

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3006

To establish a program to help States expand the existing education system to include at least 1 year of early education preceding the year a child enters kindergarten.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 4, 1999

Ms. ESHOO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To establish a program to help States expand the existing education system to include at least 1 year of early education preceding the year a child enters kindergarten.

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 “Early Education Act
5 of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) In 1989 the Nation's Governors established
2 a goal that all children would have access to high-
3 quality early education programs by the year 2000.

4 (2) Less than half of all 3- to 5-year-olds who
5 are not in kindergarten are enrolled in an early edu-
6 cation program, with only 36 percent of children
7 from families with annual incomes below \$15,000
8 enrolled in an early education program.

9 (3) Research suggests that a child's early years
10 are critical in the development of the brain. Early
11 brain development is an important component of
12 educational and intellectual achievement.

13 (4) The National Research Council reported
14 that early education opportunities are necessary if
15 children are going to develop the language and lit-
16 eracy skills necessary to learn to read.

17 (5) Evaluations of early education programs
18 demonstrate that compared to children with similar
19 backgrounds who have not participated in early edu-
20 cation programs, children who participate in such
21 programs—

22 (A) perform better on reading and mathe-
23 matics achievement tests;

1 (B) are more likely to stay academically
2 near their grade level and make normal aca-
3 demic progress throughout elementary school;

4 (C) are less likely to be held back a grade
5 or require special education services in elemen-
6 tary school;

7 (D) show greater learning retention, initia-
8 tive, creativity, and social competency; and

9 (E) are more enthusiastic about school and
10 are more likely to have good attendance
11 records.

12 (6) Studies have estimated that for every dollar
13 invested in quality early education, about 7 dollars
14 are saved in later costs.

15 **SEC. 3. EARLY EDUCATION.**

16 Title X of the Elementary and Secondary Education
17 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8001 et seq.) is amended by add-
18 ing at the end the following:

19 **“PART L—EARLY EDUCATION**

20 **“SEC. 10995. EARLY EDUCATION.**

21 “(a) DEFINITION OF EARLY EDUCATION.—In this
22 part the term ‘early education’ means not less than a half
23 day of schooling each weekday during the academic year
24 preceding the academic year a child enters kindergarten.

1 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to es-
2 tablish a program to develop the foundation of early lit-
3 eracy and numerical training among young children by
4 helping State educational agencies expand the existing
5 education system to include early education for all chil-
6 dren.

7 “(c) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized
9 to award grants to not less than 10 State edu-
10 cational agencies to enable the State educational
11 agencies to expand the existing education system
12 with programs that provide early education.

13 “(2) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—The amount
14 provided to a State educational agency under para-
15 graph (1) shall not exceed 50 percent of the cost of
16 the program described in the application submitted
17 pursuant to subsection (d).

18 “(3) REQUIREMENTS.—Each program assisted
19 under this section—

20 “(A) shall be carried out by 1 or more
21 local educational agencies, as selected by the
22 State educational agency;

23 “(B) shall be carried out—

24 “(i) in a public school building; or

1 “(ii) in another facility by, or through
2 a contract or agreement with, a local edu-
3 cational agency;

4 “(C) shall be available to all children
5 served by a local educational agency carrying
6 out the program; and

7 “(D) shall only involve instructors who are
8 licensed or certified in accordance with applica-
9 ble State law.

10 “(d) APPLICATION.—Each State educational agency
11 desiring a grant under this section shall submit an appli-
12 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
13 accompanied by such information as the Secretary may
14 require. Each application shall—

15 “(1) include a description of—

16 “(A) the program to be assisted under this
17 section; and

18 “(B) how the program will meet the pur-
19 pose of this section;

20 “(2) contain a statement of the total cost of the
21 program and the source of the matching funds for
22 the program; and

23 “(3) demonstrate how the program will be co-
24 ordinated with other federally funded programs that
25 provide early educational opportunities, such as

1 Head Start and the Even Start Family Literacy
2 Program under part B of title I, to avoid duplication
3 of activities in the school districts to be served.

4 “(e) COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In order for a State to op-
6 erate a single early education program and notwith-
7 standing any other provision of law, the Secretary
8 may allow a State educational agency to coordinate
9 activities funded under this section with activities
10 funded under—

11 “(A) part B of title I;

12 “(B) section 619 of the Individuals with
13 Disabilities Education Act; or

14 “(C) the Head Start Act, if the Secretary
15 obtains the consent of the Secretary of Health
16 and Human Services.

17 “(2) REDUCTION OF SERVICES PROHIBITED.—

18 The Secretary shall ensure that the coordination de-
19 scribed in paragraph (1) does not result in a reduc-
20 tion of services under part B of title I, section 619
21 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, or
22 the Head Start Act, as appropriate.

23 “(f) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—In order to carry
24 out the purpose of this section, the Secretary—

1 “(1) shall establish a system for the monitoring
2 and evaluation of, and shall annually report to Con-
3 gress regarding, the programs funded under this
4 section; and

5 “(2) may establish any other policies, proce-
6 dures, or requirements, with respect to the pro-
7 grams.

8 “(g) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made
9 available under this section shall be used to supplement,
10 not supplant, other Federal, State, or local funds.

11 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
12 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
13 \$300,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2000 through
14 2004.”.

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