

committees and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, upon request of such committees, with respect to—

- (A) any report required under paragraph (1)(A); and
- (B) any other matter that such committees may determine appropriate.

(h) Use of funds subject to appropriations

The authority to award grants, enter into contracts, or otherwise expend funds under this section is subject to the availability of amounts deposited into the Center under subsection (c), or amounts otherwise appropriated for such purposes by an Act of Congress.

(i) Definitions

For purposes of this section:

(1) Authorizing committees

The term “authorizing committees” has the meaning given the term in section 1003 of this title.

(2) Board

The term “Board” means the Board of the Center appointed under subsection (d)(1).

(3) Center

The term “Center” means the National Center for Research in Advanced Information and Digital Technologies established under subsection (a).

(4) Director

The term “Director” means the Director of the Center appointed under subsection (e)(1).

(Pub. L. 110–315, title VIII, § 802, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3446.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The District of Columbia Nonprofit Corporation Act, referred to in subsec. (a), is Pub. L. 87–569, Aug. 6, 1962, 76 Stat. 265, which is not classified to the Code.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Higher Education Opportunity Act, and not as part of Pub. L. 107–279 which comprises this chapter.

CHAPTER 77—FINANCIAL LITERACY AND EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT

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§ 9701. Definitions

As used in this chapter—

- (1) the term “Chairperson” means the Chairperson of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission; and
- (2) the term “Commission” means the Financial Literacy and Education Commission established under section 9702 of this title.

(Pub. L. 108–159, title V, § 512, Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 2003.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Chapter subject to joint regulations establishing effective dates as prescribed by Federal Reserve Board and Federal Trade Commission, except as otherwise provided, see section 3 of Pub. L. 108–159, set out as an Effective Date of 2003 Amendment note under section 1681 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade.

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 108–159, title V, § 511, Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 2003, provided that: “This title [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act’.”

EX. ORD. NO. 13455. ESTABLISHING THE PRESIDENT’S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON FINANCIAL LITERACY

Ex. Ord. No. 13455, Jan. 22, 2008, 73 F.R. 4445, provided: By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America and to promote and enhance financial literacy among the American people, it is hereby ordered as follows:

SECTION 1. Policy. To help keep America competitive and assist the American people in understanding and addressing financial matters, it is the policy of the Federal Government to encourage financial literacy among the American people.

SEC. 2. Establishment of the Council. There is established within the Department of the Treasury the President’s Advisory Council on Financial Literacy (Council).

SEC. 3. Membership and Operation of the Council. (a) The Council shall consist of 19 members appointed by the President from among individuals not employed by the Federal Government, consistent with subsection (b) of this section.

(b) In selecting individuals for appointment to the Council, appropriate consideration should be given to selection of individuals with backgrounds as providers of, consumers of, promoters of access to, and educators with respect to financial education and financial services. Each individual member of the Council will serve as a representative of his or her industry, trade group, public interest group, or other organization or group. The composition of the Council will reflect the views of diverse stakeholders.

(c) The President shall designate a Chair and a Vice Chair from among the members of the Council.

(d) Subject to the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury (Secretary), the Chair shall convene and preside at meetings of the Council, determine its agenda, direct its work, and, as appropriate to deal with particular subject matters, establish and direct the work of subgroups of the Council that shall consist exclusively of members of the Council.

(e) The Vice Chair shall perform:

- (i) the duties of the Chair when the position of Chair is vacant; and
- (ii) such other functions as the Chair may from time to time assign.

