

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1086

To reauthorize the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004, to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 26, 2011

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

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## A BILL

To reauthorize the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004, to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, 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       “Eunice Kennedy Shriver Act”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

## TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS ACT

Sec. 101. Reauthorization.

## TITLE II—BEST BUDDIES

Sec. 201. Findings and purpose.

Sec. 202. Assistance for Best Buddies.

Sec. 203. Application and annual report.

Sec. 204. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE III—ESTABLISHMENT OF EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER  
INSTITUTES FOR SPORT AND SOCIAL IMPACT

Sec. 301. Findings and purpose.

Sec. 302. Establishment of Institutes.

Sec. 303. Activities of Institutes.

Sec. 304. Authorization of appropriations.

1 **TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION OF**  
2 **SPECIAL OLYMPICS ACT**

3 **SEC. 101. REAUTHORIZATION.**

4 Sections 2 through 5 of the Special Olympics Sport  
5 and Empowerment Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15001 note)  
6 are amended to read as follows:

7 **“SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

8 “(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

9 “(1) Special Olympics celebrates the possibili-  
10 ties of a world where everybody matters, everybody  
11 counts, and every person contributes.

12 “(2) The Government and the people of the  
13 United States recognize the dignity and value the  
14 giftedness of children and adults with intellectual  
15 disabilities.

16 “(3) The Government and the people of the  
17 United States recognize that children and adults

1 with intellectual disabilities experience significant  
2 health disparities, including lack of access to pri-  
3 mary care services and difficulties in accessing com-  
4 munity-based prevention and treatment programs  
5 for chronic diseases.

6 “(4) The Government and the people of the  
7 United States are determined to end the isolation  
8 and stigmatization of people with intellectual disabil-  
9 ities, and to ensure that such people are assured of  
10 equal opportunities for community participation, ac-  
11 cess to appropriate health care, and inclusive edu-  
12 cation, and to experience life in a nondiscriminatory  
13 manner.

14 “(5) For more than 40 years, Special Olympics  
15 has encouraged skill development, sharing, courage,  
16 and confidence through year-round sports training  
17 and athletic competition for children and adults with  
18 intellectual disabilities.

19 “(6) Special Olympics provides year-round  
20 sports training and competitive opportunities to  
21 more than 3,700,000 athletes with intellectual dis-  
22 abilities in 30 individual and team sports and plans  
23 to expand the benefits of participation through sport  
24 to hundreds of thousands of people with intellectual

1 disabilities within the United States and worldwide  
2 over the next 5 years.

3 “(7) Research shows that participation in ac-  
4 tivities involving both people with intellectual disabil-  
5 ities and people without disabilities results in more  
6 positive support for inclusion in society, including in  
7 schools.

8 “(8) Special Olympics has demonstrated its  
9 ability to provide a major positive effect on the qual-  
10 ity of life of people with intellectual disabilities, im-  
11 proving their health and physical well-being, building  
12 their confidence and self-esteem, and giving them a  
13 voice to become active and productive members of  
14 their communities.

15 “(9) In society as a whole, Special Olympics  
16 has become a vehicle and platform for reducing prej-  
17 udice, improving public health, promoting inclusion  
18 efforts in schools and communities, and encouraging  
19 society to value the contributions of all members.

20 “(10) The Government of the United States en-  
21 thusiastically supports the Special Olympics move-  
22 ment, recognizes its importance in improving the  
23 lives of people with intellectual disabilities and their  
24 families, and recognizes Special Olympics as a val-

1       ued and important component of the global commu-  
2       nity.

3       “(b) PURPOSE.—The purposes of this Act are to—

4               “(1) provide support to Special Olympics to in-  
5       crease athlete participation in, and public awareness  
6       about, the Special Olympics movement, including ef-  
7       forts to promote broader community inclusion;

8               “(2) dispel negative stereotypes about people  
9       with intellectual disabilities;

10              “(3) build community engagement through  
11       sport involvement; and

12              “(4) promote the extraordinary gifts and con-  
13       tributions of people with intellectual disabilities.

