

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1109

To raise achievement in international education in elementary schools and secondary schools through grants to improve teacher competency and to support programs in international education that supplement core curricula in such schools, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2011

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To raise achievement in international education in elementary schools and secondary schools through grants to improve teacher competency and to support programs in international education that supplement core curricula in such schools, and for other purposes.

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 “Global Education  
5       Nexus in U.S. Act” or the “GENIUS Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1           (1) A host of growing challenges—international  
2 security, global markets, immigration, world health,  
3 the environment, and the emerging educational and  
4 material aspirations of the world’s poorest people—  
5 are fundamentally altering the international land-  
6 scape.

7           (2) Rapid technological advances and the infor-  
8 mation age are shrinking the world, exponentially  
9 enlarging access of all peoples to essential knowl-  
10 edge, concepts, and ideas, and connecting Americans  
11 to their counterparts across the globe.

12           (3) The diversity of American workplaces,  
13 schools, and communities increasingly parallels the  
14 world’s diversity.

15           (4) Americans, in the performance of their citi-  
16 zenship roles, are required to make informed judg-  
17 ments about the role of the United States in the  
18 world, as well as the impact of other nations and  
19 world regions on the United States.

20           (5) The place of the United States in the world  
21 will depend on whether teachers, citizens, and policy-  
22 makers of the United States understand how inter-  
23 national events shape the lives, politics, economics,  
24 and security of the Nation.

1           (6) American-based multinational corporations,  
2           as well as small businesses, increasingly need em-  
3           ployees with knowledge of foreign languages and cul-  
4           tures to market products to customers domestically  
5           and around the globe, and to work effectively with  
6           foreign employees and partners in other countries.

7           (7) It is the primary function of the Nation's  
8           schools to prepare America's students to meet the  
9           requirements of the workplace and to perform citi-  
10          zenship roles in dynamic and rapidly changing do-  
11          mestic and global communities.

12          (8) Recent surveys consistently demonstrate the  
13          illiteracy of young Americans in geography, econom-  
14          ics, and world history, as well as the low priority  
15          university students give to learning about other  
16          countries and cultures.

17          (9) Only rarely do American high school or uni-  
18          versity students elect to study geography, world his-  
19          tory, international relations, or global issues, or to  
20          obtain fluency in a foreign language.

21          (10) School curricula and university programs  
22          of study are not adequately aligned to new inter-  
23          national and global realities.

24          (11) State educational agencies and local edu-  
25          cational agencies must be encouraged to include

1 international education competency as part of teach-  
2 er credentialing and licensing.

3 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

4 (1) to raise student achievement in world his-  
5 tory and cultures, international and global studies,  
6 and foreign languages by increasing the inter-  
7 national education competence and literacy of ele-  
8 mentary school and secondary school teachers; and

9 (2) to support programs that supplement stu-  
10 dent educational achievement in world history, inter-  
11 national and global studies, and foreign languages.

12 **SEC. 3. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTER-**  
13 **NATIONAL AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDU-**  
14 **CATION.**

15 Section 205 of the Department of Education Organi-  
16 zation Act (20 U.S.C. 3415) is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (b)—

18 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),  
19 by inserting “elementary, secondary,” after “af-  
20 fecting”;

21 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at  
22 the end;

23 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking the pe-  
24 riod at the end and inserting “, national non-  
25 profit educational organizations or consortiums

1 of nonprofit educational organizations, State  
2 educational agencies, local educational agencies,  
3 and other nonprofit organizations;” and

4 (D) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(4) assist the Secretary in administering the  
6 grant program under section 4 of the Global Edu-  
7 cation Nexus in U.S. Act; and

8 “(5) develop an international education re-  
9 search repository and make available the information  
10 contained in such repository to any State edu-  
11 cational agency and local educational agency.”; and

12 (2) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section—

14 “(1) the term ‘institution of higher education’  
15 has the meaning given such term in section 101 of  
16 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
17 1001);

18 “(2) the term ‘international education’ means  
19 educational subject matter related to world history,  
20 regions, cultures, and geography, as well as foreign  
21 languages, contemporary world issues, international  
22 relations, international economics, humanitarian law,  
23 international and non-governmental organizations,  
24 and the technology and communication mediums re-  
25 lated to such subject matter.

1           “(3) the term ‘international education research  
2           repository’ means a research repository containing  
3           scientifically valid education research, promising and  
4           exemplary practices related to international edu-  
5           cation, including foreign language education, as well  
6           as any other information related to international  
7           education that the Secretary determines would be  
8           beneficial for State educational agencies and local  
9           educational agencies in—

10                   “(A) the professional development of  
11           teachers of international education, including  
12           foreign language education;

13                   “(B) the implementation of international  
14           education programs, including foreign language  
15           programs; and

16                   “(C) improving the international education  
17           competency, including foreign language com-  
18           petency, of elementary school and secondary  
19           school students;

20           “(4) the term ‘national nonprofit educational  
21           organizations or consortiums of nonprofit edu-  
22           cational organizations’ means national nonprofit  
23           educational organizations or consortiums of non-  
24           profit educational organizations that have as their  
25           primary purpose the improvement of student com-

1       petency in international education, including foreign  
2       language competency, through effective international  
3       education instruction, including foreign language in-  
4       struction, in elementary schools, secondary schools,  
5       and institutions of higher education; and

6               “(5) the terms ‘local educational agency’, ‘ele-  
7       mentary school’, ‘secondary school’, and ‘State edu-  
8       cational agency’ have the meanings given such terms  
9       in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary  
10       Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).”.