SEC. 4. Functions of the Council. To assist in implementing the policy set forth in section 1 of this order, the Council shall:

- (a) obtain information and advice concerning financial literacy as appropriate in the course of its work from:
 - (i) officers and employees of executive departments and agencies (including members of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission), unless otherwise directed by the head of the department or agency;
 - (ii) State, local, territorial, and tribal officials;
 - (iii) providers of, consumers of, promoters of access to, and educators with respect to financial services;
 - (iv) experts on matters relating to the policy set forth in section 1; and
 - (v) such other individuals as the Secretary may direct;

(b) advise the President and the Secretary consistent with this order on means to implement effectively the policy set forth in section 1, including by providing advice on means to:

- (i) improve financial education efforts for youth in school and for adults in the workplace;
- (ii) promote effective access to financial services, especially for those without access to such services;
- (iii) establish effective measures of national financial literacy;
- (iv) conduct research on financial knowledge, including the collection of data on the extent of financial knowledge of individuals; and
- (v) strengthen and coordinate public and private sector financial education programs; and

(c) periodically report to the President, through the Secretary, on:

- (i) the status of financial literacy in the United States;
- (ii) progress made in implementing the policy set forth in section 1 of this order; and
- (iii) recommendations on means to further implement the policy set forth in section 1 of this order, including with respect to the matters set forth in subsection (b)(i) through (v) of this section.

SEC. 5. *Administration of the Council.* (a) To the extent permitted by law, the Department of the Treasury shall provide funding and administrative support for the Council, as determined by the Secretary, to implement this order.

(b) The heads of executive departments and agencies shall provide, as appropriate and to the extent permitted by law, such assistance and information to the Council as the Secretary may request to implement this order.

(c) Members of the Council:

- (i) shall serve without any compensation for their work on the Council; and
- (ii) while engaged in the work of the Council, may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by law for persons serving intermittently in the Government (5 U.S.C. 5701–5707), consistent with the availability of funds.

(d) The Secretary shall designate an officer or employee of the United States within the Department of the Treasury to serve as an Executive Director to supervise the administrative support for the Council.

SEC. 6. *Termination of the Council.* Unless extended by the President, the Council shall terminate 2 years from the date of this order.

SEC. 7. *General Provisions.* (a) Insofar as the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.) (Act), may apply to the Council, any functions of the President under the Act, except for those in section 6 of the Act, shall be performed by the Secretary in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Administrator of General Services.

(b) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

- (i) authority granted by law to a department or agency or the head thereof; or
- (ii) functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budget, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(c) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(d) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

§ 9702. Establishment of Financial Literacy and Education Commission

(a) In general

There is established a commission to be known as the “Financial Literacy and Education Commission”.

(b) Purpose

The Commission shall serve to improve the financial literacy and education of persons in the United States through development of a national strategy to promote financial literacy and education.

(c) Membership

(1) Composition

The Commission shall be composed of—

(A) the Secretary of the Treasury;

(B) the respective head of each of the Federal banking agencies (as defined in section 1813 of title 12), the National Credit Union Administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission, each of the Departments of Education, Agriculture, Defense, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Labor, and Veterans Affairs, the Federal Trade Commission, the General Services Administration, the Small Business Administration, the Social Security Administration, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and the Office of Personnel Management; and

(C) at the discretion of the President, not more than 5 individuals appointed by the President from among the administrative heads of any other Federal agencies, departments, or other Federal Government entities, whom the President determines to be engaged in a serious effort to improve financial literacy and education.

(2) Alternates

Each member of the Commission may designate an alternate if the member is unable to attend a meeting of the Commission. Such alternate shall be an individual who exercises significant decisionmaking authority.

(d) Chairperson

The Secretary of the Treasury shall serve as the Chairperson.

(e) Meetings

The Commission shall hold, at the call of the Chairperson, at least 1 meeting every 4 months. All such meetings shall be open to the public. The Commission may hold, at the call of the Chairperson, such other meetings as the Chairperson sees fit to carry out this chapter.

(f) Quorum

A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number of members may hold hearings.

(g) Initial meeting

The Commission shall hold its first meeting not later than 60 days after December 4, 2003.

(Pub. L. 108–159, title V, §513, Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 2003.)

§ 9703. Duties of the Commission

(a) Duties

(1) In general

The Commission, through the authority of the members referred to in section 9702(c) of this title, shall take such actions as it deems necessary to streamline, improve, or augment

the financial literacy and education programs, grants, and materials of the Federal Government, including curricula for all Americans.

