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Scholarships for Kids Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Jan 28, 2014

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jan 28, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1968>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]

Party: Republican • **State:** TN • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Coats, Daniel [R-IN]	R · IN		Jan 28, 2014
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Jan 28, 2014
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Jan 28, 2014
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		May 21, 2014
Sen. Scott, Tim [R-SC]	R · SC		Nov 12, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 28, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 4000	Identical bill	Mar 5, 2014: Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.

Scholarships for Kids Act - Amends part A of title I (Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to give states the option of using their part A allocation to carry out a Scholarships for Kids program.

Requires participating states to use their part A allocation to provide a grant to the parents of eligible children for use, as allowed by state law, in:

- supplementing the budget of any public school their eligible child is able to attend without fees;
- paying for all or a portion of the fees required for their child to attend another public school in the state;
- paying for all or a portion of the tuition and fees required for their child to attend an accredited or otherwise state-approved private school; or
- paying for all or a portion of the fees required for their child to participate in a state-approved supplemental educational services program.

Defines an "eligible child" as a child residing in the participating state who: (1) is under age 21, (2) is entitled to a free public education through grade 12, and (3) is from a family with an income below the poverty level.

Allows participating states to: (1) treat a child as eligible if the child was an "eligible child" during the previous fiscal year and is from a family whose income is not greater than 200% of the poverty level; and (2) use up to 2% of their part A allocation to provide eligible children with transportation to their public school, private school, or supplemental educational services program.

Requires participating states and their local educational agencies to continue to: (1) work toward state academic content and achievement standards; (2) conduct annual assessments of student progress toward those standards; and (3) issue annual report cards of student progress, disaggregated by specified student subgroups, toward those standards.

Directs the Secretary of Education to conduct a national assessment of the activities carried out under this Act.

Reauthorizes appropriations under part A of title I through FY2020.

Repeals:

- the funding reserved for schools identified as needing improvement, corrective action, or restructuring under part A of title I;
- the programs under parts B (Student Reading Skills Improvement Grants), C (Education of Migratory Children), D (Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth Who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk), E (National Assessment of Subchapter I), F (Comprehensive School Reform), G (Advanced Placement Programs), and H (School Dropout Prevention) of title I;
- titles II (Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals), III (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students), IV (21st Century Schools), V (Promoting Informed Parental Choice and Innovative Programs), VI (Flexibility and Accountability), and VII (Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native Education) of the ESEA;
- a program providing supplemental education grants to Micronesia and the Marshall Islands under the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003;
- the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006;
- a program providing grants to states for the education of homeless children and youths under the McKinney-Vento

Homeless Assistance Act;

- the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002;
- part A (Teacher Quality Partnership Grants) of title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA);
- the Talent Search and Upward Bound programs under title IV (Student Assistance) of the HEA;
- a program providing grants to youth organizations, under the Agricultural Research Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998, to establish pilot projects to expand the programs they carry out in rural areas and small towns;
- a grant program, under the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, to promote and strengthen agriscience and agribusiness education in secondary and postsecondary schools;
- a grant program, under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, for the establishment of school-based health centers;
- a program providing grants, under the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002, to institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations to improve elementary and secondary mathematics and science instruction;
- a grant program, under the Public Health Service Act, for the operation of school-based health centers; and
- programs, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, that provide grants to states and educational entities that make significant progress in meeting specified elementary and secondary education goals.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 28, 2014:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 28, 2014:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.