Act may be
20 awarded for a period of not more than 3 years if the Sec-
21 retary determines that the eligible recipient has made sat-
22 isfactory progress toward the achievement of the program
23 objectives described in the application submitted pursuant
24 to section 8.

1 **SEC. 5. ELIGIBILITY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of this Act the
3 term “eligible entity” means—

4 (1) at least one local educational agency in
5 partnership with at least one public agency;

6 (2) at least one nonprofit organization, institu-
7 tion of higher education, or private enterprise in
8 partnership with at least one local educational agen-
9 cy; or

10 (3) a local educational agency that is receiving
11 assistance under the Head Start Transition Project
12 Act in partnership with any agency designated as a
13 Head Start agency under the Head Start Act.

14 (b) SPECIAL RULE.—An eligible entity shall only be
15 eligible for a grant under this Act if at least one local
16 educational agency participating in the partnership is eli-
17 gible to receive financial assistance under chapter 1 of title
18 I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
19 1965.

20 **SEC. 6. TARGET POPULATION.**

21 In order to receive a grant under this Act, an eligible
22 entity shall serve—

23 (1) educationally deprived students and their
24 families, students eligible to be counted under chap-
25 ter 1 of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
26 Education Act of 1965 and their families, or stu-

1 dents participating in school-wide projects assisted
2 under chapter 1 of title I of the Elementary and
3 Secondary Education Act of 1965 and their families;
4 and

5 (2) any school, grade span, or program area if
6 the program design is of adequate size, scope and
7 quality to achieve program outcomes.

8 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity receiving a
10 grant under this Act may use such grant for programs
11 that—

12 (1) plan, develop, coordinate, acquire, expand,
13 or improve school-based or community-based edu-
14 cation support services through cooperative agree-
15 ments, contracts for services, or direct employment
16 of staff to strengthen the educational performance of
17 at-risk students, including support services such as
18 child nutrition and nutrition education, health edu-
19 cation, screening and referrals, student and family
20 counseling, substance abuse prevention, extended
21 school-day enrichment and remedial programs, be-
22 fore and after school child care, tutoring, mentoring,
23 homework assistance, special curricula, family lit-
24 eracy, and parent education and involvement activi-
25 ties;

1 (2) plan, develop, and operate with other agen-
2 cies a coordinated services program for at-risk stu-
3 dents to increase the access of such students to com-
4 munity-based social support services including child
5 nutrition, health and mental health services, sub-
6 stance abuse prevention and treatment, foster care
7 and child protective services, child abuse services,
8 welfare services, recreation, juvenile delinquency pre-
9 vention and court intervention, job training and
10 placement, community-based alternatives to residen-
11 tial placements for students with disabilities, and al-
12 ternative living arrangements for students with dys-
13 functional families;

14 (3) develop effective strategies for coordinated
15 services for at-risk students whose families are high-
16 ly mobile;

17 (4) develop effective prevention and early inter-
18 vention strategies with other agencies to serve at-
19 risk students and their families;

20 (5) improve interagency communications and
21 information-sharing, including developing local area
22 telecommunications networks, software development,
23 data base integration and management, and other
24 applications of technology that improve coordination
25 of services;

1 (6) support co-location of support services in
2 schools, cooperating service agencies, community-
3 based centers, public housing sites, or other sites
4 nearby schools, including rental or lease payments,
5 open and lock-up fees, or maintenance and security
6 costs necessary for the delivery of services for at-risk
7 students;

8 (7) design, implement, and evaluate unified eli-
9 gibility procedures, integrated data bases, and secure
10 confidentiality procedures that facilitate information-
11 sharing;

12 (8) provide at-risk students with integrated case
13 planning and case management services through
14 staff support for interagency teams of service provid-
15 ers or hiring school-based support services coordina-
16 tors;

17 (9) subsidize the coordination and delivery of
18 education related services to at-risk students outside
19 the school site by entities such as public housing au-
20 thorities, libraries, senior citizen centers, or commu-
21 nity-based organizations;

22 (10) provide staff development for teachers,
23 guidance counselors, administrator, and public agen-
24 cy support services staff, including cross-agency
25 training in service delivery for at-risk students;

1 (11) plan and operate one-stop school-based or
2 nearby community-based service centers to provide
3 at-risk students and their families with a wide vari-
4 ety and intensity of support services such as infor-
5 mation, referral, expedited eligibility screening and
6 enrollment and direct service delivery; and

7 (12) support dissemination and replication of a
8 model coordinated educational support services pro-
9 gram to other local educational agencies including
10 dissemination and replication of materials and train-
11 ing.

