

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1617

To strengthen communities through English literacy and civics education for new Americans, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 15, 2011

Mr. HONDA (for himself, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. FALDOMAVAEGA, Mr. FILNER, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. POLIS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. STARK, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, and Ms. HANABUSA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To strengthen communities through English literacy and civics education for new Americans, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Strengthen and Unite Communities with Civics Edu-  
6 cation and English Development Act of 2011”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
 2 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.  
 Sec. 2. Purposes.

TITLE I—EXPANDING ENGLISH LITERACY, U.S. HISTORY, AND  
 CIVICS EDUCATION

Sec. 101. Increased investment in English literacy, U.S. history, and civics edu-  
 cation under the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act.  
 Sec. 102. Definitions of English language learner.  
 Sec. 103. Research in adult education.

TITLE II—SUPPORTING ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND  
 ADULT EDUCATION IN THE WORKFORCE

Sec. 201. Presidential award for business leadership in promoting United  
 States citizenship.

TITLE III—BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Sec. 301. Office of Citizenship and Immigrant Integration.  
 Sec. 302. Grants to States.  
 Sec. 303. Authorized activities.  
 Sec. 304. Reporting and evaluation.  
 Sec. 305. New citizens award program.  
 Sec. 306. Rule of construction.  
 Sec. 307. Authorization of appropriations.

3 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

4 The purposes of this Act are—

5 (1) to meet the growing need for English lit-  
 6 eracy, U.S. history, and civics education programs  
 7 for new Americans in the United States; and

8 (2) to encourage proactive policies to introduce  
 9 new Americans into the Nation in order to maximize  
 10 the benefits provided to these individuals and to the  
 11 community.

1 **TITLE I—EXPANDING ENGLISH**  
2 **LITERACY, U.S. HISTORY, AND**  
3 **CIVICS EDUCATION**

4 **SEC. 101. INCREASED INVESTMENT IN ENGLISH LITERACY,**  
5 **U.S. HISTORY, AND CIVICS EDUCATION**  
6 **UNDER THE ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY**  
7 **LITERACY ACT.**

8 (a) INTEGRATED ENGLISH LITERACY AND CIVICS  
9 EDUCATION PROGRAM.—Section 203 of the Adult Edu-  
10 cation and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9202) is  
11 amended—

12 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (12) through  
13 (18) as paragraphs (13) through (19), respectively;  
14 and

15 (2) by inserting after paragraph (11), the fol-  
16 lowing:

17 “(12) INTEGRATED ENGLISH LITERACY, U.S.  
18 HISTORY, AND CIVICS EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The  
19 term ‘integrated English literacy, U.S. history, and  
20 civics education program’ means a program of in-  
21 struction designed to help an English language  
22 learner achieve competence in English through  
23 contextualized instruction on the rights and respon-  
24 sibilities of citizenship, naturalization procedures,  
25 civic participation, and United States history and

1 government to help such learner acquire the skills  
2 and knowledge to become an active and informed  
3 parent, worker, and community member.”.

4 (b) STATE LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.—Section  
5 223(a) of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act  
6 (20 U.S.C. 9223(a)) is amended by inserting after para-  
7 graph (11) the following:

8 “(12) Technical assistance for grant applica-  
9 tions of faith- and community-based organizations.”.

10 (c) NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR LITERACY.—Section  
11 242(e)(1) of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act  
12 (20 U.S.C. 9252(e)(1)) is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (G), (H),  
14 and (I), as subparagraphs (I), (J), and (K), respec-  
15 tively; and

16 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the fol-  
17 lowing:

18 “(G) to coordinate and share information  
19 with national organizations and associations  
20 that are interested in integrated English lit-  
21 eracy, U.S. history, and civics education pro-  
22 grams;

23 “(H) to study the effectiveness of distance  
24 learning or self-study programs in assisting the

1 English language learner population achieve  
2 competence in English;”.

3 (d) REPORT.—Section 242(k) of the Adult Education  
4 and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9252(k)) is amend-  
5 ed—

6 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” after  
7 the semicolon;

8 (2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-  
9 graph (4); and

10 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
11 lowing:

12 “(3) a separate analysis of—

13 “(A) national and State adult English in-  
14 struction needs;

15 “(B) data on the composition of recent im-  
16 migration flows and immigration settlement  
17 patterns across the United States; and

18 “(C) estimated instructional needs based  
19 on the English ability and educational attain-  
20 ment of English language learners under recent  
21 migration patterns; and”.