14       **“SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS.**

15       “(a) EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of  
16       Education may award grants to, or enter into contracts  
17       or cooperative agreements with, Special Olympics to carry  
18       out each of the following:

19              “(1) Activities to promote the expansion of Spe-  
20       cial Olympics, including activities to increase the full  
21       participation of people with intellectual disabilities in  
22       athletics, sports and recreation, and other inclusive  
23       school and community activities with people without  
24       disabilities.

1           “(2) The design and implementation of Special  
2           Olympics education programs, including character  
3           education and volunteer programs that support the  
4           purposes of this Act, that can be integrated into  
5           classroom instruction and are consistent with aca-  
6           demic content standards.

7           “(b) INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of  
8           State, acting through the Assistant Secretary of State for  
9           Educational and Cultural Affairs, may award grants to,  
10          or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements with,  
11          Special Olympics to carry out each of the following:

12           “(1) Activities to increase the participation of  
13           people with intellectual disabilities in Special Olym-  
14           pics outside of the United States.

15           “(2) Activities to improve the awareness outside  
16           of the United States of the abilities and unique con-  
17           tributions that people with intellectual disabilities  
18           can make to society.

19           “(c) HEALTHY ATHLETES.—

20           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health  
21           and Human Services may award grants to, or enter  
22           into contracts or cooperative agreements with, Spe-  
23           cial Olympics for the implementation of on-site  
24           health assessments, screening for health problems,  
25           health education, community-based prevention, data

1 collection, and referrals to direct health care serv-  
2 ices.

3 “(2) COORDINATION.—Activities under para-  
4 graph (1) shall be coordinated with appropriate  
5 health care entities, including private health care  
6 providers, entities carrying out local, State, Federal,  
7 or international programs, and the Department of  
8 Health and Human Services, as applicable.

9 “(d) LIMITATION.—Amounts appropriated to carry  
10 out this section shall not be used for direct treatment of  
11 diseases, medical conditions, or mental health conditions.  
12 Nothing in the preceding sentence shall be construed to  
13 limit the use of non-Federal funds by Special Olympics.

14 **“SEC. 4. APPLICATION AND ANNUAL REPORT.**

15 “(a) APPLICATION.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for a grant,  
17 contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection  
18 (a), (b), or (c) of section 3, Special Olympics shall  
19 submit an application at such time, in such manner,  
20 and containing such information as the Secretary of  
21 Education, Secretary of State, or Secretary of  
22 Health and Human Services, as applicable, may re-  
23 quire.

1           “(2) CONTENT.—At a minimum, an application  
2           under this subsection shall contain each of the fol-  
3           lowing:

4                   “(A) ACTIVITIES.—A description of activi-  
5                   ties to be carried out with the grant, contract,  
6                   or cooperative agreement.

7                   “(B) MEASURABLE GOALS.—A description  
8                   of specific measurable annual benchmarks and  
9                   long-term goals and objectives to be achieved  
10                  through specified activities carried out with the  
11                  grant, contract, or cooperative agreement,  
12                  which specified activities shall include, at a  
13                  minimum, each of the following activities:

14                          “(i) Activities to increase the full par-  
15                          ticipation of people with intellectual dis-  
16                          abilities in athletics, sports and recreation,  
17                          and other inclusive school and community  
18                          activities with people without disabilities.

19                          “(ii) Education programs that dispel  
20                          negative stereotypes about people with in-  
21                          tellectual disabilities.

22                          “(iii) Activities to increase the partici-  
23                          pation of people with intellectual disabili-  
24                          ties in Special Olympics outside of the  
25                          United States.



1                   “(iv) Health-related activities as de-  
2                   scribed in section 3(c).

3           “(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—

4                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on receipt of  
5                   any funds for a program under subsection (a), (b),  
6                   or (c) of section 3, Special Olympics shall agree to  
7                   submit an annual report at such time, in such man-  
8                   ner, and containing such information as the Sec-  
9                   retary of Education, Secretary of State, or Secretary  
10                  of Health and Human Services, as applicable, may  
11                  require.

12                  “(2) CONTENT.—At a minimum, each annual  
13                  report under this subsection shall describe—

14                         “(A) the degree to which progress has been  
15                         made toward meeting the annual benchmarks  
16                         and long-term goals and objectives described in  
17                         the applications submitted under subsection (a);  
18                         and

19                         “(B) demographic data about Special  
20                         Olympics participants, including the number of  
21                         people with intellectual disabilities served in  
22                         each program referred to in paragraph (1).

