

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 485

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for parents as teachers programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 1993

Mr. WHEAT (for himself, Mr. CALLAHAN, and Mr. GEPHARDT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for parents as teachers programs.

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. PARENTS AS TEACHERS PROGRAMS.**

4 Title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education
5 Act of 1965 is amended by inserting at the end the follow-
6 ing new part:

7 **“Part G—Parents as Teachers**

8 **“SEC. 4701. SHORT TITLE.**

9 “This part may be cited as the ‘Parents as Teachers:
10 the Family Involvement in Education Act of 1993’.

1 **“SEC. 4702. FINDINGS.**

2 “The Congress finds—

3 “(1) increased parental involvement in the edu-
4 cation of their children appears to be the key to
5 long-term gains for youngsters;

6 “(2) providing seed money is an appropriate
7 role for the Federal Government to play in edu-
8 cation;

9 “(3) children participating in the parents as
10 teachers program in Missouri are found to have in-
11 creased cognitive or intellectual skills, language abil-
12 ity, social skills and other predictors of school
13 success;

14 “(4) most early childhood programs begin at
15 age 3 or 4 when remediation may already be nec-
16 essary; and

17 “(5) many children receive no health screening
18 between birth and the time they enter school, thus
19 such children miss the opportunity of having devel-
20 opmental delays detected early.

21 **“SEC. 4703. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

22 “It is the purpose of this part to encourage States
23 to develop and expand parent and early childhood edu-
24 cation programs in an effort to—

1 “(1) increase parents’ knowledge of and con-
2 fidence in child-rearing activities, such as teaching
3 and nurturing their young children;

4 “(2) strengthen partnerships between parents
5 and schools; and

6 “(3) enhance the developmental progress of
7 participating children.

8 **“SEC. 4704. DEFINITIONS.**

9 “For the purposes of this part—

10 “(1) the term ‘developmental screening’ means
11 the process of measuring the progress of children to
12 determine if there are problems or potential prob-
13 lems or advanced abilities in the areas of under-
14 standing and use of language, perception through
15 sight, perception through hearing, motor develop-
16 ment and hand-eye coordination, health, and phys-
17 ical development;

18 “(2) the term ‘eligible family’ means any parent
19 with one or more children between birth and 3 years
20 of age, or any parent expecting a child;

21 “(3) the term ‘lead agency’ means the office or
22 agency in a State designated by the Governor to ad-
23 minister the parents as teachers program authorized
24 by this part;

1 “(4) the term ‘parent education’ includes par-
2 ent support activities, the provision of resource ma-
3 terials on child development and parent-child learn-
4 ing activities, private and group educational guid-
5 ance, individual and group learning experiences for
6 the parent and child, and other activities that enable
7 the parent to improve learning in the home;

8 “(5) the term ‘parent educator’ means a person
9 hired by the lead agency of a State or designated by
10 local entities who administers group meetings, home
11 visits and developmental screening for eligible fami-
12 lies, and is trained by the Parents As Teachers Na-
13 tional Center established under section 4708; and

14 “(6) the term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary
15 of Education.

16 **“SEC. 4705. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

18 “(1) The Secretary is authorized to make
19 grants to States to pay the Federal share of the cost
20 of establishing, expanding, and operating parents as
21 teachers programs.

22 “(2) In awarding grants under paragraph (1),
23 the Secretary shall give special consideration to ap-
24 plicants whose programs primarily serve hard-to-
25 serve populations, including—

- 1 “(A) teenaged parents,
2 “(B) illiterate parents,
3 “(C) economically disadvantaged parents,
4 “(D) offenders and their families,
5 “(E) unemployed parents,
6 “(F) learning disabled parents, and
7 “(G) non-English speaking parents.

8 “(3) In determining the amount of a grant
9 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall take into
10 consideration the size of the population to be served,
11 the size of the area to be served, and the financial
12 resources of such population and area.

13 “(b) SPECIAL RULE.—Any State operating a parents
14 as teachers program which is associated with the Parents
15 As Teachers National Center located in St. Louis, Mis-
16 souri, shall be eligible to receive a grant under this part.

17 **“SEC. 4706. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**

18 “(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Each State receiving a grant
19 under section 4705(a) shall conduct a parents as teachers
20 program which—

21 “(A) establishes and operates parent education
22 programs including programs of developmental
23 screening of children; and

24 “(B) designates a lead State agency which
25 shall—

1 “(i) hire parent educators who have had
2 supervised experience in the care and education
3 of children;

4 “(ii) establish the number of group meet-
5 ings and home visits required to be provided
6 each year for each participating family, with a
7 minimum of 4 group meetings and 8 home vis-
8 its for each participating family;

9 “(iii) be responsible for administering the
10 periodic screening of participating children’s
11 educational, hearing and visual development,
12 using the Denver Developmental Test, Zimmer-
13 man Preschool Language Scale, or other ap-
14 proved screening instruments; and

15 “(iv) develop recruitment and retention
16 programs for hard-to-reach populations.

17 “(2) Grants awarded section 4705(a) shall only be
18 used for parents as teachers programs which serve families
19 during the period of time beginning with the last 3 months
20 of a mother’s pregnancy and ending when a child attains
21 the age of 3.

22 **“SEC. 4707. PARENTS AS TEACHERS NATIONAL CENTER.**

23 “‘The Secretary shall establish a Parents As Teachers
24 National Center to disseminate information to, and pro-

1 vide technical and training assistance to, States establish-
2 ing and operating parents as teachers programs.

3 **“SEC. 4708. EVALUATIONS.**

4 “The Secretary shall complete an evaluation of the
5 State parents as teachers programs within 4 years from
6 the date of enactment of this part.

7 **“SEC. 4709. APPLICATION.**

8 “Each State desiring a grant under section 4705(a)
9 shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time,
10 in such manner and accompanied by such information as
11 the Secretary may reasonably require. Each such applica-
12 tion shall describe the activities and services for which as-
13 sistance is sought.

14 **“SEC. 4710. PAYMENTS AND FEDERAL SHARE.**

15 “(a) PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall pay to each
16 State having an application approved under section 4709
17 the Federal share of the cost of the activities described
18 in the application.

19 “(b) FEDERAL SHARE.—(1) The Federal share—

20 “(A) for the first year for which a State re-
21 ceives assistance under this part shall be 100 per-
22 cent;

23 “(B) for the second such year shall be 100 per-
24 cent;

1 “(C) for the third such year shall be 75 per-
2 cent;

3 “(D) for the fourth such year shall be 50 per-
4 cent; and

5 “(E) for the fifth such year 25 percent.

6 “(2) The non-Federal share of payments under this
7 part may be in cash or in kind fairly evaluated, including
8 planned equipment or services.

9 **“SEC. 4711. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10 “There are authorized to be appropriated
11 \$20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1993, 1994, 1995,
12 1996, and 1997 to carry out this Act.”.

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