22 (e) NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.—Section  
23 243 of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20  
24 U.S.C. 9253) is amended—

25 (1) in paragraph (1)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting  
2 “and integrated English literacy, U.S. history,  
3 and civics education programs” before the semi-  
4 colon at the end; and

5 (B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting  
6 “and integrated English literacy, U.S. history,  
7 and civics education programs” before “, based  
8 on scientific evidence”; and  
9 (2) in paragraph (2)—

10 (A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting  
11 “and integrated English literacy, U.S. history,  
12 and civics education programs” before the semi-  
13 colon at the end;

14 (B) in subparagraph (D)(ii), by inserting  
15 “integrated English literacy, U.S. history, and  
16 civics education programs,” before “and work-  
17 place literacy programs”; and

18 (C) in subparagraph (E)—

19 (i) in clause (i), by inserting “and in-  
20 tegrated English literacy, U.S. history, and  
21 civics education programs” before the  
22 semicolon at the end;

23 (ii) in clause (iii), by striking “and”  
24 after the semicolon;

25 (iii) in clause (iv)—

1 (I) by striking “section 231” and  
2 inserting “sections 231 and 244”; and

3 (II) by inserting “and” after the  
4 semicolon; and

5 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-  
6 lowing:

7 “(v) the extent to which integrated  
8 English literacy, U.S. history, and civics  
9 education programs carried out under sec-  
10 tion 244 lead participants in such pro-  
11 grams to increase their civic participation  
12 and, if applicable, lead such participants to  
13 become United States citizens;”.

14 (f) INTEGRATED ENGLISH LITERACY, U.S. HISTORY,  
15 AND CIVICS EDUCATION.—Chapter 4 of subtitle A of the  
16 Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C.  
17 9251 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
18 lowing:

19 **“SEC. 244. INTEGRATED ENGLISH LITERACY, U.S. HISTORY,  
20 AND CIVICS EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

21 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From funds appro-  
22 priated to carry out this section, the Secretary shall award  
23 grants to States, from allocations under subsection (b),  
24 for integrated English literacy, U.S. history, and civics  
25 education programs.

1 “(b) ALLOCATIONS.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
3 from the amount appropriated under subsection (c)  
4 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall allocate—

5 “(A) 65 percent of such amount to States  
6 on the basis of a State’s need for integrated  
7 English, U.S. history, and civics education pro-  
8 grams, as determined by calculating each  
9 State’s share of a 10-year average of the data  
10 compiled by the Office of Immigration Statistics  
11 of the Department of Homeland Security, for  
12 immigrants admitted for lawful permanent resi-  
13 dence for the 10 most recent years; and

14 “(B) 35 percent of such amount to the  
15 States on the basis of whether the State experi-  
16 enced growth, as measured by the average of  
17 the 3 most recent years for which data compiled  
18 by the Office of Immigration Statistics of the  
19 Department of Homeland Security are avail-  
20 able, for immigrants admitted for lawful perma-  
21 nent residence.

22 “(2) MINIMUM.—No State shall receive an allo-  
23 cation under paragraph (1) in an amount that is less  
24 than \$60,000.



1       “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—For the  
2 purpose of carrying out this section, there are authorized  
3 to be appropriated \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2012,  
4 \$250,000,000 for fiscal year 2013, and \$300,000,000 for  
5 fiscal year 2015.”.

6 **SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER.**

7       (a) ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY  
8 ACT.—The Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20  
9 U.S.C. 9201 et seq.) is amended—

10           (1) in section 203(6) (20 U.S.C. 9202(6)), by  
11 striking “individuals of limited English proficiency”  
12 and inserting “English language learners”;

13           (2) in section 203 (20 U.S.C. 9202)—

14               (A) in paragraph (10)—

15                   (i) in the paragraph heading, by strik-  
16 ing “INDIVIDUAL OF LIMITED ENGLISH  
17 PROFICIENCY” and inserting “ENGLISH  
18 LANGUAGE LEARNER”; and

19                   (ii) in the matter preceding subpara-  
20 graph (A), by striking “individual of lim-  
21 ited English proficiency” and inserting  
22 “English language learner”; and

