

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2156

To amend title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to enhance teacher training programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 2, 2004

Ms. SNOWE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to enhance teacher training programs, 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 “Community College
5 Teacher Preparation Enhancement Act of 2004”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Well qualified teachers and paraprofes-
9 sionals are critical to the success of the Nation’s stu-
10 dents.

1 (2) In order to meet the changing demands of
2 their jobs and the Federal requirements under the
3 No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law
4 107–110), teachers and prospective teachers must
5 have access to high-quality teacher training.

6 (3) The 1,200 community colleges across the
7 United States play an important role in training
8 teachers, offering professional development, and con-
9 tinuing education.

10 (4) Community colleges enroll more than
11 6,000,000 credit students or 44 percent of all under-
12 graduates in the United States.

13 (5) At least 25 percent of undergraduates re-
14 ceiving a teaching degree began their postsecondary
15 education at a community college.

16 (6) Due to teacher attrition, teacher retirement,
17 and a growing student population, the Nation will
18 require an additional 2,400,000 teachers over the
19 next decade.

20 (7) If left unchanged, the production rate of
21 teachers is 200,000 short of meeting the expected
22 future demand.

23 (8) In subjects such as mathematics, science,
24 special education, and bilingual education, the Na-
25 tion risks a severe teacher shortfall.

1 (9) Community colleges offer accessibility and a
2 link to education opportunities present at 4-year in-
3 stitutions of higher education.

4 (10) There is no systematic infrastructure or
5 resources in place to advance more students from
6 community colleges to 4-year institutions of higher
7 education and into the teaching profession.

8 (11) Many 4-year institutions of higher edu-
9 cation and community colleges have engaged in col-
10 laborative agreements for teacher training.

11 (12) To meet the Nation's needs for highly
12 qualified teachers, it is appropriate that the commu-
13 nity college role in teacher training be enhanced and
14 that cooperation between community colleges and 4-
15 year institutions of higher education be increased.

16 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

17 The purposes of this Act are to—

18 (1) foster collaboration between 4-year institu-
19 tions of higher education and community colleges to
20 enhance teacher preparation as required under the
21 No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law
22 107–110);

23 (2) enhance the opportunity for community col-
24 lege students in teacher training programs to com-

1 plete a baccalaureate degree in kindergarten through
2 grade 12 education;

3 (3) promote the development of best practices
4 for coordinating teacher training between community
5 colleges and 4-year institutions of higher education;
6 and

7 (4) expand community college teaching infra-
8 structure to provide, among other things, profes-
9 sional development as called for under the No Child
10 Left Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law 107–110) to
11 existing teachers.

12 **SEC. 4. TEACHER TRAINING ENHANCEMENT.**

13 Title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
14 U.S.C. 1021 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
15 the following:

16 **“PART C—TEACHER TRAINING ENHANCEMENT**

17 **“SEC. 231. DEFINITIONS.**

18 “In this part:

19 “(1) 4-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-
20 CATION.—The term ‘4-year institution of higher
21 education’ means an institution of higher education,
22 as defined in section 101(a), whose highest under-
23 graduate degree offered is predominantly the bacca-
24 laureate degree.

1 “(2) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term ‘com-
2 munity college’ has the meaning given the term ‘jun-
3 ior or community college’ in section 312(f).

4 “(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible en-
6 tity’ means—

7 “(i) a statewide governing or coordi-
8 nating board with jurisdiction over commu-
9 nity colleges and 4-year institutions of
10 higher education;

11 “(ii) a partnership between a state-
12 wide governing or coordinating board with
13 jurisdiction over community colleges and a
14 statewide governing or coordinating board
15 with jurisdiction over 4-year institutions of
16 higher education;

17 “(iii) a partnership between 1 or more
18 community colleges and 1 or more 4-year
19 institutions of higher education; or

20 “(iv) a community college offering a
21 teacher preparation program that provides
22 all, or a significant portion of, teacher
23 training, postbaccalaureate certification,
24 and professional development.

1 “(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term ‘eligible en-
2 tity’ under clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph
3 (A) may include other institutions with respon-
4 sibility for teacher preparation or teacher
5 standards.

6 “(4) HIGHLY QUALIFIED.—The term ‘highly
7 qualified’ has the meaning given the term in section
8 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education
9 Act of 1965.

10 “(5) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—The
11 term ‘professional development’ has the meaning
12 given the term in section 9101 of the Elementary
13 and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

14 **“SEC. 232. GRANT PROGRAM.**

15 “The Secretary is authorized to award grants to eligi-
16 ble entities to enable such entities to pay the Federal share
17 of the costs of carrying out teacher training or preparation
18 programs.

