

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1981

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 2, 2007

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

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## A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “No Child Left Inside Act of 2007”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
7 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. References.
- Sec. 3. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE I—ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PLANS

Sec. 101. Development, approval, and implementation of State environmental literacy plans.

TITLE II—ESTABLISHMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAMS

Sec. 201. Environmental education.

TITLE III—ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM TO  
HELP BUILD NATIONAL CAPACITY

Sec. 301. Environmental education grant program to help build national capacity.

TITLE IV—ELIGIBILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND  
FIELD-BASED LEARNING ACTIVITIES UNDER EXISTING GRANT  
AND FUNDING PROGRAMS

Sec. 401. Promotion of field-based learning.

Sec. 402. Environmental education as an authorized program in the fund for the improvement of education.

TITLE V—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER LAWS

Sec. 501. Department of Education Organization Act.

1 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES.**

2       Except as otherwise specifically provided, whenever in  
3 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms  
4 of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other  
5 provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to  
6 a section or other provision of the Elementary and Sec-  
7 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

8 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9       (a) AUTHORIZATION.—There is authorized to be ap-  
10 propriated to carry out section 5622(g) and part E of title  
11 II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
12 1965, \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and each of the  
13 4 succeeding fiscal years.

1 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—With respect to any amount ap-  
 2 propriated under subsection (a) for a fiscal year—

3 (1) not more than 70 percent of such amount  
 4 shall be used to carry out section 5622(g) of the El-  
 5 elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 for  
 6 such fiscal year; and

7 (2) not less than 30 percent of such amount  
 8 shall be used to carry out part E of title II of such  
 9 Act for such fiscal year.

10 **TITLE I—ENVIRONMENTAL**  
 11 **LITERACY PLANS**

12 **SEC. 101. DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL, AND IMPLEMENTA-**  
 13 **TION OF STATE ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY**  
 14 **PLANS.**

15 Part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) is amended  
 16 by adding at the end the following:

17 **“Subpart 22—Environmental Literacy Plans**

18 **“SEC. 5621. ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PLAN REQUIRE-**  
 19 **MENTS.**

20 “In order for any State educational agency or a local  
 21 educational agency served by a State educational agency  
 22 to receive grant funds, either directly or through participa-  
 23 tion in a partnership with a recipient of grant funds,  
 24 under this subpart or part E of title II, the State edu-

1 cational agency shall meet the requirements regarding an  
2 environmental literacy plan under section 5622.

3 **“SEC. 5622. STATE ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PLANS.**

4 “(a) SUBMISSION OF PLAN.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
6 the date of enactment of the No Child Left Inside  
7 Act of 2007, a State educational agency subject to  
8 the requirements of section 5621 shall, in consulta-  
9 tion with State environmental agencies, State nat-  
10 ural resource agencies, and with input from the pub-  
11 lic—

12 “(A) submit an environmental literacy plan  
13 for kindergarten through grade 12 to the Sec-  
14 retary for peer review and approval that will en-  
15 sure that elementary and secondary school stu-  
16 dents in the State are environmentally literate;  
17 and

18 “(B) begin the implementation of such  
19 plan in the State.

20 “(2) EXISTING PLANS.—A State may satisfy  
21 the requirement of paragraph (1)(A) by submitting  
22 to the Secretary for peer review an existing State  
23 plan that has been developed by or in cooperation  
24 with State environmental organizations, if such plan  
25 complies with this section.

1       “(b) PLAN OBJECTIVES.—A State environmental lit-  
2 eracy plan shall meet the following objectives:

3           “(1) Prepare students to understand, analyze,  
4 and address the major environmental challenges fac-  
5 ing the United States.

6           “(2) Provide field experiences as part of the  
7 regular school curriculum and create programs that  
8 contribute to healthy lifestyles through outdoor  
9 recreation and sound nutrition.

10          “(3) Create opportunities for enhanced and on-  
11 going professional development for teachers that im-  
12 proves the teachers’ environmental content knowl-  
13 edge, skill in teaching about environmental issues,  
14 and field-based pedagogical skill base.

