

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2592

To authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants for the establishment of State Networks on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 28, 2013

Mr. HONDA (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. POLIS, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. LANGEVIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants for the establishment of State Networks on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education.

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 “STEM Innovation Net-
5 works Act of 2013”.

1 **SEC. 2. STATE NETWORKS AND CONSORTIA ON SCIENCE,**
2 **TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHE-**
3 **MATICS EDUCATION (STEM) INNOVATION**
4 **NETWORKS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made available to
6 carry out this section, the Secretary of Education shall
7 make grants to eligible networks to expand STEM edu-
8 cation and STEM educator development.

9 (b) ELIGIBLE NETWORK DEFINED.—In this section,
10 the term “eligible network” means a State-based STEM
11 network or similar organization, which—

12 (1) may include the participation of State offi-
13 cials, local educational agencies, educators, adminis-
14 trators, afterschool providers, out of school time edu-
15 cators, parents, industry leaders, philanthropists,
16 and representatives from the STEM communities in
17 partnership with institutions of higher education,
18 nonprofit organizations, other public agencies, and
19 businesses;

20 (2) aims to increase the number of students
21 who are effectively prepared for postsecondary edu-
22 cation and careers in STEM fields;

23 (3) aims to increase student achievement and
24 experiences in the STEM disciplines at the elemen-
25 tary schools and secondary schools in its State, and
26 out of school programs and particularly for students

1 with a high concentration of historically underrep-
2 resented students and at rural schools (within the
3 meaning of part B of title VI of the Elementary and
4 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6201
5 et seq.)); and

6 (4) aims to increase the number of quality
7 afterschool programs offering STEM learning oppor-
8 tunities, particularly for students from populations
9 traditionally underrepresented in the STEM fields.

10 (c) ELIGIBLE NETWORK APPLICATION.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible network seeking
12 a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
13 tion at such time, in such manner, and containing
14 such information as the Secretary may reasonably
15 require.

16 (2) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—In order to re-
17 ceive a grant under this section, an eligible network
18 shall agree to provide, either directly or through pri-
19 vate contributions, non-Federal matching funds
20 equal to not less than 30 percent of the amount of
21 the grant.

22 (d) USES OF FUNDS.—Each eligible network receiv-
23 ing a grant under this section shall use the funds to carry
24 out one or more of the following:

1 (1) Testing, validating, sharing, and scaling up
2 STEM education research, promising practices, and
3 exemplary programs among members of the network
4 and with other eligible networks receiving grants
5 under this section.

6 (2) Identifying points of weakness and strength
7 among State STEM education efforts, prioritizing
8 strategies for addressing problem areas, and commu-
9 nicating State needs to the Secretary.

10 (3) Assisting in the implementation of rigorous
11 career and college ready standards in STEM edu-
12 cation for grades prekindergarten through grade 12
13 that reflect and take into consideration—

14 (A) career and college ready standards in
15 STEM disciplines;

16 (B) established international standards
17 and 21st century skills that include critical
18 thinking, problem solving, communication, col-
19 laboration, creativity, and innovation;

20 (C) the needs of English language learners
21 and special education students; and

22 (D) the need to increase STEM literacy of
23 prekindergarten through grade 12 students.

1 (4) Assisting the development of innovative
2 STEM assessments that measure interest, engage-
3 ment, and content proficiency.

4 (5) Supporting the implementation of STEM
5 assessments that measure career and college ready
6 standards.

7 (6) Promoting and developing rigorous under-
8 graduate pre-service teacher programs in institutions
9 of higher education that emphasize STEM content
10 with emphasis on the elementary educator.

11 (7) Promoting and developing curriculum tools
12 and professional development for STEM educators
13 both in school and out of school.

14 (8) Developing STEM career pathways that re-
15 flect the projected STEM workforce needs of the
16 21st century that may include mentoring programs
17 and STEM professional outreach.

18 (9) Developing STEM-related education and
19 workforce training programs in secondary schools
20 and community colleges to reflect the needs of the
21 local community.

22 (10) Developing systems for the implementation
23 of expanded learning opportunities on school sites to
24 enhance STEM education inside and outside of the
25 classroom.

1 (11) Promoting, supporting, and designing pro-
2 grams that develop STEM content coaches and mas-
3 ter educators in order to strengthen core com-
4 petencies of the classroom practitioner.

5 (e) EVALUATION AND REPORT.—Not later than 2
6 years after receiving a grant under this section, each eligi-
7 ble network receiving such a grant shall—

8 (1) conduct periodic independent evaluations,
9 by grant or by contract, of the eligible network’s ef-
10 fectiveness at accomplishing the activities described
11 in this section, which shall include an assessment of
12 the impact of such activities on STEM teaching and
13 learning; and

14 (2) prepare and submit a report on the results
15 of each evaluation described in paragraph (1) to the
16 Secretary and make for dissemination to other
17 STEM Networks.

18 (f) PROHIBITIONS.—In implementing this section,
19 the Secretary may not—

20 (1) endorse, approve, or sanction any STEM
21 curriculum designed for use in any elementary
22 school, secondary school, or institution of higher
23 education; or

24 (2) engage in oversight, technical assistance, or
25 activities that will require the adoption of a specific

1 STEM program or instructional materials by a
2 State, local educational agency, or school.

3 (g) TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—The total amount
4 of grants made under this section in any fiscal year may
5 not exceed \$20,000,000.

6 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) The terms “elementary school”, “local edu-
8 cational agency”, “secondary school”, and “State
9 educational agency” have the meanings given such
10 terms in section 9101 of the Elementary and Sec-
11 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

12 (2) The term “high concentration of low-income
13 students” has the meaning given such term in sec-
14 tion 1707 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
15 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6537).

16 (3) The term “institution of higher education”
17 has the meaning given such term in section 101 of
18 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
19 1001).

20 (4) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
21 of Education.

22 (5) The term “State” means each of the several
23 States of the United States, the District of Colum-
24 bia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the
25 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,

1 American Samoa, and the United States Virgin Is-
2 lands.

3 (6) The term “STEM” means science, tech-
4 nology, engineering, and mathematics.

5 (7) The term “STEM education” means the
6 subjects of science, technology, engineering, and
7 mathematics, including other academic subjects that
8 build on these disciplines, such as computer science,
9 and other academic subjects that a State identifies
10 as important to the workforce of the State.

11 (8) The term “21st century readiness initia-
12 tive” means any initiative that—

13 (A) embeds core academic subjects with
14 critical skills; and

15 (B) is focused on ensuring that students
16 are prepared for postsecondary education and
17 careers, upon graduation from secondary
18 school.

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