117TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. R. 7098

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to expand the Magnet Schools Assistance Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 16, 2022

Mr. Courtney (for himself, Mrs. Hayes, and Mr. Bishop of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to expand the Magnet Schools Assistance Program.

- 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 "Magnet schools Acces-
- 5 sibility, Growth, and Nonexclusionary Enrollment Trans-
- 6 formation Act of 2022" or the "MAGNET Act of 2022".
- 7 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
- 8 Congress finds the following:

1	(1) Studies have found that the academic bene-
2	fits of attending integrated schools for students of
3	color include—
4	(A) higher achievement in mathematics,
5	science, language, and reading;
6	(B) school climates supportive of learning
7	and studying;
8	(C) increased likelihood of graduating from
9	high school and entering and graduating from
10	college;
11	(D) higher income and educational attain-
12	ment; and
13	(E) increased access to highly qualified
14	teachers and leaders who are less likely to
15	transfer to other schools.
16	(2) The benefits of integrated schools extend to
17	all students regardless of race or socioeconomic
18	background. On average, students in
19	socioeconomically and racially diverse schools have
20	stronger academic outcomes than students in schools
21	with concentrated poverty. Students in diverse
22	schools have higher test scores, are more likely to
23	enroll in college, and are less likely to drop out. Inte-
24	grated schools help reduce racial bias and counter

stereotypes, as well as foster friendships across di-

- verse groups, improve students' satisfaction and selfconfidence, and enhance leadership skills.
 - (3) Students of color attending schools that are highly segregated by race and poverty are deprived of the benefits of integrated education. These schools are characterized by resource inequities that translate into large proportions of inexperienced and underprepared educators and a lack of rigorous coursework, which have negative consequences for students' academic outcomes as measured by performance on standardized achievement tests and high school graduation rates.
 - (4) A 2019 study of every school district in the United States found that higher racial segregation contributes to a greater magnitude of achievement gaps in 3rd grade, and increases the rate at which gaps grow from 3rd to 8th grade, for students of color.
 - (5) A 2016 Government Accountability Office analysis found that a growing percentage of public elementary schools and secondary schools in the Nation are hypersegregated, with 90 percent or more Black and Latino student populations and students from low-income families.

- 1 (6) A study reviewing 8 years of data from all
 2 United States school districts found that racial seg3 regation appears to undermine achievement, in part,
 4 because it concentrates minority students in high5 poverty schools, which are, on average, less effective
 6 than lower-poverty schools and tend to be under7 resourced.
 - (7) Research shows that students' exposure to other students from different backgrounds and the new ideas and opportunities that such exposure brings leads to improved critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Other benefits of attending diverse schools include increased civic participation in a diverse global economy and increased likelihood of living in integrated neighborhoods and holding jobs in integrated workplaces as adults.
 - (8) Magnet schools have been effective in promoting school diversity, especially when district demographics along with magnet school design, structure, and focus (particularly the centering of school integration in the school mission and the design for family outreach) are a priority.

23 SEC. 3. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to amend the Magnet Schools Assistance Program under part D of title IV of

1	the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 $$
2	U.S.C. 7231 et seq.)—
3	(1) to create a supplemental diversity grant for
4	aspiring magnet school programs to adopt effective
5	practices designed to further desegregation aims and
6	promote diversity; and
7	(2) to supplement voluntary State efforts to
8	promote inter-district diversity.
9	SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO MAGNET SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE
10	PROGRAM.
11	Part D of title IV of the Elementary and Secondary
12	Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7231 et seq.) is amend-
13	ed—
14	(1) in section 4404, in the matter preceding
15	paragraph (1), by inserting "(except as provided
16	under section 4408A)" after "under this part";
17	(2) in section 4405, in subsection (a), by insert-
18	ing "(except as provided under section 4408A)"
19	after "under this part";
20	(3) in section 4406—
21	(A) in the matter preceding paragraph
22	(1)—
23	(i) by striking "In awarding" and in-
24	serting the following:
25	"(a) In General.—In awarding"; and

