

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To modify the program of grants to support high-quality charter schools.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. SCHATZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To modify the program of grants to support high-quality charter schools.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Empower Charter
5 School Educators to Lead Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO SUPPORT HIGH-QUALITY CHARTER**
7 **SCHOOLS.**

8 Section 4303 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
9 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7221b) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)(C), by striking “and”
2 after the semicolon;

3 (B) in paragraph (2)—

4 (i) by inserting “which may include
5 assistance in locating and accessing a facil-
6 ity and funding a revolving loan fund or a
7 similar mechanism for expenses under sub-
8 section (h) prior to an eligible applicant re-
9 ceiving reimbursement,” after “paragraph
10 (1),”; and

11 (ii) by striking the period at the end
12 and inserting “; and”; and

13 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
14 lowing:

15 “(3) provide pre-charter planning subgrants (in
16 amounts of no more than \$100,000 per prospective
17 applicant) to charter school developers that have not
18 yet submitted an application for a charter to an au-
19 thorized public chartering agency, or to nonprofit or
20 public entities for the provision of financial support
21 to such developers, provided that such developers—

22 “(A) are led by educators—

23 “(i) with not less than 54 months of
24 school-based experience (which may include
25 experience in teaching in or administering

1 after school or summer school programs);

2 and

3 “(ii) that have demonstrated leader-

4 ship competencies and success with stu-

5 dents, as determined by the State entity;

6 and

7 “(B) have successfully completed the devel-

8 opment of an initial plan for opening a public

9 charter school, as evidenced by a description of

10 the educational needs of the community in

11 which the proposed charter school will be lo-

12 cated and how the planned charter school will

13 be suited to meet those needs.”; and

14 (2) in subsection (c)(1)—

15 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “90

16 percent” and inserting “80 percent”;

17 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

18 (i) by striking “not less than 7 per-

19 cent” and inserting “not more than 10

20 percent”; and

21 (ii) by striking “and” after the semi-

22 colon;

23 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as

24 subparagraph (D);

1 (D) in subparagraph (D), as redesignated
2 by subparagraph (C), by striking “3 percent”
3 and inserting “5 percent”; and

4 (E) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
5 the following:

6 “(C) reserve not more than 5 percent of
7 such funds to carry out the activities described
8 in subsection (b)(3); and”.