

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5848

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize a program to prepare teachers for digital age learners.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2008

Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize a program to prepare teachers for digital age learners.

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 “Preparing Teachers
5 for Digital Age Learners Act of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. TEACHER PREPARATION.**

7 Part B of title II of the Higher Education Act of
8 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1041 et seq.) is amended to read as fol-
9 lows:

1 **“PART B—PREPARING TEACHERS FOR DIGITAL**
2 **AGE LEARNERS**

3 **“SEC. 221. DEFINITIONS.**

4 “For purposes of this part:

5 “(1) ARTS AND SCIENCES.—The term ‘arts and
6 sciences’ means—

7 “(A) when referring to an organizational
8 unit of an institution of higher education, any
9 academic unit that offers 1 or more academic
10 majors in disciplines or content areas cor-
11 responding to the academic subject matter
12 areas in which teachers provide instruction; and

13 “(B) when referring to a specific academic
14 subject area, the disciplines or content areas in
15 which academic majors are offered by the arts
16 and sciences organizational unit.

17 “(2) HIGH-NEED SCHOOL.—The term ‘high-
18 need school’ means a public elementary school or
19 public secondary school that—

20 “(A) is among the highest 25 percent of
21 schools served by the local educational agency
22 that serves the school, in terms of the percent-
23 age of students from families with incomes
24 below the poverty line; or

1 “(B) is designated with a school locale
2 code of Rural: Fringe, Rural: Distant, or Rural:
3 Remote, as determined by the Secretary.

4 “(3) POVERTY LINE.—The term ‘poverty line’
5 means the poverty line (as defined in section 673(2)
6 of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42
7 U.S.C. 9902(2))) applicable to a family of the size
8 involved.

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

13 **“SEC. 222. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

14 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—The Secretary is au-
15 thorized to award grants to, or enter into contracts or co-
16 operative agreements with, eligible consortia to pay the
17 Federal share of the costs of projects to—

18 “(1) graduate teacher candidates who are pre-
19 pared to use modern information, communication,
20 and learning tools to—

21 “(A) improve student learning, assessment,
22 and learning management; and

23 “(B) help students develop skills to suc-
24 ceed in higher education and enter the work-
25 force; and

1 “(2) strengthen and develop partnerships
2 among the stakeholders in teacher preparation to
3 transform teacher education and ensure technology
4 rich learning environments throughout a teacher
5 candidate’s pre-service education, including clinical
6 experiences.

7 “(b) AMOUNT AND DURATION.—A grant, contract, or
8 cooperative agreement under this part—

9 “(1) shall be for not more than \$2,000,000;

10 “(2) shall be for a 3-year period; and

11 “(3) may be renewed for one additional year.

12 “(c) NON-FEDERAL SHARE REQUIREMENT.—The
13 Federal share of the cost of any project funded under this
14 part shall not exceed 75 percent. The non-Federal share
15 of the cost of such project may be provided in cash or
16 in kind, fairly evaluated, including services.

17 “(d) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE CONSORTIUM.—In
18 this part, the term ‘eligible consortium’ means a consor-
19 tium of members that includes the following:

20 “(1) At least one institution of higher education
21 that awards baccalaureate or masters degrees and
22 prepares teachers for initial entry into teaching.

23 “(2) At least one State educational agency or
24 local educational agency.

1 “(3) A department, school, or college of edu-
2 cation at an institution of higher education.

3 “(4) A department, school, or college of arts
4 and sciences at an institution of higher education.

5 “(5) At least one entity with the capacity to
6 contribute to the technology-related reform of teach-
7 er preparation programs, which may be a profes-
8 sional association, foundation, museum, library, for-
9 profit business, public or private nonprofit organiza-
10 tion, community-based organization, or other entity.

11 **“SEC. 223. USES OF FUNDS.**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—An eligible consortium that re-
13 ceives a grant or enters into a contract or cooperative
14 agreement under this part shall use funds made available
15 under this part to carry out a project that—

16 “(1) develops long-term partnerships among
17 members of the consortium that are focused on ef-
18 fective teaching with modern digital tools and con-
19 tent that substantially connect pre-service prepara-
20 tion of teacher candidates with high-needs schools;
21 or

22 “(2) transforms the way departments, schools,
23 and colleges of education teach classroom technology
24 integration, including the principles of universal de-
25 sign, to teacher candidates.