(2) Areas of emphasis

To improve financial literacy and education, the Commission shall emphasize, among other elements, basic personal income and household money management and planning skills, including how to—

(A) create household budgets, initiate savings plans, and make strategic investment decisions for education, retirement, home ownership, wealth building, or other savings goals;

(B) manage spending, credit, and debt, including credit card debt, effectively;

(C) increase awareness of the availability and significance of credit reports and credit scores in obtaining credit, the importance of their accuracy (and how to correct inaccuracies), their effect on credit terms, and the effect common financial decisions may have on credit scores;

(D) ascertain fair and favorable credit terms;

(E) avoid abusive, predatory, or deceptive credit offers and financial products;

(F) understand, evaluate, and compare financial products, services, and opportunities;

(G) understand resources that ought to be easily accessible and affordable, and that inform and educate investors as to their rights and avenues of recourse when an investor believes his or her rights have been violated by unprofessional conduct of market intermediaries;

(H) increase awareness of the particular financial needs and financial transactions (such as the sending of remittances) of consumers who are targeted in multilingual financial literacy and education programs and improve the development and distribution of multilingual financial literacy and education materials;

(I) promote bringing individuals who lack basic banking services into the financial mainstream by opening and maintaining an account with a financial institution; and

(J) improve financial literacy and education through all other related skills, including personal finance and related economic education, with the primary goal of programs not simply to improve knowledge, but rather to improve consumers' financial choices and outcomes.

(b) Website

(1) In general

The Commission shall establish and maintain a website, such as the domain name "FinancialLiteracy.gov", or a similar domain name.

(2) Purposes

The website established under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) serve as a clearinghouse of information about Federal financial literacy and education programs;

(B) provide a coordinated entry point for accessing information about all Federal pub-

lications, grants, and materials promoting enhanced financial literacy and education;

(C) offer information on all Federal grants to promote financial literacy and education, and on how to target, apply for, and receive a grant that is most appropriate under the circumstances;

(D) as the Commission considers appropriate, feature website links to efforts that have no commercial content and that feature information about financial literacy and education programs, materials, or campaigns; and

(E) offer such other information as the Commission finds appropriate to share with the public in the fulfillment of its purpose.

(c) Toll-free hotline

The Commission shall establish a toll-free telephone number that shall be made available to members of the public seeking information about issues pertaining to financial literacy and education.

(d) Development and dissemination of materials

The Commission shall—

(1) develop materials to promote financial literacy and education; and

(2) disseminate such materials to the general public.

(e) Coordination of efforts

The Commission shall take such steps as are necessary to coordinate and promote financial literacy and education efforts at the State and local level, including promoting partnerships among Federal, State, and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private enterprises.

(f) National strategy

(1) In general

The Commission shall—

(A) not later than 18 months after December 4, 2003, develop a national strategy to promote basic financial literacy and education among all American consumers; and

(B) coordinate Federal efforts to implement the strategy developed under subparagraph (A).

(2) Strategy

The strategy to promote basic financial literacy and education required to be developed under paragraph (1) shall provide for—

(A) participation by State and local governments and private, nonprofit, and public institutions in the creation and implementation of such strategy;

(B) the development of methods—

(i) to increase the general financial education level of current and future consumers of financial services and products; and

(ii) to enhance the general understanding of financial services and products;

(C) review of Federal activities designed to promote financial literacy and education, and development of a plan to improve coordination of such activities; and

(D) the identification of areas of overlap and duplication among Federal financial literacy and education activities and proposed means of eliminating any such overlap and duplication.

(3) National strategy review

The Commission shall, not less than annually, review the national strategy developed under this subsection and make such changes and recommendations as it deems necessary.

(g) Consultation

The Commission shall actively consult with a variety of representatives from private and nonprofit organizations and State and local agencies, as determined appropriate by the Commission.

