

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1201

To improve teacher preparation at institutions of higher education.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 23, 1997

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

A BILL

To improve teacher preparation at institutions of higher education.

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. TEACHER PREPARATION.**

4 (a) INITIAL TEACHER PREPARATION.—Part A of
5 title V of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
6 1102 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

7 **“PART A—INITIAL TEACHER PREPARATION**

8 **“SEC. 511. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS; AND PURPOSES.**

9 “(a) SHORT TITLE.—This part may be cited as the
10 “America’s Teacher Preparation Improvement Act”.

1 “(b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following
2 findings:

3 “(1) No child should be placed in a classroom
4 with a teacher who has not been well prepared for
5 the demanding responsibilities of a professional
6 educator.

7 “(2) Federal law provides opportunities for
8 local schools to use Federal funds to upgrade the
9 skills of the teaching force through school-based pro-
10 fessional development, yet there has been virtually
11 no Federal commitment to help institutions of high-
12 er education upgrade future teachers’ preparation
13 programs.

14 “(3) Title V of the Higher Education Act of
15 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) (as in effect on the
16 day preceding the date of enactment of the Ameri-
17 ca’s Teacher Preparation Improvement Act) included
18 17 programs, that were authorized at \$598,000,000
19 for fiscal year 1993 and such sums as may be nec-
20 essary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years, for
21 the initial preparation of teachers.

22 “(4) To maintain the 1997 kindergarten
23 through grade 12 service levels in 2006, the Nation
24 will require approximately 190,000 additional teach-
25 ing positions. Teacher excellence must be encour-

1 aged, promoted, and supported if our Nation's stu-
2 dents are to succeed. Enrollments in elementary and
3 secondary schools are at the highest level in the Na-
4 tion's history and the enrollments are projected to
5 grow by approximately 10 percent from 1994 to
6 2006.

7 “(5) The median age of teachers is increasing
8 and many teachers will be approaching retirement
9 age just as the demand for teachers reaches its high-
10 est level. Such a trend presents an historic oppor-
11 tunity for the initial training of teachers to meet the
12 demand for teachers.

13 “(c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this part are—

14 “(1) to strengthen the capacity of institutions
15 of higher education offering approved programs to
16 encourage excellence in teachers by assisting the ap-
17 proved programs in meeting or exceeding the highest
18 State or professional standards for teacher
19 preparation;

20 “(2) to encourage partnerships between institu-
21 tions of higher education and preschools, kinder-
22 gartens, elementary schools, and secondary schools
23 to provide for systematic and professional student
24 training and induction;

1 “(3) to support programs for school paraprofes-
2 sionals and school support personnel to become cer-
3 tified or licensed teachers;

4 “(4) to recruit and support nontraditional indi-
5 viduals to enter the teaching profession and achieve
6 careers as certified or licensed teachers;

7 “(5) to encourage the recruitment of individuals
8 to teach in urban and rural areas;

9 “(6) to recruit, and support minorities seeking
10 to enter the teaching profession to achieve careers as
11 certified or licensed teachers; and

12 “(7) to encourage partnerships between institu-
13 tions of higher education and other entities to meet
14 the purposes described in paragraphs (1) through
15 (6).

16 **“SEC. 512. DEFINITIONS.**

17 “In this part:

18 “(1) 2-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-
19 CATION.—The term ‘2-year institution of higher
20 education’ means an institution of higher education
21 that awards an associate’s degree.

22 “(2) 4-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-
23 CATION.—The term ‘4-year institution of higher
24 education’ means an institution of higher education
25 that awards a bachelor’s degree.

1 “(3) APPROVED PROGRAM.—The term ‘ap-
2 proved program’ means a program of study ap-
3 proved by a State to prepare an individual to become
4 a certified or licensed teacher in the State.

5 “(4) CERTIFIED OR LICENSED TEACHER.—The
6 term ‘certified or licensed teacher’ means an individ-
7 ual who possesses a document certifying that the in-
8 dividual has met the requirements of a State for em-
9 ployment as a teacher in the preschools, kinder-
10 gartens, elementary schools, or secondary schools, in
11 the State.