1	(ii) by inserting "(except as provided
2	under section 4408A)" after "under this
3	part'';
4	(B) by striking (3);
5	(C) by redesignating paragraph (4) as
6	paragraph (3);
7	(D) in paragraph (3), as redesignated by
8	subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the
9	end and inserting "; and; and
10	(E) by adding at the end the following:
11	"(4) propose to establish whole-school magnet
12	schools through proposing to design and implement
13	schools that incorporate integration into school de-
14	sign, mission, structure, focus, and goals, over the
15	placement of a specialized magnet program in a non-
16	magnet public school;
17	"(5) propose to newly implement or continue
18	the implementation of inter-district public school
19	choice programs, and propose magnet schools con-
20	structed or placed in a location that optimizes diver-
21	sity and accessibility to transportation for low-in-
22	come students;
23	"(6) propose to improve the diversity and per-
24	formance of the local educational agency, consortium
25	of local educational agencies, or State as a whole

1	versus focusing on improvements confined to an in-
2	dividual school; or
3	"(7) propose to design and implement inclusive
4	enrollment practices, such as utilizing weighted lot-
5	teries and other inclusive and accessible practices
6	that are consistent with the latest research and evi-
7	dence-based practices identified by the Secretary.
8	"(b) Priority for Meeting Multiple Cri-
9	TERIA.—In awarding grants under this part, the Secretary
10	shall give additional priority to applicants that meet more
11	than 1 criterion under subsection (a).";
12	(4) in section 4407—
13	(A) in subsection (a), in the matter pre-
14	ceding paragraph (1), by inserting "(except as
15	provided under section 4408A)" after "under
16	this part";
17	(B) in subsection (b), by inserting "(except
18	as provided under section 4408A)" after "under
19	this part"; and
20	(C) by adding at the end the following:
21	"(c) Technical Assistance for Novice or First-
22	TIME APPLICANTS.—
23	"(1) In general.—An eligible local edu-
24	cational agency, or consortium of such agencies, that
25	is a novice or first-time applicant for a grant under

1	this part and receives a grant under this part may
2	use not more than 1 percent of the grant funds for
3	technical assistance in implementing the magnet
4	school plan.
5	"(2) Definition of Novice.—In this sub-
6	section, the term 'novice', when used with respect to
7	an applicant, means as applicant that applied for a
8	grant under this part previously but did not receive
9	such a grant.";
10	(5) in section 4408—
11	(A) in subsection (b), by inserting "(except
12	as provided under section 4408A)" after "under
13	this part";
14	(B) in subsection (c), by inserting "(except
15	as provided under section 4408A)" after "under
16	this part"; and
17	(C) in subsection (d), by inserting "(except
18	as provided under section 4408A)" after "under
19	this part"; and
20	(6) by striking section 4409 and inserting the
21	following:

1 "SEC. 4409. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; RES-

- 2 ERVATION.
- 3 "(a) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be
- 4 appropriated to carry out this part such sums as may be
- 5 necessary for fiscal years 2022 through 2025.
- 6 "(b) Use of Funding.—From the total amount ap-
- 7 propriated under subsection (a) for any fiscal year, the
- 8 Secretary shall expend not less than \$109,000,000 to
- 9 carry out this part, except for section 4408A. The Sec-
- 10 retary may use any amounts appropriated under sub-
- 11 section (a) for a fiscal year that are in excess of
- 12 \$109,000,000 to carry out section 4408A.
- 13 "(c) Reservation for Technical Assistance.—
- 14 The Secretary may reserve not more than 1 percent of
- 15 the funds appropriated under subsection (a) for any fiscal
- 16 year to provide technical assistance and share best prac-
- 17 tices with respect to magnet school programs assisted
- 18 under this part.
- 19 "(d) Availability of Funds for Grants to
- 20 Agencies Not Previously Assisted.—In any fiscal
- 21 year for which the amount appropriated pursuant to sub-
- 22 section (a) exceeds \$75,000,000, the Secretary shall give
- 23 priority in using such amounts in excess of \$75,000,000
- 24 to awarding grants to local educational agencies or con-
- 25 sortia of such agencies that did not receive a grant under
- 26 this part in the preceding fiscal year.".