11 **SEC. 4. INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION GRANTS.**

12       (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—From the funds appro-  
13       priated under section 6, the Secretary, acting through the  
14       Deputy Assistant Secretary, shall award grants on a com-  
15       petitive basis to eligible entities to promote international  
16       education instruction in elementary schools and secondary  
17       schools in accordance with subsection (c) by—

18               (1) increasing teacher competency with respect  
19       to international education subject matter; and

20               (2) implementing supplemental international  
21       education services.

22       (b) GRANT ELIGIBILITY.—

23               (1) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a  
24       grant under this section, an eligible entity shall sub-  
25       mit an application to the Secretary at such time, in

1 such manner, and containing such information as  
2 the Secretary may require.

3 (2) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give pri-  
4 ority to eligible entities that—

5 (A) are eligible for assistance under part A  
6 of title I of the Elementary and Secondary  
7 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et  
8 seq.);

9 (B) offer professional development in inter-  
10 national education to all teachers and encour-  
11 age the inclusion of international education in  
12 core elementary school and secondary school  
13 curricula; and

14 (C) the Secretary determines are most in  
15 need of receiving assistance in the area of inter-  
16 national education.

17 (c) USES OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity awarded a  
18 grant under this section shall use—

19 (1) 50 percent of such grant funds to develop,  
20 implement, and strengthen programs to teach inter-  
21 national education within core elementary school and  
22 secondary school curricula, which shall include pro-  
23 grams with respect to international education sub-  
24 ject matter that—

25 (A) improve the quality of instruction; and



1 (B) provide professional development and  
2 teacher education activities; and

3 (2) 50 percent of such grant funds to supple-  
4 ment core academic subjects through supplemental  
5 international education services outside of normal in-  
6 struction hours, such as—

7 (A) Model United Nations;

8 (B) geography bees; and

9 (C) any other service or program deemed  
10 beneficial to the development of student inter-  
11 national education competency by the Sec-  
12 retary.

13 **SEC. 5. EVALUATION AND REPORT.**

14 (a) **EVALUATION.**—From the funds appropriated  
15 under section 6, the Secretary shall conduct, through  
16 grant or by contract, a biennial independent evaluation of  
17 the international education programs administered by eli-  
18 gible entities under section 4 that—

19 (1) quantifies student academic achievement in  
20 international education; and

21 (2) describes promising and exemplary practices  
22 of preparing teachers to teach international edu-  
23 cation topics and providing international education  
24 to students.

1 (b) REPORT.—From the funds appropriated under  
2 section 6, the Secretary shall prepare, through grant or  
3 by contract, and submit to each House of Congress, an  
4 annual independent report that includes—

5 (1) the total amount of grant funds awarded  
6 under section 4, and the geographic distribution of  
7 such awards;

8 (2) the results of the evaluation conducted  
9 under subsection (a); and

10 (3) any other information deemed appropriate  
11 by the Deputy Assistant Secretary or the Secretary.

12 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 There are authorized to be appropriated  
14 \$200,000,000 to carry out this Act for fiscal year 2012  
15 and such sums as may be necessary for each fiscal year  
16 thereafter.

17 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

18 In this Act:

19 (1) DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term  
20 “Deputy Assistant Secretary” means the Deputy As-  
21 sistant Secretary for International and Foreign Lan-  
22 guage Education in the Office of Postsecondary  
23 Education of the Department of Education.

24 (2) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.—The term “elemen-  
25 tary school” has the meaning given such term in

1 section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
2 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

3 (3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
4 ty” means—

5 (A) a local educational agency; or

6 (B) a partnership consisting of—

7 (i) a local educational agency; and

8 (ii) a private organization or institu-  
9 tion of higher education that provides such  
10 local educational agency with funding to  
11 carry out the activities described in section  
12 4(c).

13 (4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
14 term “institution of higher education” has the  
15 meaning given such term in section 101 of the High-  
16 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

17 (5) INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION.—The term  
18 “international education” means educational subject  
19 matter related to world history, regions, cultures,  
20 and geography, as well as foreign languages, con-  
21 temporary world issues, international relations,  
22 international economics, humanitarian law, inter-  
23 national and non-governmental organizations, and  
24 the technology and communication mediums related  
25 to such subject matter.

1           (6) INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION RESEARCH RE-  
2           POSITORY.—The term “international education re-  
3           search repository” means a research repository con-  
4           taining scientifically valid education research, prom-  
5           ising and exemplary practices related to inter-  
6           national education, including foreign language edu-  
7           cation, as well as any other information related to  
8           international education that the Secretary deter-  
9           mines would be beneficial for State educational  
10          agencies and local educational agencies in—

11                   (A) the professional development of teach-  
12                   ers of international education, including foreign  
13                   language education;

14                   (B) the implementation of international  
15                   education programs, including foreign language  
16                   programs; and

17                   (C) improving the international education  
18                   competency, including foreign language com-  
19                   petency, of elementary school and secondary  
20                   school students.

21           (7) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term  
22           “local educational agency” has the meaning given  
23           such term in section 9101 of the Elementary and  
24           Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

1           (8) NATIONAL NONPROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGA-  
2           NIZATIONS OR CONSORTIUMS OF NONPROFIT EDU-  
3           CATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—The term “national  
4           nonprofit educational organizations or consortiums  
5           of nonprofit educational organizations” means na-  
6           tional nonprofit educational organizations or consor-  
7           tiums of nonprofit educational organizations that  
8           have as their primary purpose the improvement of  
9           student competency in international education, in-  
10          cluding foreign language competency, through effec-  
11          tive international education instruction, including  
12          foreign language instruction, in elementary schools,  
13          secondary schools, and institutions of higher edu-  
14          cation.

15          (9) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term “sec-  
16          ondary school” has the meaning given such term in  
17          section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
18          cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

19          (10) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”  
20          means the Secretary of Education.

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