15       “(c) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—A State environmental  
16 literacy plan shall include each of the following:

17           “(1) A description of how the State educational  
18 agency will measure the environmental literacy of  
19 students, including—

20           “(A) relevant State academic content  
21 standards and content areas regarding environ-  
22 mental education, and courses or subjects where  
23 environmental education instruction will take  
24 place; and

1           “(B) a description of the relationship of  
2           the plan to the secondary school graduation re-  
3           quirements of the State.

4           “(2) A description of programs for professional  
5           development for teachers to improve the teachers’—

6                   “(A) environmental content knowledge;

7                   “(B) skill in teaching about environmental  
8           issues; and

9                   “(C) field-based pedagogical skills.

10           “(3) A description of how the State educational  
11           agency will implement the plan, including securing  
12           funding and other necessary support.

13           “(d) PLAN UPDATE.—The State environmental lit-  
14           eracy plan shall be revised or updated by the State edu-  
15           cational agency and submitted to the Secretary not less  
16           often than every 5 years or as appropriate to reflect plan  
17           modifications.

18           “(e) PEER REVIEW AND SECRETARIAL APPROVAL.—  
19           The Secretary shall—

20                   “(1) establish a peer review process to assist in  
21           the review of State environmental literacy plans;

22                   “(2) appoint individuals to the peer review  
23           process who—

24                   “(A) are representative of parents, teach-  
25           ers, State educational agencies, State environ-

1           mental agencies, State natural resource agen-  
2           cies, local educational agencies, and non-govern-  
3           mental organizations; and

4                   “(B) are familiar with national environ-  
5           mental issues and the health and educational  
6           needs of students;

7                   “(3) approve a State environmental literacy  
8           plan within 120 days of the plan’s submission unless  
9           the Secretary determines that the State environ-  
10          mental literacy plan does not meet the requirements  
11          of this section;

12                   “(4) immediately notify the State if the Sec-  
13          retary determines that the State environmental lit-  
14          eracy plan does not meet the requirements of this  
15          section, and state the reasons for such determina-  
16          tion;

17                   “(5) not decline to approve a State environ-  
18          mental literacy plan before—

19                           “(A) offering the State an opportunity to  
20                   revise the State environmental literacy plan;

21                           “(B) providing technical assistance in  
22                   order to assist the State to meet the require-  
23                   ments of this section; and

24                           “(C) providing notice and an opportunity  
25                   for a hearing; and

1           “(6) have the authority to decline to approve a  
2           State environmental literacy plan for not meeting  
3           the requirements of this part, but shall not have the  
4           authority to require a State, as a condition of ap-  
5           proval of the State environmental literacy plan, to—

6                   “(A) include in, or delete from, such State  
7                   environmental literacy plan 1 or more specific  
8                   elements of the State academic content stand-  
9                   ards under section 1111(b)(1); or

10                   “(B) use specific academic assessment in-  
11                   struments or items.

12           “(f) STATE REVISIONS.—The State educational  
13           agency shall have the opportunity to revise a State envi-  
14           ronmental literacy plan if such revision is necessary to sat-  
15           isfy the requirements of this section.

16           “(g) GRANTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—

17                   “(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts  
18                   appropriated for this subsection, the Secretary shall  
19                   award grants, through allotments in accordance with  
20                   the regulations described in paragraph (2), to States  
21                   to enable the States to award subgrants, on a com-  
22                   petitive basis, to local educational agencies and eligi-  
23                   ble partnerships (as such term is defined in section  
24                   2502) to support the implementation of the State  
25                   environmental literacy plan.



1           “(2) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall pro-  
2 mulgate regulations implementing the grant pro-  
3 gram under paragraph (1), which regulations shall  
4 include the development of an allotment formula  
5 that best achieves the purposes of this subpart.

6           “(3) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—A State re-  
7 ceiving a grant under this subsection may use not  
8 more than 2.5 percent of the grant funds for admin-  
9 istrative expenses.

10          “(h) REPORTING.—

11           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years  
12 after approval of a State environmental literacy  
13 plan, and every 2 years thereafter, the chief execu-  
14 tive officer of the State, in cooperation with the  
15 State educational agency, shall submit to the Sec-  
16 retary a report on the implementation of the State  
17 plan.