1	SEC. 5. MAGNET SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SUPPLE
2	MENTAL DIVERSITY GRANT.
3	Part D of title IV of the Elementary and Secondary
4	Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7231 et seq.) is amend-
5	ed by inserting after section 4408 the following:
6	"SEC. 4408A. SUPPLEMENTAL DIVERSITY GRANTS.
7	"(a) In General.—The Secretary, in accordance
8	with this section, is authorized to award grants to eligible
9	entities—
10	"(1) that have not received a grant under this
11	part during the 3-year period preceding the date of
12	the grant award under this section; and
13	"(2) that are looking to adopt additional effec-
14	tive, evidence-based practices designed to further de-
15	segregation aims and promote diversity.
16	"(b) Eligibility, Application, and Other Re-
17	QUIREMENTS.—
18	"(1) Eligibility.—For the purposes of this
19	section, the term 'eligible entity' means a local edu-
20	cational agency, consortium of such agencies, or
21	State educational agency, including an agency or
22	consortium that is described in paragraph (1) or (2)
23	of section 4404.
24	"(2) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible entity desiring
25	to receive a grant under this section shall submit an

application to the Secretary at such time, in such

1	manner, and containing such information and assur-
2	ances as the Secretary may reasonably require.
3	"(3) Information and assurances.—Each
4	application submitted under paragraph (1) shall in-
5	clude—
6	"(A) a description of—
7	"(i) how a grant awarded under this
8	section will be used to promote socio-
9	economic and racial integration, and imple-
10	ment evidence-based practices, including
11	any evidence, or if such evidence is not
12	available, a rationale based upon current
13	research findings, to support the grant
14	promoting socioeconomic and racial inte-
15	gration;
16	"(ii) how the applicant will construct
17	inclusive enrollment practices, such as uti-
18	lizing weighted lotteries and other inclusive
19	and accessible practices that are consistent
20	with the latest research and evidence-based
21	practices identified by the Secretary;
22	"(iii) whether the applicant—
23	"(I) has ever engaged in any vol-
24	untary desegregation effort, and to
25	what extent such efforts have in-

1	creased student diversity and de-
2	creased racial or socioeconomic isola-
3	tion in schools served by such appli-
4	cant; and
5	"(II) is engaged in any voluntary
6	desegregation effort on the date of
7	submitting the application, and to
8	what extent;
9	"(iv) how the applicant will ensure
10	that families from a multitude of racial,
11	ethnic, socioeconomic, and linguistic back-
12	grounds are aware of magnet schools and
13	the application process, including a de-
14	scription of—
15	"(I) the variety of platforms
16	(such as social media, print, tele-
17	vision, and radio) the applicant will
18	use to make families aware of magnet
19	schools and the application process;
20	"(II) the language spoken by stu-
21	dents and families in the region the
22	applicant covers and how the appli-
23	cant will make information on magnet
24	schools and the application process
25	available in these languages; and

1	"(III) how to enter a lottery or
2	other inclusive enrollment pool for
3	magnet schools;
4	"(v) the manner and extent to which
5	the proposed activities will increase student
6	academic achievement in the instructional
7	area offered by the school, including any
8	evidence, or if such evidence is not avail-
9	able, a rationale based on current research
10	findings, to support the activities increas-
11	ing student academic achievement;
12	"(vi) how the applicant will support
13	the social and emotional learning of stu-
14	dents;
15	"(vii) how the applicant will imple-
16	ment restorative school discipline policies
17	that reduce the use of suspension and ex-
18	pulsion and improve overall school climate;
19	"(viii) how the applicant will assess,
20	monitor, and evaluate the impact of the ac-
21	tivities funded under this section on stu-
22	dent achievement, integration, and overall
23	school climate by developing a data plan
24	that—

