

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1903

To amend title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965 with respect to partnership grants for the establishment of rural teaching residency programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2021

Mr. BOST (for himself and Mr. GOLDEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965 with respect to partnership grants for the establishment of rural teaching residency 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Rural Education In-
5 vestment Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PARTNERSHIP GRANTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT**
2 **OF RURAL TEACHING RESIDENCY PRO-**
3 **GRAMS.**

4 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 200 of the Higher Edu-
5 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1021) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (16) through
7 (23) as paragraphs (17) through (24), respectively;
8 and

9 (2) by inserting after paragraph (15) the fol-
10 lowing new paragraph:

11 “(16) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY LOCATED
12 IN A RURAL AREA.—The term ‘local educational
13 agency located in a rural area’ means a local edu-
14 cational agency that meets the eligibility require-
15 ments for funding under—

16 “(A) the Small, Rural School Achievement
17 Program under section 5211(b) of the Elemen-
18 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; or

19 “(B) the Rural and Low-Income School
20 Program under section 5221(b) of the Elemen-
21 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.”.

22 (b) GRANT AWARDS.—Section 202(e) of the Higher
23 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1022a(e)) is amended
24 by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

25 “(3) SELECTION OF GRANTEES.—

1 “(A) PERCENTAGE OF RURAL LOCAL EDU-
2 CATIONAL AGENCIES.—Before the start of each
3 award year, the Secretary shall determine,
4 based on the number of students in kinder-
5 garten through grade 12 who are served by all
6 local educational agencies, the percentage of
7 students in kindergarten through grade 12 who
8 are served by local educational agencies located
9 in rural areas.

10 “(B) GRANT RESERVATION FOR RURAL
11 LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—Beginning
12 with the first award year that begins after the
13 date of enactment of the ‘Rural Education In-
14 vestment Act’, the Secretary shall ensure that,
15 of the total amount awarded for grants under
16 this subsection for an award year, the percent-
17 age of such total amount that is awarded to eli-
18 gible partnerships that are in partnership with
19 a local educational agency located in a rural
20 area shall not be less than the percentage deter-
21 mined by the Secretary under subparagraph (A)
22 for such award year.”.

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