

S 213

TRUE EQUITY Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Feb 3, 2021

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. (Feb 3, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/213>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 3, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 3, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 779	Identical bill	Feb 3, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

Transformational Reforms and Updates to Ensure Educational Quality and Urgent Investments in Today's Youth Act of 2021 or the TRUE EQUITY Act

This bill establishes various grant programs to address educational inequities in elementary and secondary schools.

Specifically, the bill creates grant programs related to (1) early childhood education, (2) high-quality and diverse teachers and leaders, (3) college and career readiness pathways, and (4) additional resources for at-risk students. For each grant program, the Department of Education (ED) must award a single grant to an eligible state.

To be eligible for a grant, a state must establish an independent state oversight board. The oversight board must, among other duties (1) determine whether the state and its local educational agencies (LEAs) have met state educational equity goals, and (2) hold them accountable for failing to meet those goals. ED may renew a grant if the oversight board determines the state has met its goals.

In addition, for each grant program, the bill outlines the activities authorized under the program, maintenance-of-effort requirements, and matching fund requirements.

Finally, the bill permits ED to enter into a local flexibility demonstration agreement, through which a state educational agency may use funds to develop and implement a school funding system based on weighted per-pupil allocations for low-income and disadvantaged students. (Currently, ED may enter into these agreements with LEAs.)

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 3, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 3, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.