1	"(I) is aligned to a clear vision
2	for equity, with specific criteria for
3	determining racial or socioeconomic
4	segregation and a target for reducing
5	these conditions;
6	"(II) monitors the goal of reduc-
7	ing racial segregation by tracking
8	multiple measures of success (includ-
9	ing by enrollment, graduation rates
10	academic achievement, academic
11	growth, and social-emotional out-
12	comes);
13	"(III) disaggregates data across
14	subgroups of students, as defined in
15	section $1111(e)(2)$; and
16	"(IV) ensures data collected are
17	accessible, with opportunities to in-
18	clude stakeholder feedback in a timely
19	manner;
20	"(ix) how grant funds under this sec-
21	tion will be used to—
22	"(I) improve student academic
23	achievement for all students attending
24	the magnet school programs;

1	"(II) close historic opportunity
2	and achievement gaps between each of
3	the subgroups of students, defined in
4	section 1111(c)(2), attending the
5	magnet school programs; and
6	"(III) implement services and ac-
7	tivities that are consistent with other
8	programs under this Act, as appro-
9	priate; and
10	"(x) how the magnet program funded
11	by the grant will improve the overall qual-
12	ity of the school district the program is
13	housed within; and
14	"(B) the same assurances described in sec-
15	tion $4405(b)(2)$.
16	"(4) Applications from state educational
17	AGENCIES.—A State educational agency that sub-
18	mits an application under paragraph (1) shall de-
19	scribe how, specifically, the State views magnet
20	schools as a solution to promote integration in the
21	State.
22	"(c) Priority.—
23	"(1) IN GENERAL.—In awarding grants under
24	this section, the Secretary shall give priority to ap-
25	plicants that—

1	"(A) have integration embedded into
2	school design, mission, structure, focus, and
3	goals;
4	"(B) propose to design and implement in-
5	clusive enrollment practices, such as utilizing
6	weighted lotteries and other inclusive and acces-
7	sible practices that are consistent with the lat-
8	est research and evidence-based practices iden-
9	tified by the Secretary;
10	"(C) continue to experience pronounced
11	disparities in educational opportunities between
12	each of the subgroups of students, defined in
13	section 1111(c)(2), and propose to use funds to
14	carry out evidence-based practices to reduce
15	such disparities;
16	"(D) demonstrate a commitment to fur-
17	thering inter-district diversity through partner-
18	ships with neighboring local educational agen-
19	cies in States that allow for these types of part-
20	nerships;
21	"(E) demonstrate the provision of free and
22	accessible transportation for students to attend
23	the magnet school programs served by such

grant funds; or

1	"(F) demonstrate a commitment to au-
2	thentically engaging families and community
3	members from a multitude of racial, ethnic, so-
4	cioeconomic, and linguistic backgrounds at all
5	stages in the magnet program's development
6	and operations.
7	"(2) Priority for meeting multiple cri-
8	TERIA.—In awarding grants under this section, the
9	Secretary shall give additional priority to applicants
10	that meet more than 1 criterion under paragraph
11	(1).
12	"(d) Use of Funds.—Grant funds made available
13	under this section may be used by an eligible entity to
14	support any of the following:
15	"(1) Activities that promote socioeconomic and
16	racial integration in schools, including evidence-
17	based practices to increase student diversity and de-
18	crease racial or socioeconomic isolation in schools,
19	such as—
20	"(A) providing for ongoing data collection
21	and evaluation activities to promote continuous
22	improvement that ensures fidelity of magnet
23	implementation;
24	"(B) developing and refining diversity
25	goals for magnet school enrollment; and

1	"(C) ensuring student recruitment for
2	magnet schools includes students in public
3	housing within the boundaries of the school dis-
4	trict, if it exists.
5	"(2) Activities that increase the capacity of ex-
6	isting facilities to house specialized magnet pro-
7	grams or convert entirely to magnet schools, such
8	as—
9	"(A) providing not more than 15 percent
10	of the grant funds for making infrastructure
11	improvements and necessary equipment pur-
12	chases to enable an existing public school facil-
13	ity to effectively develop, implement, and oper-
14	ate a thematic magnet school program; and
15	"(B) allowing existing facilities or schools
16	to transition entirely to a magnet school rather
17	than a traditional school housing a magnet pro-
18	gram.
19	"(3) Enrollment management activities that
20	promote a more diverse classroom and safe learning
21	environment, such as—
22	"(A) supporting enhanced selection and re-
23	cruitment materials and activities (including
24	parent tours, open houses, and revised mar-
25	keting materials);

