

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3080

To establish a national teaching fellowship program to encourage individuals to enter and remain in the field of teaching at public elementary schools and secondary schools.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 8, 2002

Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To establish a national teaching fellowship program to encourage individuals to enter and remain in the field of teaching at public elementary schools and secondary schools.

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 “Teaching Fellows Act
5 of 2002”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) The United States faces an increasing need
2 for high-quality educators.

3 (2) Up to 1,000,000 of the country's 3,000,000
4 teachers will retire in the next 5 years. American
5 schools will have to hire 2,200,000 teachers by 2010.

6 (3) Congress desires to inspire promising sec-
7 ondary school seniors and accomplished persons cur-
8 rently involved in the field of education to become
9 certified teachers.

10 (4) The opportunity created by a fellowship
11 program will allow persons in the field of education
12 the financial opportunity to obtain a quality edu-
13 cation which they will use to teach America's youth.

14 (5) Congress desires to motivate those who go
15 into the field of teaching to become career educators.

16 (6) Many teacher assistants have received their
17 training at community colleges and have the poten-
18 tial and desire to obtain degrees in education and
19 certification as teachers.

20 (7) Rural and inner-city communities may
21 greatly benefit from encouraging those in the com-
22 munity who already have an interest in teaching to
23 pursue a degree in education and become career
24 educators.

1 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**

2 Title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
3 U.S.C. 1021 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
4 the following new part:

5 **“Part C—Federal Teaching and**
6 **Partnership Fellows**

7 **“SEC. 231. STATE TEACHING FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.**

8 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to en-
9 courage promising secondary school seniors and college
10 undergraduates to enter the field of teaching and become
11 career educators.

12 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF TEACHING FELLOWS PRO-
13 GRAM.—

14 “(1) USE OF FUNDS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.—

15 From the funds appropriated under subsection (g),
16 the Secretary shall award grants to States for the
17 purpose of establishing Teaching Programs to pro-
18 vide scholarships for Teaching Fellows. Such schol-
19 arships shall be used to pay for higher education tui-
20 tion, fees, and other costs of attendance.

21 “(2) SELECTION OF FELLOWS.—Teaching Fel-
22 lows shall be selected from individuals who—

23 “(A) at the time of application, are sec-
24 ondary school seniors or in their second year of
25 a program of undergraduate education;

1 “(B) are United States citizens or legal
2 aliens;

3 “(C) are residents of the State sponsoring
4 the Teaching Program to which they are apply-
5 ing; and

6 “(D) meet the criteria established under
7 subsection (d)(1)(B).

8 “(c) COMPETITION FOR FEDERAL FUNDS.—

9 “(1) STATE APPLICATION TO PROGRAM.—The
10 governor of each State desiring to participate in the
11 Teaching Program shall designate a single State
12 agency to submit an application to the Secretary and
13 to administer the Teaching Program. Such agency
14 shall have a full-time staff and may be a division of
15 the State’s education department, a coordinating or
16 governing board of higher education, an independent
17 government agency, or a non-profit organization.
18 Any such application shall be submitted to the Sec-
19 retary at such time, and contain such information,
20 as the Secretary shall require.

21 “(2) COMPETITIVE SELECTION.—From the ap-
22 plications submitted by State agencies, the Secretary
23 shall approve those applications that the Secretary
24 determines to be the most promising in carrying out
25 the purposes of this section.

1 “(3) FUNDING REQUIREMENTS.—Each State
2 whose application is selected by the Secretary to
3 carry out a Teaching Program shall use the grant
4 funds to offer scholarships in an amount determined
5 by the Secretary in light of the amount of the total
6 amount appropriated to carry out this section, the
7 relative size of the State’s student population, and
8 the funding necessary to administer a viable Teach-
9 ing Program. Such funds shall go to the State agen-
10 cy designated under paragraph (1).

11 “(d) REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE RECEIPT OF FED-
12 ERAL FUNDS.—Each State participating in the Teaching
13 Program shall—

14 “(1) provide information and assurances—

15 “(A) identifying the institutions of higher
16 education within the State, private or public,
17 that will participate in the Teaching Program;

18 “(B) establishing specific, rigorous criteria
19 to be used in selecting Teaching Fellows;

20 “(C) providing that the State will offer not
21 less than \$6,500 per year in scholarships to
22 each Teaching Fellow, which shall be
23 available—

24 “(i) for each of 4 years of under-
25 graduate education, in the case of a Teach-

1 ing Fellow who, at the time of application,
2 was a secondary school senior;

3 “(ii) for the third and fourth year of
4 undergraduate education, in the case of a
5 Teaching Fellow who, at the time of appli-
6 cation, was in his or her second year of un-
7 dergraduate education; and