(h) Reports**(1) In general**

Not later than 18 months after the date of the first meeting of the Commission, and annually thereafter, the Commission shall issue a report, the Strategy for Assuring Financial Empowerment (“SAFE Strategy”), to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives on the progress of the Commission in carrying out this chapter.

(2) Contents

The report required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) the national strategy for financial literacy and education, as described under subsection (f);

(B) information concerning the implementation of the duties of the Commission under subsections (a) through (g);

(C) an assessment of the success of the Commission in implementing the national strategy developed under subsection (f);

(D) an assessment of the availability, utilization, and impact of Federal financial literacy and education materials;

(E) information concerning the content and public use of—

(i) the website established under subsection (b); and

(ii) the toll-free telephone number established under subsection (c);

(F) a brief survey of the financial literacy and education materials developed under subsection (d), and data regarding the dissemination and impact of such materials, as measured by improved financial decision-making;

(G) a brief summary of any hearings conducted by the Commission, including a list of witnesses who testified at such hearings;

(H) information about the activities of the Commission planned for the next fiscal year;

(I) a summary of all Federal financial literacy and education activities targeted to communities that have historically lacked access to financial literacy materials and education, and have been underserved by the mainstream financial systems; and

(J) such other materials relating to the duties of the Commission as the Commission deems appropriate.

(3) Initial report

The initial report under paragraph (1) shall include information regarding all Federal pro-

grams, materials, and grants which seek to improve financial literacy, and assess the effectiveness of such programs.

(i) Testimony

The Commission shall annually provide testimony by the Chairperson to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

(Pub. L. 108–159, title V, §514, Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 2004.)

DEFINITIONS

For definitions of terms used in this section, see section 2 of Pub. L. 108–159, set out as a note under section 1681 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade.

§ 9704. Powers of the Commission**(a) Hearings****(1) In general**

The Commission shall hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Commission deems appropriate to carry out this chapter.

(2) Participation

In hearings held under this subsection, the Commission shall consider inviting witnesses from, among other groups—

(A) other Federal Government officials;

(B) State and local government officials;

(C) consumer and community groups;

(D) nonprofit financial literacy and education groups (such as those involved in personal finance and economic education); and

(E) the financial services industry.

(b) Information from Federal agencies

The Commission may secure directly from any Federal department or agency such information as the Commission considers necessary to carry out this chapter. Upon request of the Chairperson, the head of such department or agency shall furnish such information to the Commission.

(c) Periodic studies

The Commission may conduct periodic studies regarding the state of financial literacy and education in the United States, as the Commission determines appropriate.

(d) Multilingual

The Commission may take any action to develop and promote financial literacy and education materials in languages other than English, as the Commission deems appropriate, including for the website established under section 9703(b) of this title, at the toll-free number established under section 9703(c) of this title, and in the materials developed and disseminated under section 9703(d) of this title.

(Pub. L. 108–159, title V, §515, Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 2007.)

DEFINITIONS

For definitions of terms used in this section, see section 2 of Pub. L. 108–159, set out as a note under section 1681 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade.

§ 9705. Commission personnel matters**(a) Compensation of members**

Each member of the Commission shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for their service as an officer or employee of the United States.

(b) Travel expenses

The members of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission.

(c) Assistance**(1) In general**

The Director of the Office of Financial Education of the Department of the Treasury shall provide assistance to the Commission, upon request of the Commission, without reimbursement.

(2) Detail of Government employees

Any Federal Government employee may be detailed to the Commission without reimbursement, and such detail shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(Pub. L. 108–159, title V, §516, Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 2008.)

§ 9706. Studies by the Comptroller General**(a) Effectiveness study**

Not later than 3 years after December 4, 2003, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress assessing the effectiveness of the Commission in promoting financial literacy and education.

(b) Study and report on the need and means for improving financial literacy among consumers**(1) Study required**

The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study to assess the extent of consumers' knowledge and awareness of credit reports, credit scores, and the dispute resolution process, and on methods for improving financial literacy among consumers.

(2) Factors to be included

The study required under paragraph (1) shall include the following issues:

(A) The number of consumers who view their credit reports.