1	"(B) providing free and accessible trans-
2	portation for students to attend the magnet
3	school; and
4	"(C) funding an individual employed by
5	the eligible entity to devote at least a majority
6	of the employee's time to enrollment activities,
7	including reaching underserved communities to
8	support the school's diversity goals.
9	"(4) Activities that strengthen the educator
10	pipeline for magnet school programs, such as—
11	"(A) forging partnerships with nearby in-
12	stitutions of higher education with comprehen-
13	sive educator preparation programs that incor-
14	porate extensive clinical practice and experi-
15	ence, including historically Black colleges and
16	universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities,
17	and other minority-serving institutions, to re-
18	cruit educators with a stated desire to work in
19	a magnet program served by the eligible entity;
20	and
21	"(B) hiring prospective educators who are
22	instructional area specialists, defined as edu-
23	cators with a specialized knowledge of an in-
24	structional area that is gained over not less

than 10 years of work experience in a relevant

1	field, to teach at magnet programs served by
2	the eligible entity.
3	"(5) Activities that support a rigorous, well-
4	rounded curriculum and high-quality instruction,
5	such as—
6	"(A) providing ongoing professional devel-
7	opment to educators, principals, other school
8	leaders, specialized instructional support per-
9	sonnel, and other staff (such as cultural com-
10	petency training, job-embedded coaching, social
11	and emotional learning, activities that support
12	college, career, and life readiness, and other ac-
13	tivities);
14	"(B) creating culturally responsive teach-
15	ing and learning environments;
16	"(C) offering school staff members oppor-
17	tunities for networking and attending con-
18	ferences;
19	"(D) encouraging theme integration
20	throughout the curriculum and curriculum writ-
21	ing;
22	"(E) updating equipment and resources,
23	such as by utilizing supplemental materials to
24	enhance and enrich the magnet theme and de-

1	veloping multiple assessments to engage dif-
2	ferent types of learners; and
3	"(F) developing and implementing oppor-
4	tunities for students to participate in experien-
5	tial learning, including through field trips and
6	meaningful project-based learning.
7	"(6) Activities that support family engagement,
8	such as—
9	"(A) planning community events specifi-
10	cally geared toward supporting low-income fam-
11	ilies, such as through purchasing food, pro-
12	viding subsidies or passes for local public trans-
13	portation services, and providing subsidies for
14	child care services while parents are engaging
15	with the magnet school;
16	"(B) establishing schools housing magnet
17	programs as centerpieces of their community
18	through outreach and wraparound services;
19	"(C) creating a community advisory board,
20	demographically reflective of both the local com-
21	munity where the magnet school is located and
22	the broader community of students planning to
23	attend the magnet school, to assist the magnet
24	school in providing support and guidance in the

1	selection and implementation of their respective
2	theme;
3	"(D) providing opportunities for families to
4	participate in exploration of the magnet theme,
5	guest speaker presentations, and author visits;
6	and
7	"(E) inviting parents to be a part of the
8	recruitment team that helps promote the mag-
9	net program.
10	"(7) Strengthening partnerships in the commu-
11	nity, such as developing community partnerships
12	with businesses, health and human services agencies,
13	and other entities that enhance and support the
14	magnet theme and provide rich learning and edu-
15	cational experiences for students.
16	"(8) Activities that support inter-district or re-
17	gional integration, such as—
18	"(A) collaborating with urban and subur-
19	ban districts in a comprehensive regional plan;
20	"(B) providing financial incentives to help
21	receiving schools cover the cost of transferring
22	students;
23	"(C) creating a clear vision for equity that
24	includes a set of goals and benchmarks, which
25	are responsive to realistic timelines and local