18           “(2) REPORT REQUIREMENTS.—The report re-  
19 quired by this subsection shall be—

20           “(A) in the form specified by the Sec-  
21 retary;

22           “(B) based on the State’s ongoing evalua-  
23 tion activities; and

24           “(C) made readily available to the public.”.

1 **TITLE II—ESTABLISHMENT OF**  
 2 **ENVIRONMENTAL EDU-**  
 3 **CATION PROFESSIONAL DE-**  
 4 **VELOPMENT GRANT PRO-**  
 5 **GRAMS**

6 **SEC. 201. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.**

7 Title II (20 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.) is amended by add-  
 8 ing at the end the following:

9 **“PART E—ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PRO-**  
 10 **FESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PRO-**  
 11 **GRAM**

12 **“SEC. 2501. PURPOSE.**

13 “The purpose of this part is to ensure the academic  
 14 achievement of students in environmental literacy through  
 15 the professional development of teachers and educators.

16 **“SEC. 2502. GRANTS FOR ENHANCING EDUCATION**  
 17 **THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.**

18 “(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.—In  
 19 this section, the term ‘eligible partnership’ means a part-  
 20 nership that—

21 “(1) shall include a local educational agency;

22 and

23 “(2) may include—

24 “(A) the teacher training department of an  
 25 institution of higher education;

1           “(B) the environmental department of an  
2 institution of higher education;

3           “(C) another local educational agency, a  
4 public charter school, a public elementary  
5 school or secondary school, or a consortium of  
6 such schools;

7           “(D) a State environmental or natural re-  
8 source management agency or a local environ-  
9 mental or natural resource management agency;  
10 or

11           “(E) a nonprofit or for-profit organization  
12 of demonstrated effectiveness in improving the  
13 quality of environmental education teachers.

14       “(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

15           “(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts  
16 appropriated for this subsection, the Secretary shall  
17 award grants, through allotments in accordance with  
18 the regulations described in paragraph (2), to States  
19 to enable the States to award subgrants under sub-  
20 section (c).

21           “(2) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall pro-  
22 mulgate regulations implementing the grant pro-  
23 gram under paragraph (1), which regulations shall  
24 include the development of an allotment formula  
25 that best achieves the purposes of this subpart.

1           “(3) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—A State re-  
2           ceiving a grant under this subsection may use not  
3           more than 2.5 percent of the grant funds for admin-  
4           istrative expenses.

5           “(c) SUBGRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

6           “(1) SUBGRANTS TO ELIGIBLE PARTNER-  
7           SHIPS.—From amounts made available to a State  
8           educational agency under subsection (b)(1), the  
9           State educational agency shall award subgrants, on  
10          a competitive basis, to eligible partnerships to enable  
11          the eligible partnerships to carry out the authorized  
12          activities described in subsection (d) consistent with  
13          the approved State environmental literacy plan.

14          “(2) DURATION.—The State educational agency  
15          shall award each subgrant under this part for a pe-  
16          riod of not more than 3 years beginning on the date  
17          of approval of the State’s environmental literacy  
18          plan under section 5622.

19          “(3) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds  
20          provided to an eligible partnership under this part  
21          shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, funds  
22          that would otherwise be used for activities author-  
23          ized under this part.

24          “(d) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible partnership  
2 desiring a subgrant under this part shall submit an  
3 application to the State educational agency, at such  
4 time, in such manner, and accompanied by such in-  
5 formation as the State educational agency may re-  
6 quire.

7           “(2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted  
8 under paragraph (1) shall include—

9                   “(A) the results of a comprehensive assess-  
10 ment of the teacher quality and professional de-  
11 velopment needs, with respect to the teaching  
12 and learning of environmental content;

13                   “(B) a description of how the activities to  
14 be carried out by the eligible partnership—

15                           “(i) where applicable, will be aligned  
16 with challenging State academic content  
17 standards and student academic achieve-  
18 ment standards in environmental edu-  
19 cation; and

20                           “(ii) will advance the teaching of  
21 interdisciplinary courses that integrate the  
22 study of natural, social, and economic sys-  
23 tems and that include strong field compo-  
24 nents in which students have the oppor-  
25 tunity to directly experience nature;