23   **“SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

24           “‘There are authorized to be appropriated—

1           “(1) for grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-  
2           ments under section 3(a), \$9,500,000 for fiscal year  
3           2012, and such sums as may be necessary for each  
4           of the 4 succeeding fiscal years;

5           “(2) for grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-  
6           ments under section 3(b), \$4,500,000 for fiscal year  
7           2012, and such sums as may be necessary for each  
8           of the 4 succeeding fiscal years; and

9           “(3) for grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-  
10          ments under section 3(c), \$8,500,000 for fiscal year  
11          2012, and such sums as may be necessary for each  
12          of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.”.

## 13           **TITLE II—BEST BUDDIES**

### 14   **SEC. 201. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

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

16           (1) Best Buddies operates the first national so-  
17           cial and recreational program in the United States  
18           for people with intellectual disabilities.

19           (2) Best Buddies is dedicated to helping people  
20           with intellectual disabilities become part of main-  
21           stream society.

22           (3) Best Buddies is determined to end social  
23           isolation for people with intellectual disabilities by  
24           promoting meaningful friendships between them and  
25           their peers without disabilities in order to help in-

1       crease the self-esteem, confidence, and abilities of  
2       people with and without intellectual disabilities.

3               (4) Since 1989, Best Buddies has enhanced the  
4       lives of people with intellectual disabilities by pro-  
5       viding opportunities for 1-to-1 friendships and inte-  
6       grated employment.

7               (5) Best Buddies is an international organiza-  
8       tion spanning 1,300 middle school, high school, and  
9       college campuses.

10              (6) Best Buddies implements programs that  
11       will positively impact more than 700,000 individuals  
12       in 2011.

13              (7) The Best Buddies Middle Schools program  
14       matches middle school students with intellectual dis-  
15       abilities with other middle school students and sup-  
16       ports 1-to-1 friendships between them.

17              (8) The Best Buddies High Schools program  
18       matches high school students with intellectual dis-  
19       abilities with other high school students and sup-  
20       ports 1-to-1 friendships between them.

21              (9) The Best Buddies Colleges program  
22       matches adults with intellectual disabilities with col-  
23       lege students and creates 1-to-1 friendships between  
24       them.

1           (10) The Best Buddies e-Buddies program sup-  
2           ports e-mail friendships between people with and  
3           without intellectual disabilities.

4           (11) The Best Buddies Citizens program pairs  
5           adults with intellectual disabilities in 1-to-1 friend-  
6           ships with other people in the corporate and civic  
7           communities.

8           (12) The Best Buddies Jobs program promotes  
9           the integration of people with intellectual disabilities  
10          into the community through supported employment.

11         (b) PURPOSE.—The purposes of this title are to—

12           (1) provide support to Best Buddies to increase  
13           participation in and public awareness about Best  
14           Buddies programs that serve people with intellectual  
15           disabilities;

16           (2) dispel negative stereotypes about people  
17           with intellectual disabilities; and

18           (3) promote the extraordinary contributions of  
19           people with intellectual disabilities.

20         **SEC. 202. ASSISTANCE FOR BEST BUDDIES.**

21         (a) EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of Edu-  
22         cation may award grants to, or enter into contracts or co-  
23         operative agreements with, Best Buddies to carry out ac-  
24         tivities to promote the expansion of Best Buddies, includ-  
25         ing activities to increase the participation of people with

1 intellectual disabilities in social relationships and other as-  
2 pects of community life, including education and employ-  
3 ment, within the United States.

4 (b) LIMITATIONS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts appropriated to  
6 carry out this title may not be used for direct treat-  
7 ment of diseases, medical conditions, or mental  
8 health conditions.

9 (2) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES.—Not more  
10 than 5 percent of amounts appropriated to carry out  
11 this title for a fiscal year may be used for adminis-  
12 trative activities.

13 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this title  
14 shall be construed to limit the use of non-Federal funds  
15 by Best Buddies.

16 **SEC. 203. APPLICATION AND ANNUAL REPORT.**

17 (a) APPLICATION.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for a grant,  
19 contract, or cooperative agreement under section  
20 202(a), Best Buddies shall submit an application at  
21 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-  
22 formation as the Secretary of Education may re-  
23 quire.

