

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 2133

To establish a Science Start Grant program, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 19 (legislative day, MAY 16), 1994

Mr. HATFIELD introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

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## A BILL

To establish a Science Start Grant program, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Science Start Grant  
5 Program Act of 1994”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

8 (1) preschoolers from low-income families have  
9 very limited opportunities to be exposed to science  
10 activities;

1           (2) preschoolers from low-income families need  
2           basic, age-appropriate science experiences in order to  
3           develop educationally at a normal rate;

4           (3) most preschool teachers have little experi-  
5           ence with simple science activities;

6           (4) attainment of the National Education Goal  
7           that calls for United States students to be first in  
8           the world in mathematics and science achievement  
9           will require a comprehensive, age-appropriate science  
10          program for preschoolers from low-income families;

11          (5) long-term efforts to train preschool teachers  
12          to use science activities have been limited in number;  
13          and

14          (6) the long-term efforts to train preschool  
15          teachers to use science activities that have been im-  
16          plemented have shown significant positive results.

17          (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide  
18          Head Start teachers with training programs directed to-  
19          ward the use of age-appropriate science activities in order  
20          to increase their students' interest in and familiarity with  
21          science. All students should have a basic exposure to  
22          science activities in order to move the Nation toward the  
23          National Goal that United States students will be first in  
24          the world in mathematics and science achievement.

1 **SEC. 3. MODEL SCIENCE START PROGRAMS FOR THE IN-**  
2 **TRODUCTION OF SCIENCE IN EARLY CHILD-**  
3 **HOOD EDUCATION.**

4 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may  
5 award grants, to be known as Science Start Grants, to  
6 organizations to enable such organizations to support  
7 model programs that provide instruction to Head Start  
8 personnel regarding the introduction of science activities  
9 to children enrolled in Head Start programs.

10 (b) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-  
11 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants that  
12 demonstrate the ability to—

13 (1) provide teacher training programs that in-  
14 volve participants in hands-on activities similar to  
15 activities that are intended for students;

16 (2) attract broad teacher participation;

17 (3) use experienced teachers as instructors;

18 (4) provide the materials required by the activi-  
19 ties described in paragraph (1), but not commonly  
20 found in Head Start classrooms, except that not  
21 more than 25 percent of the funds awarded for each  
22 fiscal year to any organization for a model program  
23 shall be used to carry out this paragraph; and

24 (5) provide for periodic followup activities con-  
25 ducted, at minimum, during a 6-month period.

1       (c) DISSEMINATION.—Each recipient of a grant  
2 under this section shall report the results of the model  
3 program to the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse for  
4 Mathematics and Science Education in an appropriate for-  
5 mat for dissemination.

6       (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
7 are authorized to be appropriated \$2,000,000 for fiscal  
8 year 1995, and such sums as may be necessary for each  
9 succeeding fiscal year, to carry out this section.

10       (e) EVALUATION AND REPORT.—The Secretary shall  
11 evaluate, and report to the Congress every 2 years (begin-  
12 ning 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act) re-  
13 garding, the activities assisted under this section.

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