

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1008

To reauthorize the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004, to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2013

Mr. HOYER (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CARNEY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. COHEN, Ms. HAHN, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. NADLER, Mr. KEATING, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To reauthorize the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004, to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, and for other purposes.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
 5 “Eunice Kennedy Shriver Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
 7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS ACT

Sec. 101. Reauthorization.

TITLE II—BEST BUDDIES

Sec. 201. Findings and purpose.

Sec. 202. Assistance for Best Buddies.

Sec. 203. Application and annual report.

Sec. 204. Authorization of appropriations.

8 **TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION OF**
 9 **SPECIAL OLYMPICS ACT**

10 **SEC. 101. REAUTHORIZATION.**

11 Sections 2 through 5 of the Special Olympics Sport
 12 and Empowerment Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15001 note)
 13 are amended to read as follows:

14 **“SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

15 “(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

16 “(1) Special Olympics creates the possibilities
 17 of a world where everybody matters, everybody
 18 counts, and every person contributes.

19 “(2) The Government and the people of the
 20 United States recognize the dignity and value the

1 giftedness of children and adults with intellectual
2 disabilities.

3 “(3) The Government and the people of the
4 United States recognize that children and adults
5 with intellectual disabilities experience significant
6 health disparities, including lack of access to pri-
7 mary care services and difficulties in accessing com-
8 munity-based prevention and treatment programs
9 for chronic diseases.

10 “(4) The Government and the people of the
11 United States are determined to end the isolation
12 and stigmatization of people with intellectual disabil-
13 ities, and to ensure that such people are assured of
14 equal opportunities for community participation, ac-
15 cess to appropriate health care, and inclusive edu-
16 cation, and to experience life in a nondiscriminatory
17 manner.

18 “(5) For more than 40 years, Special Olympics
19 has encouraged skill development, sharing, courage,
20 and confidence through year-round sports training
21 and athletic competition for children and adults with
22 intellectual disabilities.

23 “(6) Special Olympics provides year-round
24 sports training and competitive opportunities to
25 more than 4,200,000 athletes with intellectual dis-

1 abilities in 30 individual and team sports and plans
2 to expand the benefits of participation through sport
3 to more than a million additional people with intel-
4 lectual disabilities within the United States and
5 worldwide over the next 5 years.

6 “(7) Research shows that participation in ac-
7 tivities involving both people with intellectual disabil-
8 ities and people without disabilities results in more
9 positive support for inclusion in society, including in
10 schools.

11 “(8) Special Olympics has demonstrated its
12 ability to provide a major positive effect on the qual-
13 ity of life of people with intellectual disabilities, im-
14 proving their health and physical well-being, building
15 their confidence and self-esteem, and giving them a
16 voice to become active and productive members of
17 their communities. In the United States, for exam-
18 ple, adults with intellectual disabilities who have par-
19 ticipated in Special Olympics have a 100 percent
20 greater chance of being employed than adults with
21 intellectual disabilities who have not.

22 “(9) In society as a whole, Special Olympics
23 has become a vehicle and platform for reducing prej-
24 udice, improving public health, promoting inclusion

1 efforts in schools and communities, and encouraging
2 society to value the contributions of all members.

3 “(10) The Government of the United States en-
4 thusiastically supports the Special Olympics move-
5 ment, recognizes its importance in improving the
6 lives of people with intellectual disabilities and their
7 families, and recognizes Special Olympics as a val-
8 ued and important component of the global commu-
9 nity.

10 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purposes of this Act are to—

11 “(1) provide support to Special Olympics to in-
12 crease athlete participation in, and public awareness
13 about, the Special Olympics movement, including ef-
14 forts to promote broader community inclusion;

15 “(2) dispel negative stereotypes and establish
16 positive attitudes about people with intellectual dis-
17 abilities;

18 “(3) build community engagement through
19 sport and related activities; and

20 “(4) promote the extraordinary gifts and con-
21 tributions of people with intellectual disabilities.

22 **“SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS.**

23 “(a) EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of
24 Education may award grants to, or enter into contracts

1 or cooperative agreements with, Special Olympics to carry
2 out each of the following:

3 “(1) Activities to promote the expansion of Spe-
4 cial Olympics, including activities to increase the full
5 participation of people with intellectual disabilities in
6 athletics, sports and recreation, and other inclusive
7 school and community activities with people without
8 disabilities.

9 “(2) The design and implementation of Special
10 Olympics education programs, including character
11 education and volunteer programs that support the
12 purposes of this Act, that can be integrated into
13 classroom instruction and community settings, and
14 are consistent with academic content standards.

15 “(b) INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of
16 State, acting through the Assistant Secretary of State for
17 Educational and Cultural Affairs, may award grants to,
18 or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements with,
19 Special Olympics to carry out each of the following:

20 “(1) Activities to increase the participation of
21 people with intellectual disabilities in Special Olym-
22 pics outside of the United States.

23 “(2) Activities to improve the awareness outside
24 of the United States of the abilities of people with
25 intellectual disabilities and the unique contributions

1 that people with intellectual disabilities can make to
2 society, and to promote active support programs for
3 sports programs for people with intellectual disabili-
4 ties.

