

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1918

To provide grants to promote financial literacy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 13, 2011

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To provide grants to promote financial literacy.

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 “Financial and Eco-
5 nomic Literacy Improvement Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINANCIAL LITERACY EDUCATION GRANTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part D of title V of the Elemen-
8 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
9 7241 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 5537
10 the following:

1 **“Subpart 13A—Financial Literacy Education**

2 **“SEC. 5538. FINANCIAL LITERACY EDUCATION GRANTS.**

3 “(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary shall award
4 grants to eligible entities to enable such entities—

5 “(1) to award subgrants to local entities to pro-
6 vide financial literacy education; and

7 “(2) to carry out activities designed to promote
8 financial literacy education.

9 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—In this section, the term
10 ‘eligible entity’ means—

11 “(1) a State educational agency; or

12 “(2) a State partnership consisting of—

13 “(A) a State educational agency; and

14 “(B) a nonprofit organization with experi-
15 ence and a proven quality track record in finan-
16 cial literacy or personal finance education pro-
17 grams.

18 “(c) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that desires to
19 receive a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
20 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
21 accompanied by such information as the Secretary may
22 require.

23 “(d) FORMULA.—From the total amount appro-
24 priated under subsection (g) for a fiscal year, the Sec-
25 retary shall allot to each State for such fiscal year an
26 amount that bears the same relation to such total amount

1 as the amount such State received under part A of title
2 I for such fiscal year bears to the total amount received
3 by all States under part A of title I for such fiscal year.

4 “(e) USE OF FUNDS.—

5 “(1) SUBGRANTS TO ELIGIBLE LOCAL ENTI-
6 TIES.—

7 “(A) ELIGIBLE LOCAL ENTITY.—In this
8 section, the term ‘eligible local entity’ means—

9 “(i) a local educational agency; or

10 “(ii) a local partnership consisting
11 of—

12 “(I) a local educational agency;

13 and

14 “(II) not less than one of the fol-
15 lowing:

16 “(aa) A nonprofit organiza-
17 tion with experience and a proven
18 track record in quality financial
19 literacy or personal finance edu-
20 cation programs.

21 “(bb) An educational service
22 agency.

23 “(cc) A recipient of an Ex-
24 cellence in Economic Education
25 grant under subpart 13.

1 “(dd) An institution of high-
2 er education.

3 “(ee) A community organi-
4 zation.

5 “(ff) A representative of
6 local business.

7 “(B) AUTHORIZATION OF SUBGRANTS.—
8 An eligible entity that receives a grant under
9 this section shall use 75 percent of such grant
10 funds to award subgrants to eligible local enti-
11 ties.

12 “(C) APPLICATIONS.—

13 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible local
14 entity that desires to receive a subgrant
15 under this paragraph shall submit an ap-
16 plication to the eligible entity at such time,
17 in such manner, and accompanied by such
18 information as the eligible entity may re-
19 quire.

20 “(ii) REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS.—The
21 eligible entity shall review applications sub-
22 mitted under clause (i) in the same man-
23 ner as applications are reviewed under sec-
24 tion 5534(b).

1 “(D) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible local
2 entity that receives a subgrant under this para-
3 graph—

4 “(i) shall use the subgrant funds to—

5 “(I) implement teacher training
6 programs to embed financial literacy
7 and personal finance education into
8 core academic subjects;

9 “(II) administer financial literacy
10 assessments on not less than an an-
11 nual basis in, at a minimum, the
12 grade levels selected by the State pur-
13 suant to paragraph (2)(A); and

14 “(III) implement financial lit-
15 eracy activities and sequences of study
16 within core academic subjects; and

17 “(ii) may use the subgrant funds to
18 implement school-based activities, including
19 after school activities, to enhance student
20 understanding and experiential learning
21 with consumer, economic, and personal fi-
22 nance concepts.

23 “(E) REPORT.—An eligible local entity
24 that receives a subgrant under this paragraph
25 shall include in the annual report card under

1 section 1111(h)(2) the same information on
2 student achievement on the financial literacy
3 assessments, administered pursuant to subpara-
4 graph (D), as required, pursuant to section
5 1111(h)(2), of the other State academic assess-
6 ments described in section 1111(b)(3).

7 “(2) STATE ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity
8 that receives a grant under this section shall use 25
9 percent of such grant funds to carry out the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(A) The development of financial literacy
12 standards in not less than 3 grade levels, in-
13 cluding not less than 1 grade level in elemen-
14 tary school, not less than 1 grade level in mid-
15 dle school, and not less than 1 grade level in
16 high school.

17 “(B) The development of appropriate fi-
18 nancial literacy assessments in the grade levels
19 determined under subparagraph (A) that are
20 valid, reliable, and comparable across the State.

21 “(C) Teacher professional development
22 programs to embed financial literacy or per-
23 sonal finance education into core academic sub-
24 jects.

1 “(D) An evaluation of the impact of finan-
2 cial literacy or personal finance education on
3 students’ understanding of financial literacy
4 concepts.

5 “(f) MATCHING FUNDS.—An eligible entity that re-
6 ceives a grant under this section shall provide, from non-
7 Federal sources, an amount equal to 25 percent of the
8 amount of the grant award to carry out activities required
9 under this section.

10 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
11 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
12 \$125,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through
13 2017.”.

14 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in
15 section 2 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
16 of 1965 is amended by inserting after the item relating
17 to section 5537 the following:

“Subpart 13A—Financial Literacy Education

“Sec. 5538. Financial literacy education grants.”.

18 **SEC. 3. GRANTS TO PROMOTE POSTSECONDARY FINANCIAL**
19 **LITERACY.**

20 Part A of title III of the Higher Education Act of
21 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1057 et seq.) is amended by adding at
22 the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 320A. GRANTS TO PROMOTE POSTSECONDARY FINAN-**
2 **CIAL LITERACY.**

3 “(a) **AUTHORIZATION OF GRANT AWARDS.**—The Sec-
4 retary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligi-
5 ble entities to enable such entities to provide financial lit-
6 eracy courses or course components to students.

7 “(b) **DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—In this sec-
8 tion, the term ‘eligible entity’ means—

9 “(1) an institution of higher education; or

10 “(2) a partnership consisting of—

11 “(A) an institution of higher education;

12 and

13 “(B) a nonprofit organization with experi-
14 ence and a proven track record in quality finan-
15 cial literacy or personal finance education pro-
16 grams.

17 “(c) **APPLICATION.**—An eligible entity that desires to
18 receive a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
19 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
20 accompanied by such information as the Secretary may
21 require.

22 “(d) **MINIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.**—The Secretary
23 shall award grants under this section in amounts of not
24 less than \$500,000.

25 “(e) **USE OF FUNDS.**—An eligible entity that receives
26 a grant under this section shall use the grant funds to

1 develop and implement financial literacy education, activi-
2 ties, student organizations, or counseling that increase
3 student knowledge in consumer, economic, and personal
4 financial concepts.

5 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
6 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
7 \$125,000,000.”.

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