

HR 3790

DISTANCE Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Oct 21, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education. (Mar 23, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3790>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]

Party: Democratic • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Dec 8, 2015
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Dec 15, 2015
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Dec 15, 2015
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Dec 18, 2015
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Dec 18, 2015
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Dec 18, 2015
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Dec 18, 2015
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Dec 18, 2015
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Jan 11, 2016
Rep. Takai, Mark [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Jan 28, 2016
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Feb 8, 2016
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Feb 23, 2016
Rep. Clark, Katherine M. [D-MA-5]	D · MA		Mar 17, 2016
Rep. Butterfield, G. K. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Sep 6, 2016
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Sep 22, 2016
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Nov 22, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 23, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Oct 21, 2015)

Diversity in Science Technology and Nurturing Capable Educators Act or the DISTANCE Act

This bill amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to direct the Department of Education (ED) to award competitive merit-based scholarships to students who are pursuing bachelor's degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) with concurrent certification as kindergarten, elementary, and secondary school teachers.

It requires scholarship recipients to work for at least five academic years as a full-time STEM teacher at a public or private kindergarten or elementary or secondary school during the seven-year period beginning within one year after they complete their studies.

It awards scholarships for one academic year of study at a time, but makes them renewable on an annual basis if their recipients meet certain measures of academic progress.

Scholarship recipients may enter into agreements with ED that provide them with a bonus in exchange for performing their service in a high-need local educational agency for a period equivalent to the period for which they receive the bonus.

This bill amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize ED to award competitive matching grants to up to 50 institutions of higher education to establish, strengthen, and operate four-year undergraduate degree programs that enable students to concurrently: (1) earn a STEM bachelor's degree; and (2) be certified to teach kindergarten, elementary, or secondary school.

It awards those grants one fiscal year at a time, but makes them renewable on an annual basis for up to five years.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 23, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.
- **Oct 21, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 21, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.