(B) Under what conditions and for what purposes do consumers primarily obtain a copy of their consumer report (such as for the purpose of ensuring the completeness and accuracy of the contents, to protect against fraud, in response to an adverse action based on the report, or in response to suspected identity theft) and approximately what percentage of the total number of consumers who obtain a copy of their consumer report do so for each such primary purpose.

(C) The extent of consumers' knowledge of the data collection process.

(D) The extent to which consumers know how to get a copy of a consumer report.

(E) The extent to which consumers know and understand the factors that positively or negatively impact credit scores.

(3) Report required

Before the end of the 12-month period beginning on December 4, 2003, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress on the findings and conclusions of the Comptroller General pursuant to the study conducted under this subsection, together with such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the Comptroller General may determine to be appropriate, including recommendations on methods for improving financial literacy among consumers.

(Pub. L. 108–159, title V, §517, Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 2008.)

DEFINITIONS

For definitions of terms used in this section, see section 2 of Pub. L. 108–159, set out as a note under section 1681 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade.

§ 9707. The national public service multimedia campaign to enhance the state of financial literacy**(a) In general**

The Secretary of the Treasury (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”), after review of the recommendations of the Commission, as part of the national strategy, shall develop, implement, and conduct a pilot national public service multimedia campaign to enhance the state of financial literacy and education in the United States.

(b) Program requirements**(1) Public service campaign**

The Secretary, after review of the recommendations of the Commission, shall select and work with a nonprofit organization or organizations that are especially well-qualified in the distribution of public service campaigns, and have secured private sector funds to produce the pilot national public service multimedia campaign.

(2) Development of multimedia campaign

The Secretary, after review of the recommendations of the Commission, shall develop, in consultation with nonprofit, public, or private organizations, especially those that are well qualified by virtue of their experience in the field of financial literacy and education, to develop the financial literacy national public service multimedia campaign.

(3) Focus of campaign

The pilot national public service multimedia campaign shall be consistent with the national strategy, and shall promote the toll-free telephone number and the website developed under this chapter.

(c) Multilingual

The Secretary may develop the multimedia campaign in languages other than English, as the Secretary deems appropriate.

(d) Performance measures

The Secretary shall develop measures to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot national

public service multimedia campaign, as measured by improved financial decision making among individuals.

(e) Report

For each fiscal year for which there are appropriations pursuant to the authorization in subsection (e),¹ the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, describing the status and implementation of the provisions of this section and the state of financial literacy and education in the United States.

(f) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary, not to exceed \$3,000,000 for fiscal years 2004, 2005, and 2006, for the development, production, and distribution of a pilot national public service multimedia campaign under this section.

(Pub. L. 108-159, title V, §518, Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 2009.)

§ 9708. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Commission such sums as may be necessary to carry out this chapter, including administrative expenses of the Commission.

(Pub. L. 108-159, title V, §519, Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 2010.)

§ 9709. Coordinated education efforts

(a) In general

The Secretary of the Treasury (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”), in coordination with the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Agriculture (with respect to land-grant colleges and universities), and any other appropriate agency that is a member of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission established under the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.), shall seek to enhance financial literacy among students at covered educational institutions through—

(1) the development of initiatives, programs, and curricula that improve student awareness of the short- and long-term costs associated with education loans and other debt assumed while in college, their repayment obligations, and their rights as borrowers; and

(2) assisting such students in navigating the financial aid process.

(b) Duties

For purposes of this section, the Secretary, working in conjunction with the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Financial Literacy and Education Commission, shall—

(1) identify programs that promote or enhance financial literacy for college students, with specific emphasis on programs that impart the knowledge and ability for students to best navigate the financial aid process, includ-

ing those that involve partnerships between nonprofit organizations, colleges and universities, State and local governments, and student organizations;

(2) evaluate the effectiveness of such programs in terms of measured results, including positive behavioral change among college students;

(3) promote the programs identified as being the most effective; and

(4) encourage covered educational institutions to implement financial education programs for their students, including those that have the highest evaluations.