23               (B) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7),  
24 (8), (9), and (10), as paragraphs (7), (8), (9),  
25 (10), and (6), respectively;

1           (3) in section 224(b)(10)(D) (20 U.S.C.  
2           9224(b)(10)(D)), by striking “individuals with lim-  
3           ited English proficiency” and inserting “English lan-  
4           guage learners”; and

5           (4) in section 243(2)(D)(ii) (20 U.S.C.  
6           9253(2)(D)(ii)), by striking “individuals with limited  
7           English proficiency who are adults” and inserting  
8           “adult English language learners”.

9           (b) ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT  
10          OF 1965.—

11           (1) AMENDMENT.—Section 9101(25) of the El-  
12           ementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
13           U.S.C. 7801(25)) is amended by striking the matter  
14           preceding subparagraph (A) and inserting the fol-  
15           lowing:

16           “(25) ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER.—The  
17           term ‘English language learner’ means an indi-  
18           vidual—”.

19           (2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in the Ele-  
20           mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
21           U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) to an individual who is limited  
22           English proficient shall be construed to refer to an  
23           English language learner.

1 **SEC. 103. RESEARCH IN ADULT EDUCATION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 133(c)(2)(A) of the Edu-  
3 cation Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C.  
4 9533(c)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting “education and”  
5 before “literacy”.

6 (b) NATIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CEN-  
7 TER.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Education  
9 shall direct the Commissioner for Education Re-  
10 search of the National Center for Education Re-  
11 search established pursuant to section 131 of the  
12 Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C.  
13 9531) to establish a national research and develop-  
14 ment center for adult education and literacy as de-  
15 scribed in section 133(c)(2)(A) of such Act (20  
16 U.S.C. 9533(c)(2)(A)) (as amended by subsection  
17 (a)).

18 (2) PROVISION FOR EXPANSION OF RE-  
19 SEARCH.—If, as of the date of enactment of this  
20 Act, the Commissioner has established a center for  
21 adult literacy in accordance with section  
22 133(c)(2)(A) of the Education Sciences Reform Act  
23 of 2002, the Commissioner shall expand the topic of  
24 research of such center to include adult education,  
25 in accordance with the amendment made by sub-  
26 section (a).

1 **TITLE II—SUPPORTING ENGLISH**  
2 **LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND**  
3 **ADULT EDUCATION IN THE**  
4 **WORKFORCE**

5 **SEC. 201. PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR BUSINESS LEADER-**  
6 **SHIP IN PROMOTING UNITED STATES CITI-**  
7 **ZENSHIP.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Pres-  
9 idential Award for Business Leadership in Promoting  
10 United States Citizenship (referred to in this section as  
11 the “Presidential Citizenship Award”), which shall be  
12 awarded to companies and other organizations that make  
13 extraordinary efforts in assisting their employees and  
14 members to learn English and increase their under-  
15 standing of United States history and civics.

16 (b) SELECTION AND PRESENTATION OF AWARD.—

17 (1) SELECTION.—The President shall periodi-  
18 cally award the Presidential Citizenship Award to  
19 large and small companies and other organizations  
20 described in subsection (a) after reviewing rec-  
21 ommendations to the President with respect to such  
22 award by the Secretary of Homeland Security and  
23 the Secretary of Commerce.

24 (2) PRESENTATION.—The presentation of the  
25 Presidential Citizenship Award shall be made by the

1 President, or a designee of the President, in con-  
2 junction with an appropriate ceremony.

3 **TITLE III—BUILDING STRONGER**  
4 **COMMUNITIES**

5 **SEC. 301. OFFICE OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRANT INTE-**  
6 **GRATION.**

7 (a) RENAMING OF THE OFFICE OF CITIZENSHIP AND  
8 IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Office of Citizenship  
10 within United States Citizenship and Immigration  
11 Services of the Department of Homeland Security  
12 shall be renamed the “Office of Citizenship and Im-  
13 migrant Integration”.

14 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 451(f)  
15 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C.  
16 271(f)) is amended—

17 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking  
18 “CITIZENSHIP.” and inserting “CITIZENSHIP  
19 AND IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION.”;

20 (B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and  
21 Immigrant Integration” after “Office of Citi-  
22 zenship”; and

23 (C) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and  
24 Immigrant Integration” after “Office of Citi-  
25 zenship”.