8 “(iii) for a fifth year of undergraduate
9 education if such year is required in order
10 to obtain a bachelor’s degree with a State
11 license or certificate to teach;

12 “(D) providing that each participating in-
13 stitution of higher education will provide a full-
14 time faculty member or administrator to serve
15 as the Teaching Program director and to work
16 closely with the State agency to administer the
17 campus program and create and execute the
18 extra-curricular enrichment programs;

19 “(E) describing mandatory extra-curricular
20 enrichment programs and activities as part of
21 the Teaching Program that—

22 “(i) are designed to motivate students
23 to become career educators;

24 “(ii) provide Teaching Fellows with a
25 multidisciplinary education;

1 “(iii) are offered regularly during each
2 year of schooling (including during inter-
3 vals between periods of enrollment); and

4 “(iv) expose Teaching Fellows to the
5 State’s business, political, demographic,
6 cultural, and economic climate, and help
7 Teaching Fellows develop leadership quali-
8 ties; and

9 “(F) establishing procedures for the dis-
10 tribution of scholarships and administration of
11 teaching obligation oversight;

12 “(2) provide an assurance that the State agency
13 and participating institutions of higher education
14 shall, collectively, match the Federal funds provided
15 under this section by providing at least 25 percent
16 of the total cost of the Teaching Program;

17 “(3) use funds received under this section only
18 to supplement the amount of funds that would, in
19 the absence of such Federal funds, be made avail-
20 able from non-Federal sources for the purposes of
21 this section, and not to supplant such funds; and

22 “(4) provide an assurance that Teaching Fel-
23 lows fulfill their teaching obligations at public ele-
24 mentary schools and secondary schools within that
25 State only.

1 “(e) CONVERSION TO LOAN.—

2 “(1) OBLIGATION TO REPAY.—Each State re-
3 ceiving a grant under this section shall require that
4 a Teaching Fellow agree to repay a pro rata
5 amount, as determined by the State agency, of the
6 scholarship received from the Teaching Program,
7 and to pay interest on such pro rata amount at an
8 annual rate of 10 percent until such pro rata
9 amount is repaid, if the Teaching Fellow fails to
10 comply with paragraph (2).

11 “(2) TEACHING OBLIGATION.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State receiving
13 a grant under this section shall require that
14 within 8 years after graduation a Teaching Fel-
15 low shall teach for 5 years at a public elemen-
16 tary school or secondary school within the State
17 that—

18 “(i) is in the school district of a local
19 educational agency which is eligible for as-
20 sistance under title I of the Elementary
21 and Secondary Education Act of 1965; and

22 “(ii) which for the purpose of this
23 paragraph has been determined by the Sec-
24 retary (pursuant to regulations promul-
25 gated by the Secretary and after consulta-

1 tion with the State educational agency of
2 the State in which the school is located) to
3 be a school in which the enrollment of chil-
4 dren counted under section 1124(c) of the
5 Elementary and Secondary Education Act
6 of 1965 exceeds 30 percent of the total en-
7 rollment of that school.

8 “(B) CONTINUATION OF SCHOOL ELIGI-
9 BILITY.—If a Teaching Fellow teaches in a
10 school that meets the requirements of subpara-
11 graph (A) for a school year and in a succeeding
12 school year the school fails to meet such re-
13 quirements, then for each succeeding school
14 year of the Teaching Fellow’s teaching obliga-
15 tion under this paragraph, the school shall be
16 deemed to meet such requirements with respect
17 to that Teaching Fellow.

18 “(3) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
19 apply if the State agency finds that it is impossible
20 for a Teaching Fellow to teach for 5 years, within
21 8 years after the Teaching Fellow graduates, at a
22 public elementary school or secondary school within
23 the State, because of the death or permanent dis-
24 ability of the Teaching Fellow.

1 “(f) REVOLVING FUNDING.—Any funds repaid by a
2 Teaching Fellow pursuant to subsection (e), together with
3 any interest thereon, may be retained by the State agency
4 for making available additional scholarships under this
5 section, and for paying costs related to the disbursement
6 of scholarships and the collection of payments under sub-
7 section (e).

8 “(g) FUNDS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
9 to carry out this section \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2003
10 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 suc-
11 ceeding fiscal years.

12 “(h) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

13 “(1) TEACHING FELLOW.—The term ‘Teaching
14 Fellow’ means an individual selected for an award of
15 a scholarship under this section.

16 “(2) TEACHING PROGRAM.—The term ‘Teach-
17 ing Program’ means a scholarship program estab-
18 lished by a State under this section.

19 “(3) STATE.—The term ‘State’ includes the
20 several States of the United States, the District of
21 Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

22 “(4) STATE AGENCY.—The term ‘State agency’
23 means the agency designated pursuant to subsection
24 (c)(1).