12 (b) LIMITATIONS.

13 (1) PLANNING.—Not more than one-third of
14 each grant received under this Act shall be used for
15 planning a coordinated services program.

16 (2) DELIVERY OF SERVICES.—Not more than
17 50 percent of each grant received under this Act
18 shall be used for the delivery of services.

19 (3) SUPPLEMENT AND NOT SUPPLANT.—Grant
20 funds awarded under this Act shall be used to sup-
21 plement and not supplant the funds that would oth-
22 erwise be available from non-Federal sources for the
23 activities assisted under this Act.

1 **SEC. 8. APPLICATIONS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity desiring a
3 grant under this Act shall submit an application to the
4 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied
5 by such information as the Secretary may reasonably re-
6 quire.

7 (b) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted pursu-
8 ant to subsection (a) shall—

9 (1) describe the activities and services for which
10 assistance is sought;

11 (2) identify the degree of need for a coordinated
12 services plan among the students served by the pro-
13 gram;

14 (3) describe the expected improvement in edu-
15 cational outcomes for at-risk students served by the
16 program;

17 (4) describe how the eligible entity will assess
18 the educational and other outcomes of support serv-
19 ices provided by such public agency participating in
20 the partnership;

21 (5) contain a description of how the eligible en-
22 tity will improve the educational achievement of at-
23 risk students through more effective coordination of
24 support services, staff development and cross-agency
25 training, and the educational involvement of parents;

1 (6) describe how the eligible entity will continue
2 the support services assisted under this Act after the
3 Federal assistance provided under this Act is termi-
4 nated; and

5 (7) provide evidence of the capacity of the pro-
6 gram to serve as a model program for replication by
7 local educational agencies.

8 (c) ADVISORY COUNCIL.—

9 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Each eligible entity de-
10 siring a grant under this Act shall establish a co-
11 ordinated services advisory council to develop the ap-
12 plication submitted pursuant to subsection (a).

13 (2) COMPOSITION.—The advisory council de-
14 scribed in paragraph (1) shall consist of the head of
15 each public agency participating in the partnership,
16 a member of the local board of education, and the
17 superintendent of schools, or the designees of such
18 individuals, and representatives of parents, students,
19 and the private sector.

20 (d) REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall
21 review applications submitted pursuant to subsection (a)
22 with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the
23 Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, as appro-
24 priate.

1 **SEC. 9. FEDERAL INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION.—There is
3 established a Federal Interagency Task Force (in this sec-
4 tion referred to as the “Task Force”) consisting of the
5 Secretaries of Education, Housing and Urban Develop-
6 ment, and Health and Human Services, and the heads of
7 other Federal agencies as appropriate.

8 (b) DUTIES.—The Task Force shall identify means
9 to facilitate interagency collaboration at the Federal,
10 State, and local level to improve support services for at-
11 risk students. The Task Force shall—

12 (1) identify, and to the extent possible, elimi-
13 nate program regulations or practices that impede
14 coordination and collaboration;

15 (2) develop and implement whenever possible
16 plans for creating jointly funded programs, unified
17 eligibility and application procedures, and confiden-
18 tiality regulations that facilitate information-sharing;
19 and

20 (3) make recommendations to Congress con-
21 cerning legislative action needed to facilitate coordi-
22 nation of support services.

23 **SEC. 10. STUDY.**

24 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study of
25 the grants awarded under the Act to identify—

1 (1) the regulatory and legislative obstacles en-
2 countered in developing and implementing coordi-
3 nated support services programs; and

4 (2) the innovative procedures and program de-
5 signs developed pursuant to this Act.

6 (b) REPORT.—The Secretary shall report the results
7 of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) to the
8 Congress with recommendations for further legislative ac-
9 tion to facilitate coordinated support services.

10 **SEC. 12. PAYMENTS; FEDERAL SHARE.**

11 (a) PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall pay to each eli-
12 gible entity having an application approved under section
13 8 the Federal share of the cost of the activities described
14 in the application.

15 (b) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share shall be
16 50 percent.

17 **SEC. 13. DEFINITIONS.**

18 For the purpose of this Act—

19 (1) the term “local educational agency” has the
20 same meaning provided in section 1471(12) of the
21 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965;
22 and

23 (2) the term “Secretary”, unless otherwise
24 specified, means the Secretary of Education.

1 **SEC. 14. AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS.**

2 There are authorized to be appropriated
3 \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 1994 and such sums as may
4 be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1995 and 1996
5 to carry out the provisions of this Act.

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