



Legislative Bulletin.....April 24, 2007

Contents:

H.R. 362 — 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds Science and Math Scholarship Act

Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:

Total Number of New Government Programs: 4

Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations: \$1.5 billion over five years

Effect on Revenue: \$0

Total Change in Mandatory Spending: \$0

Total New State & Local Government Mandates: 0

Total New Private Sector Mandates: 0

Number of Bills Without Committee Reports: 0

Number of Reported Bills that Don't Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority: 1

**H.R. 362 — 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds Science and Math
Scholarship Act (*Gordon, D-TN*)**

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on April 24, 2007, likely subject to a structured rule.

Summary: H.R. 362 would create several new federal programs related to science, technology, math, and engineering education. The specific provisions of the bill are summarized below.

States the following findings:

- “The National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine were tasked in a congressional request to recommend actions that the Federal Government could take to enhance the science and technology enterprise so that the United States can successfully compete, prosper, and be secure in the global community of the 21st century; and
- “The Academies’ highest priority recommendation in its report, ‘Rising Above the Gathering Storm: Energizing and Employing America for a Brighter Economic Future’, is to improve K-12 mathematics and science education, and the Academies’ first recommended action item is to institute a major scholarship program to recruit and educate annually 10,000 mathematics and science teachers.”

States the following policy objective:

- “In carrying out the program under section 104, the National Science Foundation shall seek **to increase by up to 10,000 per year the number of elementary and secondary mathematics and science teachers** in the Nation’s schools having both exemplary subject knowledge and pedagogical skills” (emphasis added).

Amends the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program in current law, operated by the National Science Foundation (NSF), which is a competitive grant program to institutes of higher education. H.R. 362 amends the program to provide assistance to IHEs that ensure teachers from both the math and science and the education departments work together to recruit students to pursue degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), as well as to become certified K-12 teachers. The bill also increases the scholarships provided to students through this program from \$7,500 to \$10,000. Scholarship recipients would be required to teach up to six years (based on number of years receiving the scholarship), and the teaching requirement would be reduced by one for those who teach in high-need schools. If a student chose not to fulfill their teaching requirement, the scholarship would be converted to a loan, which must be repaid by the individual. **Authorizes \$664 million for this program over the FY 2008 through FY 2012 period.**

Amends the Mathematics and Science Education Partnership program operated by NSF, authorizing teacher training activities under the program to prepare teachers to teach certain STEM classes, such as advanced placement and international baccalaureate courses.

Requires NSF to **establish a new grant program** to provide summer or academic year teacher institutes or workshops funds to operate one- or two-week summer teacher institutes with the goal of “reaching the maximum number of in-service mathematics and science teachers, particularly elementary and middle school teachers. **Authorizes \$195.5 million over the FY 2008 through FY 2012 period. Also authorizes \$41 million over the FY 2008 through FY 2012 period for the Secretary of Energy for the Laboratory Science Teacher Professional Development program.**

Requires NSF to **establish a new grant program** to provide assistance to IHEs that maintain master's degree programs designed for current teachers, who will enroll as part-time students and allow participants to obtain master's degrees within a period of three years. **Authorizes \$280.2 million over the FY 2008 through FY 2012 for this new program.**

Requires NSF and the Secretary of Education to establish a national panel of experts on math and science education to identify K-12 math, science, and technology teaching materials that have been demonstrated to be effective.

Requires NSF, through the STEM Talent Expansion program, **to create a new program** for the creation of centers to develop undergraduate curriculum, teaching methods for undergraduate courses, and methods to better train professors and teaching assistants who teach undergraduate courses to increase the number of students completing these courses in STEM fields. **Authorizes \$279 million for the STEM Talent Expansion program over five years, \$44 million of which is for the new centers.**

Requires NSF to **create a new research pilot program** (the Partnerships for Access to Laboratory Science), which will fund partnerships between IHEs, businesses, and high-need public schools, to improve laboratories as part of a comprehensive program to enhance the quality of STEM instruction at the high school level. The federal share of the cost of activities carried out using a grant from this program is limited to 50 percent. **Authorizes \$5 million in FY 2008, and such sums as necessary for the following three years for this program.**

Possible Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned that H.R. 362 would create four new federal programs, and CBO estimates implementing the bill would authorize \$1.5 billion over five years. In addition, some conservatives may be concerned that these four new programs are highly duplicative of current federal efforts. An October 2005 Government Accountability Office (GAO) study reported that in FY04, 13 federal agencies reported **spending roughly \$2.8 billion on 207 different education programs** directly related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Committee Action: H.R. 362 was introduced on January 10, 2007, and referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology, which held a mark-up and reported the bill, as amended, on April 16, 2007.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, enacting H.R. 362 would authorize \$202 million in FY2008, and \$1.5 billion over five years.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: Yes. The bill creates four new programs.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Earmark Compliance: According to Committee Report 110-85 , the “H.R. 362 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(t) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: The Science and Technology Committee, in Committee Report 110-85 cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but fails to cite a specific clause.

House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” (*emphasis added*).

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