12 “(5) PARTNERSHIP.—The term ‘partnership’
13 means a teacher preparation school, college, or de-
14 partment in partnership with 1 or more of the fol-
15 lowing entities:

16 “(A) A local educational agency.

17 “(B) A preschool, kindergarten, elementary
18 school, or secondary school.

19 “(C) A 2-year institution of higher
20 education.

21 “(D) An academic department or division
22 within an institution of higher education.

23 “(E) A nonprofit agency or organization.

1 “(F) Any other entity that will assist in
2 the achievement of the purposes of this title as
3 determined by the State educational agency.

4 “(6) INDUCTION.—The term ‘induction’ means
5 the provision of assistance to a student or teacher
6 during the period that begins with the student’s
7 training period and ends at the conclusion of the
8 second year of teaching.

9 “(7) KINDERGARTEN.—The term ‘kindergarten’
10 means a nonprofit institutional day or residential
11 school that provides kindergarten education, as de-
12 termined by State law.

13 “(8) PRESCHOOL.—The term ‘preschool’ means
14 a nonprofit institutional day or residential school
15 that provides preschool education, as determined by
16 State law.

17 “(9) SCHOOL PARAPROFESSIONAL.—The term
18 ‘school paraprofessional’ means an individual with at
19 least a secondary school diploma or its recognized
20 equivalent who is employed in a preschool, kinder-
21 garten, elementary school, or secondary school under
22 the supervision of a certified or licensed teacher.

23 “(10) SCHOOL SUPPORT PERSONNEL.—The
24 term ‘school support personnel’ means an individual
25 with at least a secondary school diploma or its rec-

1 ognized equivalent who is employed by a local edu-
2 cational agency.

3 “(11) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of
4 the several States, the District of Columbia, the
5 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American
6 Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
7 Islands, the United States Virgin Islands, the Re-
8 public of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States
9 of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau.

10 “(12) TEACHER PREPARATION SCHOOL, COL-
11 LEGE, OR DEPARTMENT.—The term ‘teacher prepa-
12 ration school, college, or department’ means the
13 school, college, department, or other division within
14 a 4-year institution of higher education that special-
15 izes in the training of individuals to serve as cer-
16 tified or licensed teachers.

17 **“SEC. 513. PROGRAM AUTHORITY.**

18 “(a) GRANTS BY THE SECRETARY.—For any fiscal
19 year for which the amount appropriated to carry out this
20 part does not equal or exceed \$50,000,000, the Secretary
21 is authorized to award grants to enhance initial teacher
22 preparation under section 514.

23 “(b) STATE GRANT PROGRAM.—

24 “(1) ALLOTMENT.—For any fiscal year for
25 which the amount appropriated to carry out this

1 part equals or exceeds \$50,000,000, the Secretary is
2 authorized to make allotments to State educational
3 agencies pursuant to paragraph (2) to enable the
4 agencies to award grants under section 514.

5 “(2) ALLOTMENT FORMULA.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
7 subparagraph (B), each State educational agen-
8 cy entering into an agreement under section
9 515 and having an application approved under
10 section 516 for a fiscal year shall receive an al-
11 lotment under this part for the fiscal year in an
12 amount that bears as nearly as possible the
13 same relation to the amount appropriated to
14 carry out this part for the fiscal year as the
15 amount the State educational agency received
16 under part B of title II of the Elementary and
17 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
18 6641 et seq.) for the fiscal year bears to the
19 amount received by all State educational agen-
20 cies under such part B for the fiscal year.

21 “(B) MINIMUM ALLOTMENT.—No State
22 educational agency shall receive an allotment
23 under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year in an
24 amount that is less than \$500,000.

25 “(c) ALLOCATION WITHIN STATES.—

1 “(1) GRANTS.—Each State educational agency
2 receiving an allotment under subsection (b) shall use
3 not less than 90 percent of the allotted funds to
4 award grants under section 514.