1           “(C) an explanation of how the activities to  
2 be carried out by the eligible partnership are  
3 expected to improve student academic achieve-  
4 ment and strengthen the quality of environ-  
5 mental instruction;

6           “(D) a description of how the activities to  
7 be carried out by the eligible partnership will  
8 ensure that teachers are trained in the use of  
9 field-based and service learning to enable the  
10 teachers—

11                 “(i) to use the local environment and  
12 community as a resource; and

13                 “(ii) to enhance student under-  
14 standing of the environment and academic  
15 achievement;

16           “(E) a description of—

17                 “(i) how the eligible partnership will  
18 carry out the authorized activities de-  
19 scribed in subsection (d); and

20                 “(ii) the eligible partnership’s evalua-  
21 tion and accountability plan described in  
22 subsection (e); and

23           “(F) a description of how the eligible part-  
24 nership will continue the activities funded under  
25 this part after the grant period has expired.

1       “(e) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—An eligible partner-  
2 ship shall use the subgrant funds provided under this part  
3 for 1 or more of the following activities related to elemen-  
4 tary schools or secondary schools:

5           “(1) Improving the environmental content  
6 knowledge of teachers.

7           “(2) Improving teachers’ skills in teaching  
8 about environmental issues.

9           “(3) Improving the field-based pedagogical skill  
10 base of all teachers.

11          “(4) Providing professional development for  
12 teachers that encourages the utilization of outdoor  
13 facilities.

14          “(5) Establishing and operating programs to  
15 bring teachers into contact with working profes-  
16 sionals in environmental fields to expand such teach-  
17 ers’ subject matter knowledge of, and research in,  
18 environmental issues.

19          “(6) Creating initiatives that seek to incor-  
20 porate environmental education within teacher train-  
21 ing programs or accreditation standards consistent  
22 with the State environmental literacy plan under  
23 section 5622.

24          “(7) Conducting and operating model environ-  
25 mental education programs that utilize outdoor field

1 investigations for students to directly experience na-  
2 ture.

3 “(f) EVALUATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible partnership  
5 receiving a subgrant under this part shall develop an  
6 evaluation and accountability plan for activities as-  
7 sisted under this part that includes rigorous objec-  
8 tives that measure the impact of the activities.

9 “(2) CONTENTS.—The plan developed under  
10 paragraph (1) shall include measurable objectives to  
11 increase the number of teachers who participate in  
12 environmental education content-based professional  
13 development activities.

14 “(g) REPORT.—Each eligible partnership receiving a  
15 subgrant under this part shall report annually to the State  
16 educational agency regarding the eligible partnership’s  
17 progress in meeting the objectives described in the ac-  
18 countability plan of the eligible partnership under sub-  
19 section (f).”.



1 **TITLE III—ENVIRONMENTAL**  
 2 **EDUCATION GRANT PRO-**  
 3 **GRAM TO HELP BUILD NA-**  
 4 **TIONAL CAPACITY**

5 **SEC. 301. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM**  
 6 **TO HELP BUILD NATIONAL CAPACITY.**

7 Part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) (as amend-  
 8 ed by section 101) is further amended by adding at the  
 9 end the following:

10 **“Subpart 23—Environmental Education Grant**  
 11 **Program**

12 **“SEC. 5631. PURPOSE.**

13 “The purpose of this subpart is to prepare children  
 14 to understand and address major environmental chal-  
 15 lenges facing the United States and strengthen environ-  
 16 mental education as an integral part of the elementary  
 17 school and secondary school curriculum.

18 **“SEC. 5632. GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

19 “(a) **DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term  
 20 ‘eligible entity’ means a nonprofit organization, State edu-  
 21 cational agency, local educational agency, or institution of  
 22 higher education, that has demonstrated expertise and ex-  
 23 perience in the development of the institutional, financial,  
 24 intellectual, or policy resources needed to help the field

1 of environmental education become more effective and  
2 widely practiced.

3 “(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting  
5 through the Director of Environmental Education, is  
6 authorized to award grants, on a competitive basis,  
7 to eligible entities to enable the eligible entities to  
8 carry out the activities under this section.

