

## S 608

### Personnel Excellence for Students with Disabilities Act

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Education

**Introduced:** Mar 12, 2003

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3627-3631) (Mar 12, 2003)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/608>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** RI • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (2 total)

| Cosponsor                           | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]      | D · MA        |      | Mar 12, 2003 |
| Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY] | D · NY        |      | Mar 31, 2003 |

### Committee Activity

| Committee  | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee | Senate  | Referred To | Mar 13, 2003 |

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Education

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## Summary (as of Mar 12, 2003)

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Personnel Excellence for Children with Disabilities Act of 2003 - Amends the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to reauthorize and revise provisions for personnel preparation and professional development of special education teachers (SEs) and other educators.

Revises and renames provisions for State program improvement grants as State Personnel and Professional Development Grants. Directs the Secretary of Education to allot such grants to State educational agencies to assist them, and their local educational agencies (LEAs) and their partners (including institutions of higher education and other entities), to support and improve their systems of personnel preparation and professional development for SEs in order to improve results for children with disabilities.

Authorizes the Secretary to make competitive grant and contract awards to eligible entities (partnerships of LEAs and institutions of higher education with State-approved SE personnel programs, and additional entities) to develop professional development partnerships (PDPs) between such entities and elementary or secondary schools. Requires PDPs to use such grants to: (1) develop preservice teacher education for SEs; or (2) create or support professional development schools that provide specified services. Authorizes the Secretary to make competitive grant and contract awards to eligible entities (partnerships of LEAs and State-approved SE personnel preparation programs, and additional entities) to provide professional development, leadership training, and collaborative opportunities for general educators to ensure they have skills and knowledge to meet the needs of, and improve results for, children with disabilities.

Revises requirements: (1) for personnel preparation to improve services and results for children with disabilities; and (2) to benefit children with high-incidence disabilities to include those with emotional or behavioral disorders.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Mar 12, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 12, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3626-3627)
- **Mar 12, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3627-3631)

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