

H.R. 864: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. WELLER, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. CAPPS, Mr. RILEY, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. BARRITT of Nebraska, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. CAMP, Mr. UPTON, Ms. DANNER, Mr. HILL of Montana, Mr. HAYES, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. DICKS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. WOLF, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. METCALF, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. LARSON, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. WAMP, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. JENKINS, and Mr. BALLENGER.

H.R. 872: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. FILNER, Mr. KUCINICH, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 876: Mr. FOLEY and Mrs. EMERSON.

H.R. 883: Mr. FORBES, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. COOK, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. COLLINS.

H.R. 894: Mr. GOODLING, Mr. CONDIT, and Mr. SHOWS.

H.R. 901: Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 922: Mr. RILEY, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 927: Mr. HERGER and Mr. PETRI.

H.J. Res. 9: Mr. MICA and Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania.

H.J. Res. 22: Ms. STABENOW and Mr. BONIOR.

H.J. Res. 25: Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SCHAFER, Mr. METCALF, Mr. FROST, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. CALVERT, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. MOORE, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. FORBES, Mr. UNDERWOOD, and Mr. BALDACC.

H. Con. Res. 5: Mr. BONIOR, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. WYNN, and Mr. LAMPSON.

H. Con. Res. 5: Ms. LOFGREN.

H. Con. Res. 23: Mr. PICKERING, Mr. JENKINS, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. STUMP, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. GUTIERREZ.

H. Con. Res. 24: Mr. CHABOT, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. SHERWOOD, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BOEHNER, Mrs. FOWLER, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. KLECZKA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. DICKS, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. ROGERS.

H. Con. Res. 25: Mrs. NORTUP.

H. Con. Res. 30: Mr. GIBBONS.

H. Con. Res. 31: Mr. KING of New York, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. GIBBONS.

H. Con. Res. 34: Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Ms. PELOSI, and Mr. STRICKLAND.

H. Res. 41: Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. NEY, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mrs. WILSON.

H. Res. 89: Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, and Mr. FROST.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 863: Ms. WOOLSEY.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 800

OFFERED BY: MR. CASTLE

(Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute)

AMENDMENT NO. 1: Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Education Flexibility Partnership Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) States differ substantially in demographics, in school governance, and in school finance and funding. The administrative and funding mechanisms that help schools in 1 State improve may not prove successful in other States.

(2) Although the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and other Federal education statutes afford flexibility to State and local educational agencies in implementing Federal programs, certain requirements of Federal education statutes or regulations may impede local efforts to reform and improve education.

(3) By granting waivers of certain statutory and regulatory requirements, the Federal Government can remove impediments for local educational agencies in implementing educational reforms and raising the achievement levels of all children.

(4) State educational agencies are closer to local school systems, implement statewide educational reforms with both Federal and State funds, and are responsible for maintaining accountability for local activities consistent with State standards and assessment systems. Therefore, State educational agencies are often in the best position to align waivers of Federal and State requirements with State and local initiatives.

(5) The Education Flexibility Partnership Demonstration Act allows State educational agencies the flexibility to waive certain Federal requirements, along with related State requirements, but allows only 12 States to qualify for such waivers.

(6) Expansion of waiver authority will allow for the waiver of statutory and regulatory requirements that impede implementation of State and local educational improvement plans, or that unnecessarily burden program administration, while maintaining the intent and purposes of affected programs, such as the important focus on improving math and science performance under title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, (Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program), and maintaining such fundamental requirements as those relating to civil rights, educational equity, and accountability.

(7) To achieve the State goals for the education of children in the State, the focus must be on results in raising the achievement of all students, not process.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ATTENDANCE AREA.—The term "attendance area" has the meaning given the term "school attendance area" in section 1113(a)(2)(A) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

(2) ED-FLEX PARTNERSHIP STATE.—The term "Ed-Flex Partnership State" means an eligible State designated by the Secretary under section 4(a)(1)(B).

(3) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY; STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The terms "local educational agency" and "State educational agency" have the meaning given such terms in section 14101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Education.

(5) STATE.—The term "State" means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and each of the outlying areas.

SEC. 4. EDUCATION FLEXIBILITY PARTNERSHIP.

(a) EDUCATION FLEXIBILITY PROGRAM.—

(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out an education flexibility program under which the Secretary authorizes a State educational agency that serves an eligible State to waive statutory or regulatory requirements applicable to 1 or more programs or Acts described in subsection (b), other than requirements described in subsection (c), for the State educational agency or any local educational agency or school within the State.

(B) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary shall designate each eligible State participating in the program described in subparagraph (A) to be an Ed-Flex Partnership State.

(2) ELIGIBLE STATE.—For the purpose of this subsection the term "eligible State" means a State that—

(A)(i) has—

(I) developed and implemented the challenging State content standards, challenging State student performance standards, and aligned assessments described in section 1111(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and for which local educational agencies in the State are producing the individual school performance profiles required by section 1116(a) of such Act; or

(II) developed and implemented content standards and interim assessments and made substantial progress, as determined by the Secretary, toward developing and implementing performance standards and final aligned assessments, and toward having local educational agencies in the State produce the profiles, described in subclause (I); and

(ii) holds local educational agencies and schools accountable for meeting the educational goals described in the local applications submitted under paragraph (4); and

(B) waives State statutory or regulatory requirements relating to education while holding local educational agencies or schools within the State that are affected by such waivers accountable for the performance of the students who are affected by such waivers.

(3) STATE APPLICATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State educational agency desiring to participate in the education flexibility program under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require. Each such application shall demonstrate that the eligible State has adopted an education flexibility plan for the State that includes—

(i) a description of the process the State educational agency will use to evaluate applications from local educational agencies or schools requesting waivers of—

(I) Federal statutory or regulatory requirements as described in paragraph (1)(A); and

(II) State statutory or regulatory requirements relating to education; and

(ii) a detailed description of the State statutory and regulatory requirements relating to education that the State educational agency will waive;

(iii) a description of specific educational objectives the State intends to meet under such a plan; and