9 “(2) DURATION.—The Secretary shall award  
10 each grant under this subpart for a period of not  
11 less than 1 year and not more than 3 years.

12 **“SEC. 5633. APPLICATIONS.**

13 “Each eligible entity desiring a grant under this sub-  
14 part shall submit to the Secretary an application that con-  
15 tains—

16 “(1) a plan to initiate, expand, or improve envi-  
17 ronmental education programs in order to make  
18 progress toward meeting State standards for envi-  
19 ronmental learning; and

20 “(2) an evaluation and accountability plan for  
21 activities assisted under this subpart that includes  
22 rigorous objectives that measure the impact of ac-  
23 tivities funded under this subpart.

1 **“SEC. 5634. USE OF FUNDS.**

2 “Grant funds made available under this subpart shall  
3 be used for 1 or more of the following:

4 “(1) Developing and implementing challenging  
5 State environmental education academic content  
6 standards, student academic achievement standards,  
7 and State curriculum frameworks.

8 “(2) Replicating or disseminating information  
9 about proven and tested model environmental edu-  
10 cation programs that—

11 “(A) use the environment as an integrating  
12 theme or content throughout the curriculum; or

13 “(B) provide integrated, interdisciplinary  
14 instruction about natural, social, and economic  
15 systems along with field experience that pro-  
16 vides students with opportunities to directly ex-  
17 perience nature in ways designed to improve  
18 students’ overall academic performance, per-  
19 sonal health (including addressing child obesity  
20 issues), or their understanding of nature.

21 “(3) Developing and implementing new policy  
22 approaches to advancing environmental education at  
23 the State and national level.

24 “(4) Conducting studies of national significance  
25 that—

1           “(A) provide a comprehensive, systematic,  
2           and formal assessment of the state of environ-  
3           mental education in the United States;

4           “(B) evaluate the effectiveness of teaching  
5           environmental education as a separate subject,  
6           and as an integrating concept or theme; or

7           “(C) evaluate the effectiveness of using en-  
8           vironmental education in helping students im-  
9           prove their assessment scores in mathematics,  
10          reading or language arts, and the other core  
11          academic subjects.

12          “(5) Executing projects that advance wide-  
13          spread State and local educational agency adoption  
14          and use of environmental education content stand-  
15          ards.

16          “(6) Planning and initiating new national or  
17          State sources of environmental education funding.

18 **“SEC. 5635. REPORTS.**

19          “(a) ELIGIBLE ENTITY REPORT.—In order to con-  
20          tinue receiving grant funds under this subpart after the  
21          first year of a multiyear grant under this subpart, the eli-  
22          gible entity shall submit to the Secretary an annual report  
23          that—

1           “(1) describes the activities assisted under this  
2           subpart that were conducted during the preceding  
3           year;

4           “(2) demonstrates that progress has been made  
5           in helping schools to meet State standards for envi-  
6           ronmental education; and

7           “(3) describes the results of the eligible entity’s  
8           evaluation and accountability plan.

9           “(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year  
10          after the date of enactment of the No Child Left Inside  
11          Act of 2007, the Secretary shall submit a report to Con-  
12          gress that—

13           “(1) describes the programs assisted under this  
14           subpart;

15           “(2) documents the success of such programs in  
16           improving national and State environmental edu-  
17           cation capacity; and

18           “(3) makes such recommendations as the Sec-  
19           retary determines appropriate for the continuation  
20           and improvement of the programs assisted under  
21           this subpart.

22          **“SEC. 5636. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

23           “(a) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share under  
24          this subpart shall not exceed—

1           “(1) 90 percent of the total cost of a program  
2           assisted under this subpart for the first year for  
3           which the program receives assistance under this  
4           subpart; and

5           “(2) 75 percent of such cost for the second and  
6           each subsequent such year.

7           “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than  
8           7.5 percent of the grant funds made available to a non-  
9           profit organization, State educational agency, local edu-  
10          cational agency, or institution of higher education under  
11          this subpart for any fiscal year may be used for adminis-  
12          trative expenses.

13          “(c) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts made  
14          available to the Secretary to carry out this subpart shall  
15          remain available until expended.