5 “(2) CONSULTATION.—Each State educational
6 agency awarding grants under this section shall con-
7 sult with representatives of the higher education
8 community in the State, including the State higher
9 education agency if such an agency exists, with re-
10 spect to awarding grants under section 514.

11 “(3) RESERVATION FOR STATE ACTIVITIES.—
12 From the amount allotted to a State educational
13 agency under subsection (b) and not used under
14 paragraph (1), not less than 7 percent of the
15 amount shall be used for State activities that the
16 State educational agency determines advance the
17 purposes of this part and are necessary to prepare
18 exceptional teachers, such as—

19 “(A) assisting local educational agencies in
20 filling teaching vacancies in urban and rural
21 areas, including filling the vacancies with indi-
22 viduals who have become certified or licensed
23 teachers pursuant to activities assisted under
24 this part;

25 “(B) supporting programs to encourage—

1 “(i) students to aspire to, and to pre-
2 pare for, teaching careers in preschools,
3 kindergartens, elementary schools, or sec-
4 ondary schools; and

5 “(ii) local educational agencies to re-
6 cruit qualified individuals for such teaching
7 careers in rural and urban areas; and

8 “(C) reviewing teacher certification and li-
9 censure requirements to facilitate the transfer
10 of academic credit from 2-year institutions of
11 higher education to 4-year institutions of higher
12 education.

13 **“SEC. 514. GRANTS TO ENHANCE INITIAL TEACHER**
14 **PREPARATION.**

15 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary or a State edu-
16 cational agency may award grants under this section, on
17 a competitive basis, to 4-year institutions of higher edu-
18 cation to enable the institutions to establish or maintain
19 partnerships to carry out the activities described in sub-
20 section (b).

21 “(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—

22 “(1) REQUIRED.—Grants under this section
23 shall be used as follows:

1 “(A) TEACHER PREPARATION.—To
2 strengthen approved programs. Such activities
3 may include—

4 “(i) cooperative arrangements between
5 teacher preparation schools, colleges, or de-
6 partments and other academic departments
7 or divisions within an institution of higher
8 education to strengthen an approved
9 program;

10 “(ii) programs designed to implement
11 the successful integration of technology
12 into teaching and learning;

13 “(iii) encouraging the improvement of
14 curriculum to provide additional prepara-
15 tion for new teachers to work with student
16 populations; and

17 “(iv) in consultation with local edu-
18 cational agencies, creating opportunities
19 for faculty at institutions of higher edu-
20 cation to engage in professional develop-
21 ment, including strengthening teaching
22 skills by increased exposure to local
23 preschools, kindergartens, elementary
24 schools, or secondary schools, or students
25 attending such schools.

1 “(B) INDUCTION EXPERIENCE.—To estab-
2 lish and sustain partnerships, for the purpose
3 of creating sites that provide the highest quality
4 induction experience for new teachers, among—

5 “(i) an institution of higher education;
6 and

7 “(ii) 1 or more preschools, kinder-
8 gartens, elementary schools, secondary
9 schools, or nonprofit agencies or organiza-
10 tions.

11 “(2) PERMISSIVE.—Grants under this section
12 may be used as follows:

13 “(A) TARGETED PROGRAMS.—To establish
14 rigorous, targeted programs for nontraditional
15 students who seek to become teachers. Such in-
16 dividuals may include school paraprofessionals,
17 former members of the Armed Forces who were
18 discharged or otherwise separated under honor-
19 able conditions, or other individuals seeking to
20 change careers. Such programs may differ from
21 programs for traditional students, but shall
22 meet or exceed the highest professional stand-
23 ards for approved programs.