1           (3) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, reg-  
2           ulation, document, paper, or other record of the  
3           United States to the Office of Citizenship within  
4           United States Citizenship and Immigration Services  
5           of the Department of Homeland Security shall be  
6           deemed to be a reference to the “Office of Citizen-  
7           ship and Immigrant Integration”.

8           (b) FUNCTIONS.—Section 451(f)(2) of the Homeland  
9           Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 271(f)(2)), as amended  
10          by subsection (a)(2)(C), is further amended by striking  
11          “for promoting” and all that follows through the period  
12          and inserting “for—

13                   “(A) establishing national goals for intro-  
14                   ducing new Americans into the United States  
15                   and measuring the degree to which such goals  
16                   are met;

17                   “(B) assessing and coordinating Federal  
18                   policies, regulations, task forces, and commis-  
19                   sions related to introducing immigrants into the  
20                   United States;

21                   “(C) continuing with the efforts of the  
22                   Task Force on New Americans established  
23                   under Executive Order No. 13404 to facilitate  
24                   a dialogue among Federal agencies, make rec-  
25                   ommendations to the President of the United

1 States, and follow through with initiatives ad-  
2 ministered by the Task Force under the author-  
3 ity of such Executive Order;

4 “(D) serving as a liaison and intermediary  
5 with State and local governments and other en-  
6 tities to assist in establishing local goals, task  
7 forces, and councils to assist in introducing im-  
8 migrants to the United States;

9 “(E) coordinating with other Federal agen-  
10 cies to provide information to State and local  
11 governments on the demand for English acqui-  
12 sition programs and best practices in place on  
13 the Federal and State level for aliens who have  
14 recently arrived in the United States;

15 “(F) assisting States in coordinating ac-  
16 tivities with the grant program carried out  
17 under title III of the Strengthen and Unite  
18 Communities with Civics Education and  
19 English Development Act of 2011; and

20 “(G) promoting instruction and training on  
21 citizenship responsibilities for aliens interested  
22 in becoming naturalized citizens of the United  
23 States, including the development of edu-  
24 cational materials for such aliens.”.

1           (c) DONATIONS.—Section 451(f) of the Homeland  
2 Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 271(f)), as amended by  
3 this section, is further amended by adding at the end the  
4 following:

5           “(3) DONATIONS.—

6                   “(A) ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS.—The  
7 Chief of the Office of Citizenship and Immigrant  
8 Integration may accept monetary and in-  
9 kind donations to support the activities de-  
10 scribed in paragraph (2).

11                   “(B) DEDICATION OF FUNDS.—Notwith-  
12 standing any other provision of law—

13                           “(i) any funds donated to the Office  
14 of Citizenship and Immigrant Integration  
15 to support the activities described in para-  
16 graph (2) shall be deposited entirely into  
17 an account established for such purpose;

18                           “(ii) the funds contained in such ac-  
19 count shall be used solely to support such  
20 activities; and

21                           “(iii) funds that were not donated for  
22 the exclusive purpose of supporting such  
23 activities may not be deposited into such  
24 account.”.



1 (d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Chief of the Office  
2 of Citizenship and Immigrant Integration shall submit a  
3 biennial report to the authorizing Committees in Congress  
4 that describes the activities of the office.

5 **SEC. 302. GRANTS TO STATES.**

6 (a) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE GRANTS.—Subject to  
7 subsections (c) and (d), the Chief of the Office of Citizen-  
8 ship and Immigrant Integration is authorized to provide  
9 competitive grants to States to form State New American  
10 Councils as described in subsection (b) to carry out activi-  
11 ties described in section 303.

12 (b) STATE NEW AMERICAN COUNCILS.—A State  
13 New American Council shall consist of not less than 15  
14 and not more than 19 individuals from the State and shall  
15 include, to the extent practicable, representatives from the  
16 following sectors:

17 (1) Business.

18 (2) Faith-based organizations.

19 (3) Civic organizations.

20 (4) Philanthropic leaders.

21 (5) Nonprofit organizations, including those  
22 with experience working with immigrant commu-  
23 nities.