24 (2) CONTENT.—At a minimum, an application  
25 under this subsection shall contain the following:

1 (A) A description of activities to be carried  
2 out under the grant, contract, or cooperative  
3 agreement.

4 (B) Information on specific measurable  
5 goals and objectives to be achieved through ac-  
6 tivities carried out under the grant, contract, or  
7 cooperative agreement.

8 (b) ANNUAL REPORT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receipt of  
10 any funds under section 202(a), Best Buddies shall  
11 agree to submit an annual report at such time, in  
12 such manner, and containing such information as  
13 the Secretary of Education may require.

14 (2) CONTENT.—At a minimum, each annual re-  
15 port under this subsection shall describe the degree  
16 to which progress has been made toward meeting the  
17 specific measurable goals and objectives described in  
18 the applications submitted under subsection (a).

19 **SEC. 204. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

20 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-  
21 retary of Education for grants, contracts, or cooperative  
22 agreements under section 202(a), \$10,000,000 for fiscal  
23 year 2012 and such sums as may be necessary for each  
24 of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.

1 **TITLE III—ESTABLISHMENT OF**  
2 **EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER**  
3 **INSTITUTES FOR SPORT AND**  
4 **SOCIAL IMPACT**

5 **SEC. 301. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

7 (1) For more than 50 years, Eunice Kennedy  
8 Shriver dedicated her life, energies, and resources  
9 without bounds to improving the lives of people with  
10 intellectual and developmental disabilities around the  
11 world. She stands as the iconic founder and leader  
12 of one of the most important disability rights move-  
13 ments in history.

14 (2) Eunice Kennedy Shriver founded and influ-  
15 enced the development of Special Olympics and Best  
16 Buddies, both of which celebrate the possibilities of  
17 a world where everybody matters, everybody counts,  
18 every person has value, and every person has worth.

19 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this title to im-  
20 prove and advance opportunities for people with intellec-  
21 tual disabilities to fully participate and engage in inclusive  
22 sports and recreation, social activities, and other commu-  
23 nity opportunities, through—

24 (1) conducting research, data collection, and  
25 evaluation activities;

- 1           (2) providing technical assistance and training;
- 2           (3) fostering and promoting interdisciplinary
- 3           collaboration, cooperation, and partnerships; and
- 4           (4) commemorating the work and contributions
- 5           of Eunice Kennedy Shriver and encouraging others
- 6           to emulate her leadership, including her efforts to
- 7           encourage and promote greater social and commu-
- 8           nity opportunities for people with intellectual disabil-
- 9           ities and their families.

10 **SEC. 302. ESTABLISHMENT OF INSTITUTES.**

11           (a) **IN GENERAL.**—From the amount made available

12 under section 304 that is not reserved under subsection

13 (g), the Secretary of Education shall award competitive

14 grants to one or more eligible entities for the purpose of

15 establishing Eunice Kennedy Shriver Institutes for Sport

16 and Social Impact (referred to in this title as “Insti-

17 tutes”).

18           (b) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—In this title, the term “eligi-

19 ble entity” means an institution of higher education (as

20 defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of

21 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))) with demonstrated expertise

22 and experience in research, technical assistance, and train-

23 ing related to improving and advancing opportunities for

24 people with intellectual disabilities to fully participate and

25 engage in inclusive community opportunities, in partner-



1 ship with a nonprofit organization with demonstrated ex-  
2 pertise and experience in inclusive sports, recreation, so-  
3 cial, educational, and community opportunities for people  
4 with intellectual disabilities.

5 (c) GRANT PERIOD.—Each grant awarded under this  
6 title shall be for a 3-year period.

7 (d) GRANT RECIPIENT CONTRIBUTION.—An eligible  
8 entity receiving a grant under this title shall provide a con-  
9 tribution (which may include an in-kind contribution), in  
10 an amount not less than 25 percent of the costs of the  
11 activities assisted under the grant, to carry out such ac-  
12 tivities.

13 (e) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made  
14 available under this title shall be used to supplement, and  
15 not supplant, other Federal, State, and local funds ex-  
16 pended to carry out the purpose of this title.