1 **“SEC. 232. TEACHING FELLOWS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.**

2 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to en-
3 courage members of the education community, such as
4 teaching assistants and other school employees who are
5 not yet certified teachers, to obtain a degree in education.

6 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF PARTNERSHIP FELLOWS
7 PROGRAM.—

8 “(1) USE OF FUNDS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.—

9 From the funds appropriated under subsection (h),
10 the Secretary shall award grants to States for the
11 purpose of establishing Partnership Programs, be-
12 tween institutions of higher education that award as-
13 sociate’s degrees and institutions of higher education
14 that award bachelor’s degrees, to provide scholar-
15 ships for Partnership Fellows.

16 “(2) SELECTION OF FELLOWS.—Partnership
17 Fellows shall be selected from individuals who—

18 “(A) are United States citizens or legal
19 aliens;

20 “(B) are residents of the State sponsoring
21 the Partnership Program to which they are ap-
22 plying; and

23 “(C) meet the criteria established under
24 subsection (e)(1).

25 “(c) COMPETITION FOR FEDERAL FUNDS.—

1 “(1) STATE REVIEW AND SUBMISSION.—The
2 governor of each State desiring to participate in the
3 Partnership Program shall designate a single State
4 education department, a coordinating or governing
5 board of higher education, or other agency—

6 “(A) to receive and review partnership pro-
7 posals from institutions of higher education
8 that award associate’s degrees and institutions
9 of higher education that award bachelor’s de-
10 grees within the State;

11 “(B) to determine which proposals delin-
12 eate Partnership Programs to be created be-
13 tween institutions of higher education that
14 award associate’s degrees and institutions of
15 higher education that award bachelor’s degrees,
16 that are the most promising in carrying out the
17 purposes of this section;

18 “(C) to submit the partnership proposals
19 that are approved by the State agency to the
20 Secretary for competitive selection in the form
21 of one single partnership proposal application;
22 and

23 “(D) to administer the funds made avail-
24 able under this section.

1 “(2) COMPETITIVE SELECTION.—From the
2 partnership proposal applications submitted by State
3 agencies under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall
4 select for funding under this section those applica-
5 tions that the Secretary determines to be the most
6 promising in carrying out the purpose of the Part-
7 nership Program. The Secretary shall distribute the
8 awards for each selected application to the State
9 agency that submitted the application.

10 “(d) REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE RECEIPT OF FED-
11 ERAL FUNDS.—A State agency that submits a partnership
12 proposal application to the Secretary under subsection (c)
13 shall provide to the Secretary such information and assur-
14 ances as the Secretary may require to demonstrate that
15 the State will comply with the following requirements:

16 “(1) Any State whose partnership proposal ap-
17 plication is selected to receive Federal funds under
18 this section shall match the Federal funding by pro-
19 viding at least 25 percent of the total cost of the
20 Partnership Program.

21 “(2) The State agency may reserve not more
22 than 20 percent of the Federal funding to be used
23 for administrative costs associated with the creation
24 of articulation agreements between one or more in-
25 stitutions of higher education that award associate’s

1 degrees and one or more institutions of higher edu-
2 cation that award bachelors' degrees that detail the
3 partnership arrangement between the institutions.
4 Such reserved administrative funds shall be made
5 available to the Partnership Program institutions of
6 higher education in order to support curricula align-
7 ment between the requirements of the institutions of
8 higher education that award associate's degrees and
9 the institutions of higher education that award bach-
10 elor's degrees, and to allow the Partnership Program
11 institutions of higher education to sponsor extra-cur-
12 ricular activities for its Partnership Fellows as speci-
13 fied in subsection (e)(3).

14 “(3) The State agency shall be responsible for
15 determining how the funds provided under this sec-
16 tion are allocated among specific partnership pro-
17 posals or to administer the allocation of funds for an
18 approved state-wide Partnership Program.

19 “(4) The State agency shall be responsible for
20 assuring such funds are used to provide full-time
21 Partnership Fellows with scholarships of not less
22 than \$6,500 per year, which shall be available for
23 each of the 4 years of undergraduate education re-
24 maining after the year of the Partnership Fellow's
25 selection, and for a fifth year of undergraduate edu-

1 cation if such year is required in order to obtain a
2 bachelor's degree with a State license or certificate
3 to teach at an elementary school or secondary school
4 within the State. Partnership Fellows pursuing a
5 part-time course load, as defined by the institution
6 of higher education attended, shall receive a pro rata
7 scholarship over a period not to exceed 6 years. The
8 annual scholarship amount shall be a fraction of the
9 full-time scholarship amount and shall be reduced
10 according to the number of credits being pursued.
11 Partnership Programs also may make scholarship
12 funds available during the period of student teaching
13 as prescribed by subsection (e)(6).