24 (6) Representatives from key education stake-  
25 holders, such as State educational agencies, local

1 educational agencies, community colleges, teachers,  
2 or organizations representing teachers and other em-  
3 ployees.

4 (7) Representatives of State adult education of-  
5 fices.

6 (8) Representatives of State or local public li-  
7 braries.

8 (9) Representatives of statewide or local govern-  
9 ment officials.

10 (c) WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT.—

11 (1) AUTHORITY TO GRANT.—The Chief of the  
12 Office of Citizenship and Immigrant Integration  
13 may award a grant under subsection (a) to a State  
14 without requiring the State to form a State New  
15 American Council if the Chief determines that the  
16 State is carrying out similar statewide initiatives to  
17 introduce immigrants into the State and into the  
18 United States.

19 (2) GUIDELINES.—The Chief shall establish  
20 guidelines for awarding grants to States described in  
21 paragraph (1).

22 (d) GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—The Chief  
23 of the Office of Citizenship and Immigrant Integration  
24 may provide a grant under subsection (a) to a local gov-  
25 ernment at the discretion of the Chief.

1 (e) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant  
2 under this section, an applicant shall submit an applica-  
3 tion to the Chief of the Office of Citizenship and Immi-  
4 grant Integration at such time, in such manner, and con-  
5 taining such information as the Chief may reasonably re-  
6 quire. Such application shall include—

7 (1) if the applicant is a State seeking to form  
8 a State New American Council, an assurance that  
9 such State New American Council will meet the re-  
10 quirements of subsection (b);

11 (2) the number of immigrants in the State in  
12 which the applicant is located;

13 (3) a description of the challenges in intro-  
14 ducing new Americans in the State and local com-  
15 munity; and

16 (4) any other information that the Chief may  
17 reasonably require.

18 (f) DURATION.—A grant awarded under subsection  
19 (a) shall be for a period of 5 years.

20 (g) PRIORITY.—Priority shall be given to grant appli-  
21 cations that—

22 (1) use matching funds, from non-Federal  
23 sources, which may include in-kind contributions;  
24 and

1           (2) demonstrate collaboration with private enti-  
2           ties to achieve the goals of their comprehensive plan.

3           (h) **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION.**—Additional con-  
4           sideration shall be given to grant applications submitted  
5           by States with a large increase in the population of immi-  
6           grants over the previous 10 years relative to past migra-  
7           tion patterns, based on data compiled by the Office of Im-  
8           migration Statistics of the Department of Homeland Secu-  
9           rity.

10          (i) **GRANT AMOUNT.**—The amount of a grant award-  
11          ed under subsection (a) shall be not less than \$500,000  
12          and not more than \$5,000,000 for each fiscal year.

13          (j) **RESERVATIONS.**—

14                 (1) **NATIONAL.**—The Chief of the Office of Citi-  
15                 zenship and Immigrant Integration shall reserve not  
16                 more than 1 percent of the amount appropriated to  
17                 carry out this section for such Office, including the  
18                 evaluation of funds distributed.

19                 (2) **STATES.**—A State awarded a grant under  
20                 subsection (a) may reserve not more than 10 percent  
21                 of such grant amount for the creation and operation  
22                 of the State New American Council.

23 **SEC. 303. AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.**

24           (a) **MANDATORY ACTIVITIES.**—A grant awarded  
25           under section 302(a) shall be used—

1           (1) to develop, implement, expand, or enhance  
2           a comprehensive plan to introduce new immigrants  
3           into the State, including the increase in English lit-  
4           eracy, U.S. history, and civics education;

5           (2) to provide subgrants to local communities  
6           as described in subsection (c);

7           (3) if the grant is awarded to a State to form  
8           a State New American Council, to convene meetings  
9           of the State New American Council not less fre-  
10          quently than once each quarter;

11          (4) to disseminate best practices and other in-  
12          formation compiled by the Office of Citizenship and  
13          Immigrant Integration that pertains to effective pro-  
14          grams for English acquisition and civics education;  
15          and

16          (5) to convene public hearings not less fre-  
17          quently than once each year to report on the activi-  
18          ties carried out by such grant.

