

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3900

To direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a grant program to support science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education in the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 4, 2020

Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a grant program to support science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education in the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps, 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; FINDINGS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Providing Resources and Organization to Maximize Op-
6 portunities for Training and Education in STEM Act of
7 2020” or the “PROMOTES Act of 2020”.

8 (b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Section 2031(b)(3) of title 10, United
 2 States Code, as amended by section 512 of the Na-
 3 tional Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
 4 2020 (Public Law 116–92), authorizes the inclusion
 5 of STEM education in the Junior Reserve Officers’
 6 Training Corps program.

7 (2) Consequently, it is necessary to provide re-
 8 sources for the implementation of STEM education
 9 within the Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps.

10 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO SUPPORT STEM EDUCATION IN THE**
 11 **JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS’ TRAINING**
 12 **CORPS.**

13 (a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 102 of title 10,
 15 United States Code, is amended by adding at the
 16 end the following new section:

17 **“§ 2036. Grants to support science, technology, engi-**
 18 **neering, and mathematics education**

19 “(a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—The Secretary, in con-
 20 sultation with the Secretary of Education, may carry out
 21 a program to make grants to eligible entities to assist such
 22 entities in providing education in covered subjects to stu-
 23 dents in the Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps.

1 “(b) COORDINATION.—In carrying out the program
2 under subsection (a), the Secretary may coordinate with
3 the following:

4 “(1) The Secretaries of the military depart-
5 ments.

6 “(2) The Secretary of Education.

7 “(3) The Director of the National Science
8 Foundation.

9 “(4) The Administrator of the National Aero-
10 nautics and Space Administration.

11 “(5) The heads of such other Federal, State,
12 and local government entities the Secretary of De-
13 fense determines to be appropriate.

14 “(6) Private sector organizations as the Sec-
15 retary of Defense determines appropriate.

16 “(c) ACTIVITIES.—Activities funded with grants
17 under this section may include the following:

18 “(1) Training and other support for instructors
19 to teach courses in covered subjects to students.

20 “(2) The acquisition of materials, hardware,
21 and software necessary for the instruction of covered
22 subjects.

23 “(3) Activities that improve the quality of edu-
24 cational materials, training opportunities, and cur-

1 ricula available to students and instructors in cov-
2 ered subjects.

3 “(4) Development of travel opportunities, dem-
4 onstrations, mentoring programs, and informal edu-
5 cation in covered subjects for students and instruc-
6 tors.

7 “(5) Students’ pursuit of certifications in cov-
8 ered subjects.

9 “(d) PREFERENCE.—In making grants under this
10 section, the Secretary shall give preference to eligible enti-
11 ties that are eligible for assistance under part A of title
12 I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
13 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.).

14 “(e) EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary shall establish
15 outcome-based metrics and internal and external assess-
16 ments to evaluate the merits and benefits of the activities
17 funded with grants under this section with respect to the
18 needs of the Department of Defense.

19 “(f) AUTHORITIES.—In carrying out the program
20 under this section, the Secretary shall, to the extent prac-
21 ticable, make use of the authorities under chapter 111 and
22 sections 2601 and 2605 of this title, and other authorities
23 the Secretary determines appropriate.

24 “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 “(1) The term ‘eligible entity’ means a local
2 education agency that hosts a unit of the Junior Re-
3 serve Officers’ Training Corps.

4 “(2) The term ‘covered subjects’ means—

5 “(A) science;

6 “(B) technology;

7 “(C) engineering;

8 “(D) mathematics;

9 “(E) computer science;

10 “(F) computational thinking;

11 “(G) artificial intelligence;

12 “(H) machine learning;

13 “(I) data science;

14 “(J) cybersecurity;

15 “(K) robotics; and

16 “(L) other subjects determined by the Sec-
17 retary of Defense to be related to science, tech-
18 nology, engineering, and mathematics.”.

19 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
20 tions at the beginning of chapter 102 of such title
21 is amended by adding at the end the following new
22 item:

“2036. Grants to support science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
education.”.

23 (b) REPORT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than two years
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
3 retary of Defense shall submit to the congressional
4 defense committees a report on the activities carried
5 out under section 2036 of title 10, United States
6 Code (as added by subsection (a)).

7 (2) CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES
8 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “congres-
9 sional defense committees” has the meaning given
10 that term in section 101(a)(16) of title 10, United
11 States Code.

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