

S.1966

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Pregnant and Parenting Student Services Act of 2005 (Introduced in Senate)

S 1966 IS

109th CONGRESS

1st Session

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To establish a pilot program to provide grants to encourage eligible institutions of higher education to establish and operate pregnant and parenting student services offices for pregnant students, parenting students, prospective parenting students who are anticipating a birth or adoption, and students who are placing or have placed a child for adoption.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

November 7, 2005

Mrs. DOLE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To establish a pilot program to provide grants to encourage eligible institutions of higher education to establish and operate pregnant and parenting student services offices for pregnant students, parenting students, prospective parenting students who are anticipating a birth or adoption, and students who are placing or have placed a child for adoption.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Elizabeth Cady Stanton Pregnant and Parenting Student Services Act of 2005'.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION- The term 'eligible institution of higher education' means an institution of higher education (as such term is defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that has established and operates, or agrees to establish and operate upon the receipt of a grant under this Act, a

pregnant and parenting student services office described in section 5.

(2) PARENT; PARENTING- The terms `parent' and `parenting' refer to a parent or legal guardian of a minor.

(3) SECRETARY- The term `Secretary' means the Secretary of Education.

SEC. 3. PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENT SERVICES PILOT PROGRAM.

From amounts appropriated under section 7 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall establish a pilot program to award grants to eligible institutions of higher education to enable the eligible institutions to establish (or maintain) and operate pregnant and parenting student services offices in accordance with section 5.

SEC. 4. APPLICATION; NUMBER OF GRANTS.

(a) Application- An eligible institution of higher education that desires to receive a grant under this Act shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require

(b) Requests for Additional Information- The Secretary may require an eligible institution submitting an application under subsection (a) to provide additional information if the Secretary determines such information is necessary to process the application.

(c) Number of Grants- The Secretary shall award grants under this Act to not more than 200 eligible institutions of higher education.

SEC. 5. USE OF FUNDS.

(a) In General- An eligible institution of higher education that receives a grant under this Act shall use grant funds to establish (or maintain) and operate a pregnant and parenting student services office, located on the campus of the eligible institution, that carries out the following programs and activities:

(1) Hosts an initial pregnancy and parenting resource forum--

(A) to assess available pregnancy and parenting resources located on the campus or within the local community; and

(B) to set goals for--

(i) improved services for pregnant, parenting, and prospective parenting students; and

(ii) improved access to such services.

(2) Annually assesses the performance of the eligible institution and the office in meeting the following needs of students enrolled in the eligible institution who are pregnant or are parents:

- (A) Student health care that includes maternity coverage and makes available riders for additional family members.
- (B) Family housing.
- (C) Child care.
- (D) Flexible or alternative academic scheduling, such as telecommuting programs.
- (E) Education concerning responsible parenting for mothers and fathers, and education supporting healthy marriages.
- (F) Resources for pregnant women and children, such as maternity and baby clothing, baby food (including formula), and baby furniture.
- (G) Post-partum counseling and support groups.

(3) Identifies public and private service providers, located on the campus of the eligible institution or within the local community, that are qualified to meet the needs described in paragraph (2), and establishes programs with qualified providers to meet such needs.

(4) Assists pregnant and parenting students in locating and obtaining services that meet the needs described in paragraph (2).

(5) If appropriate, provides referrals for prenatal care and delivery, infant or foster care, or adoption, to a student who requests such information. An office shall make such referrals only to service providers that primarily serve the following types of individuals:

- (A) Parents.
- (B) Prospective parents awaiting adoption.
- (C) Women who are pregnant and plan on parenting or placing the child for adoption.
- (D) Parenting or prospective parenting couples who are married or who plan on marrying in order to provide a supportive environment for each other and their child.

(b) Expanded Services- In carrying out the programs and activities described in subsection (a), an eligible institution of higher education receiving a grant under this Act may choose to provide access to such programs and activities to a pregnant or parenting employee of the eligible institution.

SEC. 6. REPORTING.

(a) Annual Report by Institutions-

(1) IN GENERAL- For each fiscal year that an eligible institution of higher education receives a grant under this Act, the eligible institution shall prepare and submit to the Secretary, by the date determined by the Secretary, a report that--

(A) itemizes the pregnant and parenting student services office's expenditures for the fiscal year;

(B) contains a review and evaluation of the performance of the office in fulfilling the requirements of this Act, using the specific performance criteria or standards established under paragraph (2)(A); and

(C) describes the achievement of the office in meeting the needs listed in section 5(a)(2) of the students served by the eligible institution, and the frequency of use of the office by such students.

(2) PERFORMANCE CRITERIA- Not later than 180 days before the date the annual report described in paragraph (1) is submitted, the Secretary--

(A) shall identify the specific performance criteria or standards that shall be used to prepare the report; and

(B) may establish the form or format of the report.

(3) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION- After reviewing an annual report of an eligible institution of higher education, the Secretary may require that the eligible institution provide additional information if the Secretary determines that such additional information is necessary to evaluate the pilot program.

(b) Report by Secretary- The Secretary shall annually prepare and submit a report on the findings of the pilot program under this Act, including the number of eligible institutions of higher education that were awarded grants and the number of students served by each pregnant and parenting services office receiving funds under this Act, to the appropriate committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act \$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2006 through 2010.