17 (f) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that desires to  
18 receive a grant under this title shall submit an application  
19 to the Secretary of Education at such time, in such man-  
20 ner, and containing such information and assurances as  
21 the Secretary may require. Such application shall, at a  
22 minimum, include—

23 (1) a description of activities to be carried out  
24 consistent with section 303; and

1           (2) proposed annual measurable benchmarks  
2           and long-term goals and objectives to be achieved  
3           through such activities.

4           (g) RESERVATION OF FUNDS FOR NATIONAL ACTIVI-  
5 TIES.—From the amount appropriated under section 304,  
6 the Secretary of Education shall reserve not more than  
7 10 percent to enter into a cooperative agreement, on a  
8 competitive basis, with an eligible entity for the purpose  
9 of implementing national coordination activities, including  
10 development of mechanisms for communication between  
11 grant recipients, dissemination of information resulting  
12 from activities under the grants, and technical assistance  
13 to grant recipients.

14 **SEC. 303. ACTIVITIES OF INSTITUTES.**

15           (a) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity that receives  
16 a grant under this title shall use the grant to advance the  
17 quality of life and inclusion of people with intellectual dis-  
18 abilities through research and evaluation, technical assist-  
19 ance, training, data collection, evaluation, collaboration,  
20 and dissemination of evidence-based best practices.

21           (b) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—

22           (1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity receiving  
23 a grant under this title shall use grant funds to—

24                   (A) establish a research agenda and an-  
25                   nual measurable benchmarks and long-term

1 goals, and conduct research and evaluation of  
2 evidence-based best practices, to improve the  
3 quality of life and further the social inclusion of  
4 people with intellectual disabilities, in coopera-  
5 tion and consultation with—

6 (i) people with intellectual disabilities;

7 (ii) family members of people with in-  
8 tellectual disabilities;

9 (iii) University Centers for Excellence  
10 in Developmental Disabilities Education,  
11 Research, and Service (as designated in  
12 section 151 of the Developmental Disabil-  
13 ities Act (42 U.S.C. 15061)); and

14 (iv) other relevant Federal, State, and  
15 local entities conducting research related to  
16 people with intellectual disabilities;

17 (B) provide training and technical assist-  
18 ance to people with intellectual disabilities, fam-  
19 ilies of people with intellectual disabilities, non-  
20 profit organizations, public entities, educational  
21 programs, recreation programs, and others to  
22 increase opportunities for inclusive participation  
23 by such people in sports and recreation, social  
24 opportunities, education, and the community,  
25 including provision of assistance to programs

1 and entities serving primarily people without  
2 disabilities in order to successfully include peo-  
3 ple with intellectual disabilities in activities with  
4 people without disabilities;

5 (C) collect and analyze data related to bar-  
6 riers to, and factors assuring, access to full in-  
7 clusion and participation in community and  
8 quality of life for people with intellectual dis-  
9 abilities, including demographic data; and

10 (D) report on the research, findings, con-  
11 clusions, and recommendations resulting from  
12 the activities of the grant.

13 (2) RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.—Research,  
14 evaluation, and data collection described in para-  
15 graph (1)(A) shall include—

16 (A) best practices in preventive health and  
17 wellness for people with intellectual disabilities,  
18 including sports and recreational activities;

19 (B) identification of barriers to, and fac-  
20 tors assuring, access to full inclusion and par-  
21 ticipation in community and quality of life for  
22 people with intellectual disabilities;

23 (C) best practices in supporting independ-  
24 ence, community living, and inclusive social en-

1           gagement for people with intellectual disabil-  
2           ities;

3           (D) physical and mental health disparities  
4           for people with intellectual disabilities; and

5           (E) other relevant activities related to the  
6           purpose of this title, as described by the eligible  
7           entity in the application submitted under sec-  
8           tion 302(f).

9           (c) REPORT.—Each recipient of a grant under this  
10          title shall prepare and submit to the Secretary of Edu-  
11          cation an annual report that includes information on  
12          progress made in achieving the projected goals and out-  
13          comes of the activities of the Institute for the previous  
14          year, including demographic information on the popu-  
15          lations served and measurable accomplishments in advanc-  
16          ing the quality of life and inclusion of people with intellec-  
17          tual disabilities in the community.

18          **SEC. 304. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19          There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
20          this title such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years  
21          2012 through 2016.

○