To establish a grant program under the Federal Aviation Administration to improve the preparation and representation of certain students in aviation-related fields.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 5, 2018

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. COHEN, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To establish a grant program under the Federal Aviation Administration to improve the preparation and representation of certain students in aviation-related fields.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3
4 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
5 This Act may be cited as the “Minorities in Aviation
6 Education Act of 2018”.
SEC. 2. BESSIE COLEMAN AVIATION EDUCATION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall establish the Bessie Coleman Aviation Education Program to improve the preparation and representation of students, particularly women and minorities, in aviation-related fields.

(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—The Administrator shall award grants under this subsection on the basis of a competitive peer review process. Grants awarded under this subsection may be used for increasing exposure and access to aviation-related education and jobs through such means as—

(1) internships that offer students experience in the aviation industry;

(2) programs that introduce students to unmanned aircraft operations;

(3) career exploration and educational programs that teach technical skills used in aviation maintenance, or to improve existing such programs; and

(4) programs to increase the recruitment and retention of underrepresented minorities in postsecondary aviation degree programs.

(c) APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An entity described in paragraph (3) seeking funding under this subsection shall submit an application to the Administrator at
such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
formation as the Administrator may require. Such
application, at a minimum, shall include a descrip-
tion of how the funds will be used to carry out the
activities described in subsection (b).

(2) PRIORITY.—In making awards under this
subsection, the Administrator shall give priority to
applicants that will encourage the participation of
women and minorities.

(3) ELIGIBILITY.—Local educational agencies,
State educational agencies, and State and local gov-
ernments, which may enter into a partnership agree-
ment with institutions of higher education, nonprofit
organizations, or other entities, shall be eligible to
apply for grants under this subsection.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the following
definitions apply:

(1) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
term “institution of higher education” has the
meaning given that term in section 101 of the High-

(2) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
“local educational agency” has the meaning given
that term in section 8101 of the Elementary and
(3) **State educational agency.**—The term

“State educational agency” has the meaning given

that term in section 8101 of the Elementary and


(e) **Authorization of Appropriations.**—There

are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section

$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019, 2020, 2021,

2022, and 2023.