

Union Calendar No. 269

108TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4030

[Report No. 108-465]

To establish the Congressional Medal for Outstanding Contributions in Math and Science Education program to recognize private entities for their outstanding contributions to elementary and secondary science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 25, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan (for himself and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science

APRIL 20, 2004

Additional sponsors: Mr. EHLERS and Mr. HOLT

APRIL 20, 2004

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 25, 2004]

A BILL

To establish the Congressional Medal for Outstanding Contributions in Math and Science Education program to recognize private entities for their outstanding contributions to elementary and secondary science, technology, engineering, and mathematics 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Congressional Medal for*
5 *Outstanding Contributions in Math and Science Education*
6 *Act of 2004”.*

7 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8 *In this Act:*

9 (1) *DIRECTOR.*—*The term “Director” means the*
10 *Director of the National Science Foundation.*

11 (2) *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND SECONDARY*
12 *SCHOOL.*—*The terms “elementary school” and “sec-*
13 *ondary school” have the meaning given those terms in*
14 *section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-*
15 *cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).*

16 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**

17 *The Director shall establish a Congressional Medal for*
18 *Outstanding Contributions in Math and Science Education*
19 *program, which shall be designed to—*

20 (1) *recognize private entities for outstanding ef-*
21 *forts supporting elementary and secondary schools in*
22 *improving student achievement in science, technology,*
23 *engineering, and mathematics;*

24 (2) *encourage private entities to support elemen-*
25 *tary and secondary schools to improve and underscore*

1 *the importance of science, technology, engineering,*
2 *and mathematics education; and*

3 *(3) make information about medal recipients*
4 *available to schools, institutions of higher education,*
5 *educators, parents, administrators, policymakers, re-*
6 *searchers, public and private entities, and the general*
7 *public.*

8 **SEC. 4. MEDALS.**

9 *(a) FINALISTS.—Beginning not later than 2 years*
10 *after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall*
11 *annually name as finalists for medals under this Act—*

12 *(1) not more than 20 private entities with more*
13 *than 500 employees; and*

14 *(2) not more than 20 private entities with 500*
15 *or fewer employees.*

16 *Each finalist shall receive a citation describing the basis*
17 *for the entity achieving status as a finalist.*

18 *(b) MEDAL WINNERS.—Beginning not later than 2*
19 *years after the date of enactment of this Act, from among*
20 *finalists named under subsection (a), the Director shall an-*
21 *nually award medals under this Act to—*

22 *(1) not more than 5 private entities with more*
23 *than 500 employees; and*

24 *(2) not more than 5 private entities with 500 or*
25 *fewer employees.*

1 (c) *DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.*—(1) *The Direc-*
2 *tor shall distribute information about the Congressional*
3 *Medal for Outstanding Contributions in Math and Science*
4 *Education recipients in a timely and efficient manner (in-*
5 *cluding through the use of a searchable online database) to*
6 *schools, institutions of higher education, educators, parents,*
7 *administrators, policymakers, researchers, public and pri-*
8 *vate entities, and the general public.*

9 (2) *Any entity that is a finalist or receives a medal*
10 *under this section may use such information for advertising*
11 *and other publicity purposes.*

12 **SEC. 5. ELIGIBILITY.**

13 *Eligibility to receive medals under section 4 of this Act*
14 *shall be limited to private entities that—*

15 (1) *have, whether working alone or in partner-*
16 *ship with for-profit or nonprofit entities, assisted stu-*
17 *dents, teachers, administrators, or other support staff*
18 *to improve student achievement in science, technology,*
19 *engineering, and mathematics in a school or commu-*
20 *nity; and*

21 (2) *have been involved in such activities in a*
22 *sustained manner for at least 2 years with at least*
23 *one elementary or secondary school.*

1 **SEC. 6. APPLICATION.**

2 *The Director shall establish a system for accepting ap-*
3 *plications from entities seeking to be considered for a medal*
4 *under this Act. Applications shall include at least two let-*
5 *ters of support, which may come from teachers, professional*
6 *support staff, administrators, professional or business orga-*
7 *nizations, local, county, or State Departments of Edu-*
8 *cation, or any other category of persons as designated by*
9 *the Director. Letters of support shall describe the reasons*
10 *the entity deserves the medal.*

11 **SEC. 7. SELECTION.**

12 *In selecting entities to receive medals under this Act,*
13 *the Director shall give priority consideration to evidence*
14 *of improved achievement in science, technology, engineer-*
15 *ing, or mathematics by students, including improved*
16 *achievement by individuals identified in section 33 or 34*
17 *of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act*
18 *(42 U.S.C. 1885a or 1885b). In addition to any other cri-*
19 *teria the Director may establish, the Director shall also con-*
20 *sider the following:*

21 (1) *Evidence of innovative approaches to in-*
22 *crease interest in science, technology, engineering, and*
23 *mathematics by students, including individuals iden-*
24 *tified in section 33 or 34 of the Science and Engi-*
25 *neering Equal Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885a or*
26 *1885b). One measure of such evidence may be an in-*

1 crease in the number of students enrolled in advanced
2 courses related to such fields.

3 (2) *Evidence of employee interaction with stu-*
4 *dents or teachers to support and improve science,*
5 *technology, engineering, and mathematics learning.*

6 (3) *Evidence of success in positively influencing*
7 *student attitudes and promoting education and career*
8 *opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and*
9 *mathematics.*

10 (4) *Evidence of successful outreach to students,*
11 *parents, and the community regarding the impor-*
12 *tance of science, technology, engineering, and mathe-*
13 *matics education to the Nation's prosperity, job cre-*
14 *ation, and standard of living, as well as future earn-*
15 *ing potential for the individual.*

16 (5) *Evidence of a strong and sustained commit-*
17 *ment to the students and schools.*

18 **SEC. 8. BIENNIAL REPORT.**

19 *Section 37(a) of the Science and Engineering Equal*
20 *Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885d(a)) is amended by*
21 *striking "By January 30, 1982, and biennially thereafter"*
22 *and inserting "By January 30 of each odd-numbered year".*

23 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

24 *For each of fiscal years 2005 through 2007, there are*
25 *authorized to be appropriated to the National Science*

- 1 *Foundation such sums as may be necessary for carrying*
- 2 *out this Act, to be derived from amounts authorized by the*
- 3 *National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002.*

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