1 “(b) USES OF FUNDS FOR PARTNERSHIP GRANTS.—

2 In carrying out a project under subsection (a)(1), an eligi-
3 ble consortium shall—

4 “(1) provide teacher candidates, early in their
5 preparation, with field experiences in educational
6 settings with technology;

7 “(2) build the skills of teacher candidates to
8 support technology-rich instruction, assessment and
9 learning management in content areas, technology
10 literacy, an understanding of the principles of uni-
11 versal design, and the development of other skills for
12 success in higher education and for entering the
13 workforce;

14 “(3) provide professional development in the
15 use of technology for teachers, administrators, and
16 content specialists who participate in field place-
17 ment;

18 “(4) provide professional development of tech-
19 nology pedagogical skills for faculty of departments,
20 schools, and colleges of education and arts and
21 sciences;

22 “(5) implement strategies for the mentoring of
23 teacher candidates with respect to technology imple-
24 mentation by members of the consortium;

1 “(6) evaluate teacher candidates during the
2 first years of teaching to fully assess outcomes of
3 the project;

4 “(7) build collaborative learning communities
5 for technology integration within the consortium to
6 sustain meaningful applications of technology in the
7 classroom during teacher preparation and early ca-
8 reer practice; and

9 “(8) evaluate the effectiveness of the project.

10 “(c) USES OF FUNDS FOR TRANSFORMATION
11 GRANTS.—In carrying out a project under subsection
12 (a)(2), an eligible consortium shall—

13 “(1) redesign curriculum to require collabora-
14 tion between the department, school, or college of
15 education faculty and the department, school, or col-
16 lege of arts and sciences faculty who teach content
17 or methods courses for training teacher candidates;

18 “(2) collaborate between the department,
19 school, or college of education faculty and the de-
20 partment, school, or college of arts and science fac-
21 ulty and academic content specialists at the local
22 educational agency to educate pre-service teachers
23 who can integrate technology and pedagogical skills
24 in content areas;

1 “(3) collaborate between the department,
2 school, or college of education faculty and the de-
3 partment, school, or college of arts and sciences fac-
4 ulty who teach courses to pre-service teachers to—

5 “(A) develop and implement a plan for
6 pre-service teachers and continuing educators
7 that demonstrates effective instructional strate-
8 gies and application of such strategies in the
9 use of digital tools to transform the teaching
10 and learning process; and

11 “(B) better reach underrepresented pre-
12 service teacher populations with programs that
13 connect such pre-service teacher populations
14 with applications of technology;

15 “(4) collaborate among faculty and students to
16 create and disseminate case studies of technology
17 applications in classroom settings with a goal of im-
18 proving student achievement in high-need schools;

19 “(5) provide additional technology resources for
20 pre-service teachers to plan and implement tech-
21 nology applications in classroom settings that pro-
22 vide evidence of student learning; and

23 “(6) bring together expertise from departments,
24 schools, or colleges of education, arts and science
25 faculty, and academic content specialists at the local

1 educational agency to share and disseminate tech-
2 nology applications in the classroom through teacher
3 preparation and into early career practice.

4 **“SEC. 224. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.**

5 “To be eligible to receive a grant or enter into a con-
6 tract or cooperative agreement under this part, an eligible
7 consortium shall submit an application to the Secretary
8 at such time, in such manner, and containing such infor-
9 mation as the Secretary may require. Such application
10 shall include the following:

11 “(1) A description of the project to be carried
12 out with the grant, including how the project will—

13 “(A) develop a long-term partnership fo-
14 cused on effective teaching with modern digital
15 tools and content that substantially connects
16 pre-service preparation of teacher candidates
17 with high-need schools; or

18 “(B) transform the way departments,
19 schools, and colleges of education teach class-
20 room technology integration, including the prin-
21 ciples of universal design, to teacher candidates.

22 “(2) A demonstration of—

23 “(A) the commitment, including the finan-
24 cial commitment, of each of the members of the
25 consortium for the proposed project; and

1 “(B) the support of the leadership of each
2 organization that is a member of the consor-
3 tium for the proposed project.

4 “(3) A description of how each member of the
5 consortium will participate in the project.

6 “(4) A description of how the State or local
7 educational agency will incorporate the project into
8 the agency’s technology plan, if such a plan already
9 exists.

10 “(5) A description of how the project will be
11 continued after Federal funds are no longer avail-
12 able under this part for the project.

13 “(6) A description of how the project will incor-
14 porate—

15 “(A) State teacher technology standards;
16 and

17 “(B) State student technology standards.

18 “(7) A plan for the evaluation of the project,
19 which shall include benchmarks to monitor progress
20 toward specific project objectives.

21 **“SEC. 225. EVALUATION.**

22 “Not less than 10 percent of the funds awarded to
23 an eligible consortium to carry out a project under this
24 part shall be used to evaluate the effectiveness of such
25 project.

1 **“SEC. 226. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 “There is authorized to be appropriated
3 \$100,000,000 to carry out this part for fiscal year 2009
4 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 2 suc-
5 ceeding fiscal years.”.

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