

At the end, add the following:

TITLE —STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

SEC. 01. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Student Achievement Act of 1999”.

SEC. 02. REMEDIAL EDUCATION.

(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary is authorized to award grants to high need, low-performing local educational agencies to enable the local educational agencies to carry out remedial education programs that enable kindergarten through grade 12 students who are failing or are at risk of failing to meet State achievement standards in the core academic curriculum.

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds awarded under this section may be used to provide prevention and intervention services and academic instruction, that enable the students described in subsection (a) to meet challenging State achievement standards in the core academic curriculum, such as—

(1) implementing early intervention strategies that identify and support those students who need additional help or alternative instructional strategies;

(2) strengthening learning opportunities in classrooms by hiring certified teachers to reduce class sizes, providing high quality professional development, and using proven instructional practices and curriculum aligned to State achievement standards;

(3) providing extended learning time, such as after-school and summer school; and

(4) developing intensive instructional intervention strategies for students who fail to meet the State achievement standards.

(c) APPLICATIONS.—Each local educational agency desiring to receive a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary. Each application shall contain—

(1) an assurance that the grant funds will be used in accordance with subsection (b); and

(2) a detailed description of how the local educational agency will use the grant funds to help students meet State achievement standards in the core academic curriculum by providing prevention and intervention services and academic instruction to students who are most at risk of failing to meet the State achievement standards.

(d) CONDITIONS FOR RECEIVING FUNDS.—A local educational agency shall be eligible to receive a grant under this section if the local educational agency or the State educational agency—

(1) adopts a policy prohibiting the practice of social promotion;

(2) requires that all kindergarten through grade 12 students meet State achievement standards in the core academic curriculum at key transition points (to be determined by the State), such as 4th, 8th, 12th grades, before promotion to the next grade level;

(3) uses tests and other indicators, such as grades and teacher evaluations, to assess student performance in meeting the State achievement standards, which tests shall be valid for the purpose of such assessment; and

(4) has substantial numbers of students who are low-performing students.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CORE ACADEMIC CURRICULUM.—The term “core academic curriculum” means curriculum in subjects such as reading and writing, language arts, mathematics, social sciences (including history), and science.

(2) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term “local educational agency” has the meaning given the term in section 14101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801).

(3) PRACTICE OF SOCIAL PROMOTION.—The term ‘practice of social promotion’ means a

formal or informal practice of promoting a student from the grade for which the determination is made to the next grade when the student fails to meet the State achievement standards in the core academic curriculum, unless the practice is consistent with the student’s individualized education program under section 614(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1414(d)).

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

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$500,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2000 through 2004.

**JEFFORDS (AND BINGAMAN)
AMENDMENT NO. 58**

Mr. LOTT (for Mr. JEFFORDS for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to amendment No. 56 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY to the bill, S. 280, supra; as follows:

In lieu of the instructions, insert the following:

Report back forthwith with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. IDEA.

Section 307 of the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 1999, is amended by adding after subsection (g) the following:

“(h) Notwithstanding subsections (b)(2), and (c) through (g), a local educational agency may use funds received under this section to carry out activities under part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.) in accordance with the requirements of such part.”.

JEFFORDS AMENDMENT NO. 59

Mr. LOTT (for Mr. JEFFORDS) proposed an amendment to amendment No. 58 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill, S. 280, supra; as follows:

In the pending amendment, strike all after the word “IDEA” and insert the following:

Section 307 of the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 1999, is amended by adding after subsection (g) the following:

“(h) Notwithstanding subsections (b)(2), and (c) through (g), a local educational agency may use funds received under this section to carry out activities under part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.) in accordance with the requirements of such part.”.

(i) This section shall become effective 1 day after enactment of this Act.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will be held on Wednesday, March 10, 1999, 9:30 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is “What Works: Education Research.” For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND
PENSIONS**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information

of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will be held on Thursday, March 11, 1999, 10 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is “Key Patients’ Protections: Lessons From the Field.” For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO
MEET**

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Monday, March 8, 1999, at 9:30 a.m. for a hearing on the topic of “Deceptive Mailings and Sweepstakes Promotions.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

**MAINTAINING THE FIGHT AGAINST
“LOOSE NUKES”**

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, with the end of the Cold War, the threat of a nuclear holocaust between the United States and Russia has largely receded. There remains a real risk, however, that former Soviet weapons of mass destruction or the technology needed to build them will find their way to rogue states, terrorist groups, or even criminal organizations. If such weapons should ever be used, their impact will be catastrophic. It will hardly matter that “only” one or two cities have been so hideously slaughtered.

The war against these so-called “loose nukes” is as important as any war we have fought. It is a war fought with assistance to states of the former Soviet Union, rather than with armed force. Its battles are the battles against unemployment and lax security. Its fronts are an array of firms and institutes and so-called “nuclear cities,” as well as the international frontiers where smugglers try to move sensitive materials to states like Iran, Iraq or Libya.

This is a war that we dare not lose. The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace reports that in December, the chief of Russia’s Federal Security Service in the Chelyabinsk region said that employees at one sensitive plant had tried to steal 40 pounds of weapons-usable nuclear material. A month earlier, 3,000 workers at Chelyabinsk-70, a “nuclear city” similar to our nuclear weapons design laboratories, had held a protest over unpaid wages. In 1996, the head of that city committed suicide in despair over his inability to pay his personnel.