14 “(5) The State agency will use funds received
15 under this section only to supplement the amount of
16 funds that would, in the absence of such Federal
17 funds, be made available from non-Federal sources
18 for the purposes of this section, and not to supplant
19 such funds.

20 “(e) REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTNERSHIP PRO-
21 POSALS.—Each partnership proposal under this section
22 shall be submitted by one or more institutions of higher
23 education that awards associate's degrees and one or more
24 institutions of higher education that awards bachelor's de-
25 grees and shall propose the establishment of a program

1 allowing individuals, such as those currently in the edu-
2 cation field, to complete a bachelor's degree with a State
3 license or certification to teach in elementary schools or
4 secondary schools within the State. Such proposals shall
5 include—

6 “(1) identification of specific, rigorous criteria
7 to be used in selecting Partnership Fellows, includ-
8 ing outstanding service to school-age children, a firm
9 commitment to the field of education, and aptitude
10 to succeed as a teacher;

11 “(2) designation of a full-time faculty member
12 or administrator to serve as the local or regional
13 Partnership Program director or coordinator and to
14 work closely with the State agency director to ad-
15 minister the program and create and execute the
16 extra-curricular enrichment programs;

17 “(3) mandatory extra-curricular enrichment
18 programs and activities as part of the Partnership
19 Program that—

20 “(A) are designed to motivate students to
21 become career educators;

22 “(B) provide Partnership Fellows with a
23 multidisciplinary education;

1 “(C) are offered regularly during each year
2 of schooling (including during intervals between
3 periods of enrollment); and

4 “(D) expose Partnership Fellows to the
5 State’s business, political, demographic, cul-
6 tural, and economic climate, and help Partner-
7 ship Fellows develop leadership qualities;

8 “(4) a specific description of how the proposed
9 Partnership Program will provide individuals in
10 rural or underserved communities access to the cur-
11 riculum and extracurricular opportunities created by
12 the Partnership Program;

13 “(5) a description of how the Partnership Pro-
14 gram will accommodate Partnership Fellows who
15 must maintain employment while pursuing a degree,
16 whether via distance learning methods, evening and
17 weekend programs, minimum credit requirements, or
18 other programs;

19 “(6) a description of how the Partnership Pro-
20 gram will assist Partnership Fellows in accordance
21 with subsection (d)(4) during the period of student
22 teaching if the Partnership Fellows are otherwise fi-
23 nancially unable to complete such a requirement;
24 and

1 “(7) an itemized account of how the funds will
2 be allocated to best achieve the purposes of the Part-
3 nership Program.

4 “(f) CONVERSION TO LOAN.—

5 “(1) OBLIGATION TO REPAY.—Each State re-
6 ceiving a grant under this section shall require that
7 a Partnership Fellow agree to repay a pro rata
8 amount, as determined by the State agency, of the
9 scholarship received from the Partnership Program,
10 and to pay interest on such pro rata amount at an
11 annual rate of 10 percent until such pro rata
12 amount is repaid, if the Partnership Fellow fails to
13 comply with paragraph (2).

14 “(2) TEACHING OBLIGATION.—Each State re-
15 ceiving a grant under this section shall require that
16 within 8 years after graduation a Partnership Fellow
17 teach for 5 years at a low performing (as defined by
18 the State educational agency or Secretary) public el-
19 elementary school or secondary school within the
20 State.

21 “(3) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
22 apply if the State agency finds that it is impossible
23 for a Partnership Fellow to teach for 5 years, within
24 8 years after the Partnership Fellow graduates, at
25 a low performing public elementary school or sec-

1 ondary school within the State, because of the death
2 or permanent disability of the Partnership Fellow.

3 “(g) REVOLVING FUNDING.—Any funds repaid by a
4 Partnership Fellow pursuant to subsection (f), together
5 with any interest thereon, may be retained by the State
6 agency for making available additional scholarships under
7 this section, and for paying costs related to the disburse-
8 ment of scholarships and the collection of payments under
9 subsection (f).

10 “(h) FUNDS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
11 to carry out this section \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2003
12 and such sums as necessary for each of the 4 succeeding
13 fiscal years.

14 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

15 “(1) PARTNERSHIP FELLOW.—The term ‘Part-
16 nership Fellow’ means an individual selected for an
17 award of a scholarship under this section.

18 “(2) PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.—The term
19 ‘Partnership Program’ means a scholarship program
20 established by a State under this section.

21 “(3) STATE.—The term ‘State’ includes the
22 several States of the United States, the District of
23 Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

1 “(4) STATE AGENCY.—The term ‘State agency’
2 means the agency designated pursuant to subsection
3 (c)(1).”.

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