19 **“SEC. 233. APPLICATION.**

20 “An eligible entity that desires to receive a grant
21 under this part shall submit to the Secretary an applica-
22 tion at such time, in such manner, and containing such
23 information or assurances as the Secretary may require.

1 **“SEC. 234. AWARDING OF GRANTS.**

2 “(a) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this part,
3 the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities that
4 propose any of the following:

5 “(1) Grant funds will be used to provide for
6 teacher preparation in geographic areas with short-
7 ages of highly qualified teachers.

8 “(2) Grant funds will be used to prepare teach-
9 ers in kindergarten through grade 12 subject con-
10 tent areas that have a shortage of highly qualified
11 teachers.

12 “(3) Grant funds will be used to carry out inno-
13 vative programs to address teacher training or
14 teacher preparation.

15 “(4) Grant funds will be used to conduct out-
16 reach into secondary schools.

17 “(5) Grant funds will be used to carry out a
18 plan to disseminate information.

19 “(b) GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY.—The Secretary shall
20 ensure that grants are awarded in a geographically diverse
21 manner.

22 “(c) DURATION.—Grants awarded under this part
23 shall be for 5 years in duration.

1 **“SEC. 235. USES OF FUNDS.**

2 “(a) MANDATORY USE.—An eligible entity that re-
3 ceives a grant under this section shall use the grant funds
4 to carry out not less than 1 of the following:

5 “(1) Enhancing the collaboration of teacher
6 training between community colleges and 4-year in-
7 stitutions of higher education.

8 “(2) The development of programs that provide
9 opportunities for community college students to com-
10 plete a baccalaureate degree in kindergarten through
11 grade 12 education.

12 “(3) The establishment of partnerships in
13 teacher training between community colleges and 4-
14 year institutions of higher education.

15 “(4) The establishment of programs at commu-
16 nity colleges that prepare students to enter teacher
17 preparation programs at 4-year institutions of high-
18 er education.

19 “(5) Developing programs to provide pathways
20 for secondary school students to pursue careers in
21 teaching.

22 “(6) Establishing postbaccalaureate teacher cer-
23 tification programs.

24 “(b) PERMISSIVE USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity
25 that receives a grant under this section may use the grant
26 funds to carry out any of the following:

1 “(1) The creation of kindergarten through
2 grade 12 teacher education programs and teacher
3 aid programs to meet requirements under the Ele-
4 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

5 “(2) The coordination of teacher and para-
6 professional curricula for use at community colleges
7 and 4-year institutions of higher education.

8 “(3) The establishment of curricula and pro-
9 grams for professional development for teachers.

10 **“SEC. 236. REPORT AND EVALUATION.**

11 “(a) ANNUAL REPORT.—An eligible entity that re-
12 ceives a grant under this section shall submit an annual
13 report to the Secretary on—

14 “(1) the progress made toward the goals of the
15 grant;

16 “(2) the activities supported by the grant;

17 “(3) the number of students served;

18 “(4) when applicable, the ability to place stu-
19 dents graduating from schools supported by a grant
20 under this part; and

21 “(5) when applicable, the number of students
22 graduating from schools supported by a grant under
23 this part who meet the requirements for highly
24 qualified teachers under the Elementary and Sec-
25 ondary Education Act of 1965.

1 “(b) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall review and
2 evaluate the reports submitted under subsection (a).

3 **“SEC. 237. MATCHING REQUIREMENT.**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the costs
5 of carrying out a teacher training or preparation program
6 shall be—

7 “(1) 65 percent for the first year of the grant;

8 “(2) 60 percent for the second year of the
9 grant;

10 “(3) 55 percent for the third year of the grant;

11 “(4) 50 percent for the fourth year of the
12 grant; and

13 “(5) 45 percent for the fifth year of the grant.

14 “(b) IN CASH OR IN-KIND.—The non-Federal share
15 of the costs of carrying out a teacher training or prepara-
16 tion program may be provided in cash or in the form of
17 in-kind contributions.

18 **“SEC. 238. REPORT BY THE SECRETARY.**

19 “The Secretary shall review and submit an annual
20 report to Congress on the activities supported under this
21 part and the impact of this part with respect to—

22 “(1) producing highly qualified teachers and
23 teachers aids;

24 “(2) helping address teacher shortages, particu-
25 larly in rural and urban areas; and

1 “(3) enhancing the diversity of the Nation’s
2 teaching force.

3 **“SEC. 239. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 “‘There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
5 this part \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2005 and such sums
6 as may be necessary for each of the 5 succeeding fiscal
7 years.’”.

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