

S 2988

Green New Deal for Public Schools Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Sep 28, 2023

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. (Sep 28, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2988>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Sep 28, 2023
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Sep 29, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		Oct 4, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 28, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 5784	Related bill	Sep 28, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Green New Deal for Public Schools Act of 2023

This bill provides funding for environmental and educational resources for public elementary and secondary schools and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools.

Specifically, the bill requires the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy to provide climate capital facilities grants to eligible entities (e.g., public schools and BIE schools). Grant recipients must use these funds to construct new, or convert existing facilities into, healthy zero-carbon schools. *Healthy zero-carbon school* refers to a school with highly energy-efficient facilities that produce or procure sufficient carbon-free and pollution-free renewable energy to meet the school's needs.

The bill directs the Department of Education (ED) to award resource block grants to qualified local educational agencies (LEAs) to hire and retain educators and staff in high-need schools.

ED must award grants to eligible consortia of LEAs for educational equity planning and implementation.

ED must establish the Climate Change Resiliency Program to increase the resiliency of public and BIE schools during climate change-related events, natural disasters, and public health crises. Further, ED must establish a related grant program for state educational agencies. Grant recipients must use these funds for certain activities (e.g., green infrastructure projects).

The bill establishes the Office of Sustainable Schools within ED to (1) administer the resource block grant and educational equity grant programs, and (2) coordinate with specified agencies and the White House Office of Domestic Climate Policy on climate capital facilities grants and the Climate Change Resiliency Program.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 28, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 28, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.