

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 414

To amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to establish a digital network technology program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 28, 2001

Mr. CLELAND (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. BREAUX) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to establish a digital network technology program, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “NTIA Digital Network
5 Technology Program Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**

7 The National Telecommunications and Information
8 Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 901 et seq.)
9 is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 aid certification to individuals who seek to acquire or
2 enhance technology skills in order to use technology
3 in the classroom or instructional process;

4 “(4) implement a joint project to provide edu-
5 cation regarding technology in the classroom with a
6 State or State education agency, local education
7 agency, community-based organization, national non-
8 profit organization, or business, including minority
9 business or a business located in HUB zones, as de-
10 fined by the Small Business Administration; or

11 “(5) provide leadership development to adminis-
12 trators, board members, and faculty of eligible insti-
13 tutions with institutional responsibility for tech-
14 nology education.

15 **“SEC. 173. APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURE.**

16 “(a) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a grant,
17 contract, or cooperative agreement under this part, an eli-
18 gible institution shall submit an application to the Sec-
19 retary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by
20 such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.
21 The Secretary, in consultation with the panel described
22 in subsection (b), shall establish a procedure by which to
23 accept such applications and publish an announcement of
24 such procedure, including a statement regarding the avail-
25 ability of funds, in the Federal Register.

1 “(b) PEER REVIEW PANEL.—The Secretary shall es-
2 tablish a peer review panel to aid the Secretary in estab-
3 lishing the application procedure described in subsection
4 (a) and selecting applicants to receive grants, contracts,
5 and cooperative agreements under section 171. In select-
6 ing the members for such panel, the Secretary may consult
7 with appropriate cabinet-level officials, representatives of
8 non-Federal organizations, and representatives of eligible
9 institutions to ensure that the membership of such panel
10 reflects membership of the minority higher education com-
11 munity, including Federal agency personnel and other in-
12 dividuals who are knowledgeable about issues regarding
13 minority education institutions.

14 **“SEC. 174. MATCHING REQUIREMENT.**

15 “The Secretary may not award a grant, contract, or
16 cooperative agreement to an eligible institution under this
17 part unless such institution agrees that, with respect to
18 the costs to be incurred by the institution in carrying out
19 the program for which the grant, contract, or cooperative
20 agreement was awarded, such institution will make avail-
21 able (directly or through donations from public or private
22 entities) non-Federal contributions in an amount equal to
23 $\frac{1}{4}$ of the amount of the grant, contract, or cooperative
24 agreement awarded by the Secretary, or \$500,000, which-
25 ever is the lesser amount. The Secretary shall waive the

1 matching requirement for any institution or consortium
2 with no endowment, or an endowment that has a current
3 dollar value lower than \$50,000,000.

4 **“SEC. 175. LIMITATION.**

5 “An eligible institution that receives a grant, con-
6 tract, or cooperative agreement under this part that ex-
7 ceeds \$2,500,000, shall not be eligible to receive another
8 grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under this part
9 until every other eligible institution has received a grant,
10 contract, or cooperative agreement under this part.

11 **“SEC. 176. ANNUAL REPORT AND EVALUATION.**

12 “(a) ANNUAL REPORT REQUIRED FROM RECIPI-
13 ENTS.—Each institution that receives a grant, contract,
14 or cooperative agreement under this part shall provide an
15 annual report to the Secretary on its use of the grant,
16 contract, or cooperative agreement.

17 “(b) EVALUATION BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary,
18 in consultation with the Secretary of Education, shall—

19 “(1) review the reports provided under sub-
20 section (a) each year;

21 “(2) evaluate the program authorized by section
22 171 on the basis of those reports; and

23 “(3) conduct a final evaluation at the end of
24 the third year

1 “(c) CONTENTS OF EVALUATION.—The Secretary, in
2 the evaluation, shall describe the activities undertaken by
3 those institutions and shall assess the short-range and
4 long-range impact of activities carried out under the
5 grant, contract, or cooperative agreement on the students,
6 faculty, and staff of the institutions

7 “(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall
8 submit a report to the Congress based on the final evalua-
9 tion within 1 year after conducting the final evaluation.
10 In the report, the Secretary shall include such rec-
11 ommendations, including recommendations concerning the
12 continuing need for Federal support of the program, as
13 may be appropriate.”.

14 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

15 Section 102(a) of the National Telecommunications
16 and Information Administration Organization Act (47
17 U.S.C. 901(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
18 lowing:

19 “(6) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION DEFINED.—The
20 term “eligible institution” means an institution that
21 is—

22 “(A) a historically Black college or univer-
23 sity that is a part B institution, as defined in
24 section 322(2) of the Higher Education Act of
25 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061(2)), an institution de-

1 scribed in section 326(e)(1)(A), (B), or (C) of
2 that Act (20 U.S.C. 1063b(e)(1)(A), (B), or
3 (C)), or a consortium of institutions described
4 in this subparagraph;

5 “(B) a Hispanic-serving institution, as de-
6 fined in section 502(a)(5) of the Higher Edu-
7 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a(a)(5));

8 “(C) a tribally controlled college or univer-
9 sity, as defined in section 316(b)(3) of the
10 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
11 1059c(b)(3));

12 “(D) an Alaska Native-serving institution
13 under section 317(b) of the Higher Education
14 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059d(b));

15 “(E) a Native Hawaiian-serving institution
16 under section 317(b) of the Higher Education
17 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059d(b)); or

18 “(F) an institution determined by the Sec-
19 retary, in consultation with the Secretary of
20 Education, to have enrolled a substantial num-
21 ber of minority, low-income students during the
22 previous academic year who received assistance
23 under subpart I of part A of title IV of the
24 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
25 1070a et seq.) for that year.”.

1 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
3 retary of Commerce not more than \$250,000,000 for fiscal
4 year 2002, and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal
5 years 2003 through 2007, to carry out part D of the Na-
6 tional Telecommunications and Information Administra-
7 tion Organization Act.

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