16          **“SEC. 5637. SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.**

17          “Funds made available under this subpart shall be  
18          used to supplement, and not supplant, any other Federal,  
19          State, or local funds available for environmental education  
20          activities.”.

1 **TITLE IV—ELIGIBILITY OF ENVI-**  
2 **RONMENTAL EDUCATION**  
3 **AND FIELD-BASED LEARNING**  
4 **ACTIVITIES UNDER EXISTING**  
5 **GRANT AND FUNDING PRO-**  
6 **GRAMS**

7 **SEC. 401. PROMOTION OF FIELD-BASED LEARNING.**

8 (a) STATE USE OF FUNDS.—Section 2113(c) (20  
9 U.S.C. 6613(c)) is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (10), by inserting “field-based  
11 learning, service learning, outdoor experiential learn-  
12 ing,” after “peer networks,”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(19) Encouraging and supporting the training  
15 of teachers and administrators to incorporate field-  
16 based learning, service learning, and outdoor experi-  
17 ential learning into the curricula and instruction.”.

18 (b) LOCAL USE OF FUNDS.—Section 2123(a)(3)(B)  
19 (20 U.S.C. 6623(a)(3)(B)) is amended—

20 (1) in clause (iv), by striking “and” after the  
21 semicolon;

22 (2) in clause (v), by striking the period at the  
23 end and inserting “; and”; and

24 (3) by adding at the end the following:

1                   “(vi) provide training on how to inte-  
 2                   grate field-based learning, service learning,  
 3                   and outdoor experiential learning into the  
 4                   curricula and instruction.”.

5 **SEC. 402. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AS AN AUTHOR-**  
 6                   **IZED PROGRAM IN THE FUND FOR THE IM-**  
 7                   **PROVEMENT OF EDUCATION.**

8                   Section 5411(b) (20 U.S.C. 7243(b)) is amended—

9                   (1) by redesignating paragraph (9) as para-  
 10                  graph (10); and

11                  (2) by inserting after paragraph (8) the fol-  
 12                  lowing:

13                  “(9) Activities and programs that advance envi-  
 14                  ronmental education, including interdisciplinary  
 15                  courses that integrate the study of natural, social,  
 16                  and economic systems and the use of the environ-  
 17                  ment as an integrating theme for a school cur-  
 18                  riculum, as well as field-based learning, service  
 19                  learning, and outdoor experiential learning.”.

20                  **TITLE V—AMENDMENTS TO**  
 21                  **OTHER LAWS**

22 **SEC. 501. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION**  
 23                  **ACT.**

24                  (a) OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.—Title  
 25                  II of the Department of Education Organization Act (20



1 U.S.C. 3411 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
2 the following:

3 **“SEC. 221. OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.**

4       “(a) OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.—  
5 There shall be in the Department an Office of Environ-  
6 mental Education (referred to in this section as ‘the Of-  
7 fice’).

8       “(b) DIRECTOR.—

9               “(1) APPOINTMENT AND REPORTING.—The Of-  
10 fice shall be headed by a Director of Environmental  
11 Education (in this section referred to as the ‘Direc-  
12 tor’), who shall be appointed by the Secretary.

13               “(2) DUTIES.—The Director shall—

14                       “(A) develop a national plan for kinder-  
15 garten through grade 12 environmental edu-  
16 cation and coordinate the resulting implementa-  
17 tion process for the plan;

18                       “(B) coordinate the development of vol-  
19 untary national standards and a national model  
20 curriculum;

21                       “(C) administer the environmental edu-  
22 cation grant program under subpart 23 of part  
23 D of title V of the Elementary and Secondary  
24 Education Act of 1965;

1           “(D) administer the environmental edu-  
2 cation professional development grant program  
3 under part E of title II of the Elementary and  
4 Secondary Education Act of 1965; and

5           “(E) work in partnership with education  
6 activities at the Environmental Protection  
7 Agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
8 Administration, the Department of the Interior,  
9 and the National Science Foundation to ad-  
10 vance kindergarten through grade 12 environ-  
11 mental education.”.

12       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
13 in section 1 of the Department of Education Organization  
14 Act (20 U.S.C. 3401 note) is amended by inserting after  
15 the item relating to section 220 the following new item:

“Sec. 221. Office of Environmental Education.”.