1	factors, for achieving greater diversity, edu-
2	cational quality, and equity for targeted student
3	subgroups that are specific to the region;
4	"(D) establishing a measurable definition
5	of and means to reduce racial isolation at
6	school and classroom levels;
7	"(E) investing in regional magnet pro-
8	grams, capital improvements, and educator pro-
9	fessional development that raise the quality of
10	schooling options available in all districts;
11	"(F) developing marketing campaigns that
12	build strong and accessible systems of public in-
13	formation around schooling options; and
14	"(G) offering services for transfer students
15	and families that include transportation, school
16	counseling, and family liaisons.
17	"(9) Activities that support the implementation
18	of restorative discipline policies that reduce the use
19	of suspension and expulsion and improve overall
20	school climate.
21	"(e) Prohibition.—The Secretary shall not award
22	a grant under this section to an eligible entity that plans
23	to establish, or has in place, application fees or admissions
24	criteria related to fees.
25	"(f) Limitations.—

1	"(1) DURATION OF AWARDS.—A grant under
2	this section shall be awarded for a period that shall
3	not exceed 5 fiscal years.
4	"(2) Amount.—No grant awarded under this
5	section to an eligible entity shall exceed \$7,500,000
6	for the grant period.
7	"(g) Reporting and Accountability.—
8	"(1) Reports.—Each eligible entity that re-
9	ceives a grant under this section shall, on an annual
10	basis, prepare and submit a report to the Secretary
11	containing information about—
12	"(A) how the grant funds were used;
13	"(B) how the grant recipient widely dis-
14	tributed information about the magnet school
15	funded by the grant in an accessible manner;
16	"(C) the immediate and projected near-
17	term impact, over the remaining period of the
18	grant, that the grant funds had and will have
19	on increasing socioeconomic or racial diversity,
20	or both, in schools served by the eligible entity,
21	or in magnet school programs served by such
22	entity, or both;
23	"(D) how, if applicable, the grant funds
24	fostered inter-district diversity;

1	"(E) how the grant funds increased stu-
2	dent academic achievement in the instructional
3	area offered by the magnet school or local edu-
4	cational agency, or both;
5	"(F) how the grant funds improved aca-
6	demic achievement of all students across all
7	subjects in schools served by the eligible entity;
8	"(G) how the grant funds improved stu-
9	dents' access to well-rounded curriculum and
10	prepared, qualified educators; and
11	"(H) how the grant funds improved the
12	quality of education for students attending the
13	magnet school program or schools served by the
14	eligible entity, or both, measured by a tangible
15	increase in access to other opportunities out-
16	lined in subsection (b)(2).
17	"(2) Making reports public.—The Secretary
18	shall, on an annual basis, make public the reports
19	received under paragraph (1).
20	"(3) Accountability.—
21	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
22	pursue enforcement actions against a grant re-
23	cipient under this section that fails to dem-
24	onstrate the improvements described in sub-
25	paragraphs (C) through (H) of paragraph (1).

1	"(B) Written notice of concerns.—
2	"(i) IN GENERAL.—In a case in which
3	the Secretary determines that it is not
4	clear that grant funds awarded under this
5	section to a grant recipient are making a
6	tangible and noticeable improvement in the
7	areas described in subparagraphs (C)
8	through (H) of paragraph (1), the Sec-
9	retary shall, after 2 fiscal years, provide a
10	written notice to the grant recipient con-
11	taining the Secretary's concerns regarding
12	the recipient's use of grant funds.
13	"(ii) Response.—A grant recipient
14	that receives a written notice under clause
15	(i) shall, not later than 90 days after the
16	date of receipt of the notice, submit to the
17	Secretary a plan for addressing the Sec-
18	retary's concerns not later than 1 year
19	after the date of receipt of the notice.
20	"(C) Failure to demonstrate im-
21	PROVEMENTS.—In a case in which the Sec-
22	retary determines that a grant recipient has not
23	addressed the Secretary's concerns in accord-
24	ance with subparagraph (B)(ii), the Secretary

1	shall provide a written notice to the grant re-
2	cipient—
3	"(i) to return the remainder of the
4	grant funds not later than 90 days after
5	the date of receipt of the written notice; or
6	"(ii) if the grant awarded to the re-
7	cipient is disbursed on an annual basis,
8	that the recipient will no longer receive a
9	grant under this section "

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