

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1367

To provide for recruiting, selecting, training, and supporting a national teacher corps in underserved communities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 1 (legislative day, JUNE 30), 2005

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. DEWINE, and Mrs. CLINTON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To provide for recruiting, selecting, training, and supporting a national teacher corps in underserved communities.

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. PURPOSES.**

4 The purposes of this Act are as follows:

5 (1) To grow the number of highly accomplished
6 recent college graduates teaching in underserved
7 urban and rural communities in the United States.

8 (2) To increase the number of school districts
9 and communities served by a nationally recruited
10 corps of outstanding new teachers.

1 (3) To build a broader pipeline of talented and
2 experienced future leaders in public education and
3 education reform.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The terms “highly quali-
7 fied”, “local educational agency”, and “Secretary”
8 have the meanings given the terms in section 9101
9 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
10 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

11 (2) **GRANTEE.**—The term “grantee” means
12 Teach For America, Inc.

13 (3) **HIGH NEED.**—The term “high need”, when
14 used with respect to a local educational agency,
15 means a local educational agency experiencing a
16 shortage of highly qualified teachers.

17 **SEC. 3. GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

18 The Secretary is authorized to award a grant to
19 Teach For America, Inc., the national teacher corps of
20 outstanding recent college graduates who commit to teach
21 for 2 years in underserved communities in the United
22 States, to implement and expand its program of recruit-
23 ing, selecting, training, and supporting new teachers.

1 **SEC. 4. GRANT REQUIREMENTS.**

2 In carrying out the grant program under section 3,
3 the Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the
4 grantee under which the grantee agrees to use the grant
5 funds provided under this Act—

6 (1) to provide highly qualified teachers to high
7 need local educational agencies in urban and rural
8 communities;

9 (2) to pay the cost of recruiting, selecting,
10 training, and supporting new teachers; and

11 (3) to serve a substantial number and percent-
12 age of underserved students.

13 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Grant funds provided under this
15 Act shall be used by the grantee to carry out each of the
16 following activities:

17 (1) Recruiting and selecting teachers through a
18 highly selective national process.

19 (2) Providing preservice training to the teachers
20 through a rigorous summer institute that includes
21 hands-on teaching experience and significant expo-
22 sure to education coursework and theory.

23 (3) Placing the teachers in schools and posi-
24 tions designated by partner local educational agen-
25 cies as high need placements serving underserved
26 students.

1 (4) Providing ongoing professional development
 2 activities for the teachers' first 2 years in the class-
 3 room, including regular classroom observations and
 4 feedback, and ongoing training and support.

5 (b) LIMITATION.—The grantee shall use all grant
 6 funds received under this Act to support activities related
 7 directly to the recruitment, selection, training, and sup-
 8 port of teachers as described in subsection (a).

9 **SEC. 6. EVALUATION.**

10 (a) ANNUAL REPORT.—The grantee shall provide to
 11 the Secretary an annual report that includes—

12 (1) data on the number and quality of the
 13 teachers provided to local educational agencies
 14 through a grant under this Act;

15 (2) an externally conducted analysis of the sat-
 16 isfaction of local educational agencies and principals
 17 with the teachers so provided; and

18 (3) comprehensive data on the background of
 19 the teachers chosen, the training the teachers re-
 20 ceived, the placement sites of the teachers, the pro-
 21 fessional development of the teachers, and the reten-
 22 tion of the teachers.

23 (b) STUDY.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide
 25 for a study that examines the achievement levels of

1 the students taught by the teachers assisted under
2 this Act.

3 (2) ACHIEVEMENT GAINS COMPARED.—The
4 study shall compare, within the same schools, the
5 achievement gains made by students taught by
6 teachers who are assisted under this Act with the
7 achievement gains made by students taught by
8 teachers who are not assisted under this Act.

9 (3) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall pro-
10 vide for such a study not less than once every 3
11 years, and each such study shall include multiple
12 placement sites and multiple schools within place-
13 ment sites.

14 (4) PEER REVIEW STANDARDS.—Each such
15 study shall meet the peer review standards of the
16 education research community.

17 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
19 this Act such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year
20 2006 and an amount not to exceed \$25,000,000 for each
21 succeeding fiscal year.

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