1 “(B) RECRUITMENT.—To recruit individ-
2 uals to teach in urban and rural areas. Such ac-
3 tivities may include—

4 “(i) providing extended and multiple
5 clinical experiences for potential teachers
6 in urban or rural preschools, kinder-
7 gartens, elementary schools, or secondary
8 schools;

9 “(ii) establishing partnerships between
10 institutions of higher education offering
11 approved programs, and community groups
12 in urban and rural areas, to recruit indi-
13 viduals into teaching in the areas; and

14 “(iii) developing partnership agree-
15 ments between 4-year institutions of higher
16 education offering approved programs and
17 2-year institutions of higher education to
18 facilitate movement of future teachers
19 from the 2-year institutions of higher edu-
20 cation to the 4-year institutions of higher
21 education.

22 “(C) SYSTEM OF INITIAL TEACHER PREPA-
23 RATION.—To support partnerships, for the pur-
24 pose of establishing a system of initial teacher
25 preparation that meets or exceeds the highest

1 State or professional standards for teacher
2 preparation, among—

3 “(i) an institution of higher education
4 offering approved programs; and

5 “(ii) 1 or more preschools, kinder-
6 gartens, elementary schools, secondary
7 schools, community groups, 2-year institu-
8 tions of higher education, or nonprofit or-
9 ganizations.

10 **“SEC. 515. AGREEMENTS.**

11 “Each State educational agency receiving an allot-
12 ment under this part shall enter into an agreement with
13 the Secretary. Each such agreement shall include provi-
14 sions to ensure that—

15 “(1) the State educational agency will keep
16 such records and provide such information to the
17 Secretary as may be required for fiscal audit and
18 program evaluation; and

19 “(2) the State educational agency will establish
20 a system for the evaluation of the activities assisted
21 under this part.

22 **“SEC. 516. APPLICATIONS; REPORT.**

23 “(a) APPLICATIONS.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each institution of higher
25 education desiring a grant under this part shall sub-

1 mit an application to the Secretary or the State edu-
2 cational agency, as appropriate, at such time, in
3 such manner, and accompanied by such information
4 as the Secretary or State educational agency, respec-
5 tively, may require.

6 “(2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
7 under paragraph (1) shall—

8 “(A) include a description of the members
9 of the partnership, the goals and intended out-
10 comes for the partnership, and the respective
11 roles and responsibilities of each of the mem-
12 bers of the partnership, including how grant re-
13 sources shall be allocated among the members
14 in order to carry out the roles and responsibil-
15 ities of the members under this part;

16 “(B) include a description of how the
17 members of the partnership will collaborate to
18 provide enhanced learning opportunities for
19 nontraditional students and preservice
20 educators;

21 “(C) indicate how the proposed activities
22 will lead to meeting or achieving the highest
23 State or professional standards for teacher
24 preparation;

1 “(D) indicate how the proposed activities
2 will further the alignment of standards for
3 teacher preparation with the State’s standards
4 for the kindergarten through grade 12 schools
5 and students;

6 “(E) indicate how proposed activities are
7 linked to State goals for educational improve-
8 ment; and

9 “(F) indicate how the proposed activities
10 will reinforce Federal activities assisted under
11 part A of title II of the Elementary and Sec-
12 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6621
13 et seq.).

14 “(b) REPORT.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to assure Federal
16 accountability, an institution of higher education
17 that receives a grant under this part shall submit a
18 progress report to the Secretary or State educational
19 agency, as appropriate, that illustrates the advance-
20 ments made by the partnership regarding the initial
21 preparation of teachers.

22 “(2) SUBMISSION.—The report described in
23 paragraph (1) shall be submitted 3 years after the
24 date of enactment of the America’s Teacher Prepa-

1 as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal
2 years.”.

3 (b) REPEALS.—Section 500, parts B, C, D, and F,
4 and subpart 1 of part E, of title V of the Higher Edu-
5 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101, 1103 et seq., 1104
6 et seq., 1107 et seq., 1113 et seq., and 1111 et seq.) are
7 repealed.

8 (c) MINORITY TEACHER RECRUITMENT.—Section
9 580B of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
10 1112e) is amended by striking “1993” and inserting
11 “1998”.

○