19          (b) PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—A grant awarded  
20          under section 302(a) may be used—

21               (1) to solicit and disseminate solutions and  
22               remedies to the challenges of introducing new Amer-  
23               icans in the State or municipality in which the grant  
24               is awarded;

1           (2) to provide technical assistance, training, or  
2           coordination for State or local agencies to improve  
3           programs to introduce new Americans into the  
4           United States, such as English literacy, U.S. his-  
5           tory, and civics education;

6           (3) to review and develop strategies to expand  
7           distance learning as a method of instruction for  
8           English literacy, U.S. history, and civics education  
9           and available technological programs that may sup-  
10          plement or supplant quality classroom instruction;

11          (4) to coordinate with entities of other States  
12          engaged in activities under this title or other activi-  
13          ties to introduce new Americans into the State or  
14          community; and

15          (5) to develop materials focused on preparation  
16          for the naturalization test, engage in outreach and  
17          educational activities on the naturalization process,  
18          and provide assistance to immigrants with the natu-  
19          ralization application, where appropriate.

20          (c) SUBGRANTS TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES.—

21           (1) REQUIREMENT TO AWARD.—A grant under  
22           section 302(a) shall be used to award subgrants to  
23           entities of local governments to assist communities  
24           with local efforts to introduce new Americans into  
25           the community.

1           (2) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Subgrants shall  
2           be awarded under paragraph (1) to entities of local  
3           governments for use to carry out activities in accord-  
4           ance with—

5                   (A) a comprehensive plan described in sub-  
6                   section (a)(1); and

7                   (B) any guidance provided by the Chief of  
8                   the Office of Citizenship and Immigrant Inte-  
9                   gration.

10           (3) SUBGRANT AMOUNT.—The amount of a  
11           subgrant awarded under this subsection shall be not  
12           less than \$100,000 and not more than \$600,000 for  
13           a fiscal year.

14 **SEC. 304. REPORTING AND EVALUATION.**

15           (a) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

16                   (1) IN GENERAL.—Each entity awarded a grant  
17                   under section 302(a) shall submit a report annually  
18                   to the Office of Citizenship and Immigrant Integra-  
19                   tion that—

20                           (A) describes the activities of the State  
21                           New American Council and subgrant recipients  
22                           and how these activities meet the goals of—

23                                   (i) the Chief of the Office of Citizen-  
24                                   ship and Immigrant Integration; and

1 (ii) the comprehensive plan described  
2 in section 303(a)(1); and

3 (B) describes the geographic areas being  
4 served, the number of immigrants in such  
5 areas, and the primary languages spoken there.

6 (2) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—The Chief of the  
7 Office of Citizenship and Immigrant Integration  
8 may set out other requirements as the Chief sees fit  
9 in order to—

10 (A) impose accountability; and

11 (B) measure the outcomes of the activities  
12 carried out with grants awarded under section  
13 302(a).

14 (b) ANNUAL EVALUATION.—The Chief of the Office  
15 of Citizenship and Immigrant Integration shall conduct an  
16 annual evaluation of the grant program established under  
17 this title and use such evaluation—

18 (1) to improve the effectiveness of programs  
19 carried out by the Chief;

20 (2) to assess future needs of immigrants and of  
21 State and local governments related to immigrants;

22 (3) to determine the effectiveness of such grant  
23 program; and

24 (4) to ensure that the grantees and subgrantees  
25 are acting within the scope and purpose of this title.



1 **SEC. 305. NEW CITIZENS AWARD PROGRAM.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a new  
3 citizens award program to recognize citizens who—

4 (1) have made an outstanding contribution to  
5 the United States; and

6 (2) are naturalized during the 10-year period  
7 ending on the date of such recognition.

8 (b) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized  
10 to present a medal, in recognition of outstanding  
11 contributions to the United States, to citizens de-  
12 scribed in subsection (a).

13 (2) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF AWARDS.—Not more  
14 than 10 citizens may receive a medal under this sec-  
15 tion in any calendar year.

16 **SEC. 306. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

17 Nothing in this title shall be construed to limit the  
18 authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting  
19 through the Director of United States Citizenship and Im-  
20 migration Services or such other officials of the Depart-  
21 ment of Homeland Security as the Secretary of Homeland  
22 Security may direct, to manage, direct, and control the  
23 activities of the Chief of the Office of Citizenship and Im-  
24 migrant Integration.

1 **SEC. 307. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2       There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
3 this title \$100,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2012  
4 through 2017.

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