(c) Report

(1) In general

Not later than 2 years after August 14, 2008, the Financial Literacy and Education Commission shall submit a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Health Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives on the state of financial education among students at covered educational institutions.

(2) Content

The report required by this subsection shall include a description of progress made in enhancing financial education with respect to student understanding of financial aid, including the programs and evaluations required by this section.

(3) Appearance before Congress

The Secretary shall, upon request, provide testimony before the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives concerning the report required by this subsection.

(Pub. L. 110-315, title X, §1042, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3489.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act, referred to in subsec. (a), is title V of Pub. L. 108-159, Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 2003, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 9701 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Higher Education Opportunity Act, and also as part of the Private Student Loan Transparency and Improvement Act of 2008, and not as part of the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act which comprises this chapter.

DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 110-315, title X, §1041, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3489, provided that: “As used in this subtitle [subtitle D (§§ 1041, 1042) of title X of Pub. L. 110-315, enacting this section]—

“(1) the terms ‘covered educational institution’, ‘private educational lender’, and ‘private education loan’ have the same meanings as in section 140 of the Truth in Lending Act [15 U.S.C. 1650], as added by this Act;

“(2) the term ‘historically Black colleges and universities’ means a ‘part B institution’, within the

¹ So in original. Probably should be subsection “(f)”,.

meaning of section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061)[sic]; and

“(3) the term ‘land-grant colleges and universities’ has the same meaning as in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103).”

CHAPTER 78—SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATHEMATICS, AND CRITICAL FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION

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§ 9801. Findings

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) A well-educated population is essential to retaining America’s competitiveness in the global economy.

(2) The United States needs to build on and expand the impact of existing programs by taking additional, well-coordinated steps to ensure that all students are able to obtain the knowledge the students need to obtain post-

secondary education and participate successfully in the workforce or the Armed Forces.

(3) The next steps must be informed by independent information on the effectiveness of current programs in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and critical foreign language education, and by identification of best practices that can be replicated.

(4) Teacher preparation and elementary school and secondary school programs and activities must be aligned with the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) and the requirements of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.).

(5) The ever increasing knowledge and skill demands of the 21st century require that secondary school preparation and requirements be better aligned with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in postsecondary education and the workforce, and States need better data systems to track educational achievement from prekindergarten through baccalaureate degrees.

(Pub. L. 110-69, title VI, §6001, Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 625.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, referred to in par. (4), is Pub. L. 89-10, Apr. 11, 1965, 79 Stat. 27, which is classified generally to chapter 70 (§6301 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 6301 of this title and Tables.

The Higher Education Act of 1965, referred to in par. (4), is Pub. L. 89-329, Nov. 8, 1965, 79 Stat. 1219, which is classified principally to chapter 28 (§1001 et seq.) of this title and part C (§2751 et seq.) of subchapter I of chapter 34 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1001 of this title and Tables.

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 110-69, §1, Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 572, provided that: “This Act [see Tables for classification] may be cited as the ‘America COMPETES Act’ or the ‘America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Act’.”

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY OF ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED BY PUB. L. 110-69

Pub. L. 110-69, title VIII, §8008, Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 718, provided that:

“(a) PROHIBITED USE OF FUNDS.—A grant or contract funded by amounts authorized by this Act [see Tables for classification] may not be used for the purpose of defraying the costs of a banquet or conference that is not directly and programmatically related to the purpose for which the grant or contract was awarded. A directly and programmatically related banquet or conference includes a banquet or conference held in connection with planning, training, assessment, review, or other routine purposes related to a project funded by the grant or contract. Records of the total costs related to, and justifications for, all banquets and conferences shall be reported to the appropriate Department, Administration, or Foundation. Not later than 60 days after receipt of such records, the appropriate Department, Administration, or Foundation shall make the records available to the public.

“(b) CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT.—Any person awarded a grant or contract funded by amounts authorized by this Act shall submit a statement to the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Energy, the Sec-