5 “(c) HEALTHY ATHLETES.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health
7 and Human Services may award grants to, or enter
8 into contracts or cooperative agreements with, Spe-
9 cial Olympics for the implementation of on-site
10 health assessments, screening for health problems,
11 health education, community-based prevention, data
12 collection, and referrals to direct health care serv-
13 ices.

14 “(2) COORDINATION.—Activities under para-
15 graph (1) shall be coordinated with appropriate
16 health care entities, including private health care
17 providers, entities carrying out local, State, Federal,
18 or international programs, and the Department of
19 Health and Human Services, as applicable.

20 “(d) LIMITATION.—Amounts appropriated to carry
21 out this section shall not be used for direct treatment of
22 diseases, medical conditions, or mental health conditions.
23 Nothing in the preceding sentence shall be construed to
24 limit the use of non-Federal funds by Special Olympics.

1 **“SEC. 4. APPLICATION AND ANNUAL REPORT.**

2 “(a) APPLICATION.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for a grant,
4 contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection
5 (a), (b), or (c) of section 3, Special Olympics shall
6 submit an application at such time, in such manner,
7 and containing such information as the Secretary of
8 Education, Secretary of State, or Secretary of
9 Health and Human Services, as applicable, may re-
10 quire.

11 “(2) CONTENT.—At a minimum, an application
12 under this subsection shall contain each of the fol-
13 lowing:

14 “(A) ACTIVITIES.—A description of activi-
15 ties to be carried out with the grant, contract,
16 or cooperative agreement.

17 “(B) MEASURABLE GOALS.—A description
18 of specific measurable annual benchmarks and
19 long-term goals and objectives to be achieved
20 through specified activities carried out with the
21 grant, contract, or cooperative agreement,
22 which specified activities shall include, at a
23 minimum, each of the following activities:

24 “(i) Activities to increase the full par-
25 ticipation of people with intellectual dis-
26 abilities in athletics, sports and recreation,

1 and other inclusive school and community
2 activities with people without disabilities.

3 “(ii) Education programs that dispel
4 negative stereotypes about people with in-
5 tellectual disabilities.

6 “(iii) Activities to increase the partici-
7 pation of people with intellectual disabil-
8 ities in Special Olympics outside of the
9 United States and promote volunteerism
10 on behalf of such activities.

11 “(iv) Health-related activities as de-
12 scribed in section 3(c).

13 “(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on receipt of
15 any funds for a program under subsection (a), (b),
16 or (c) of section 3, Special Olympics shall agree to
17 submit an annual report at such time, in such man-
18 ner, and containing such information as the Sec-
19 retary of Education, Secretary of State, or Secretary
20 of Health and Human Services, as applicable, may
21 require.

22 “(2) CONTENT.—At a minimum, each annual
23 report under this subsection shall describe—

24 “(A) the degree to which progress has been
25 made toward meeting the annual benchmarks

1 and long-term goals and objectives described in
2 the applications submitted under subsection (a);
3 and

4 “(B) demographic data about Special
5 Olympics participants, including the number of
6 people with intellectual disabilities served in
7 each program referred to in paragraph (1).

8 **“SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 “There are authorized to be appropriated—

10 “(1) for grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-
11 ments under section 3(a), \$9,500,000 for fiscal year
12 2014, and such sums as may be necessary for each
13 of the 4 succeeding fiscal years;

14 “(2) for grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-
15 ments under section 3(b), \$4,500,000 for fiscal year
16 2014, and such sums as may be necessary for each
17 of the 4 succeeding fiscal years; and

18 “(3) for grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-
19 ments under section 3(c), \$8,500,000 for fiscal year
20 2014, and such sums as may be necessary for each
21 of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.”.

22 **TITLE II—BEST BUDDIES**

23 **SEC. 201. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

24 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Best Buddies operates the first national so-
2 cial and recreational program in the United States
3 for people with intellectual disabilities.

4 (2) Best Buddies is dedicated to helping people
5 with intellectual disabilities become part of main-
6 stream society.

7 (3) Best Buddies is determined to end social
8 isolation for people with intellectual disabilities by
9 promoting meaningful friendships between them and
10 their typical peers in order to help increase the self-
11 esteem, confidence, and abilities of people with and
12 without intellectual disabilities.

13 (4) Since 1989, Best Buddies has enhanced the
14 lives of people with intellectual disabilities by pro-
15 viding opportunities for 1-to-1 friendships and inte-
16 grated employment.

17 (5) Best Buddies is an international organiza-
18 tion spanning 1,500 middle school, high school, and
19 college campuses.

20 (6) Best Buddies implements programs that
21 will positively impact more than 700,000 individuals
22 in 2013.

23 (7) The Best Buddies Middle Schools program
24 matches middle school students with intellectual dis-

1 abilities with other middle school students and sup-
2 ports 1-to-1 friendships between them.

3 (8) The Best Buddies High Schools program
4 matches high school students with intellectual dis-
5 abilities with other high school students and sup-
6 ports 1-to-1 friendships between them.

7 (9) The Best Buddies Colleges program
8 matches adults with intellectual disabilities with col-
9 lege students and creates 1-to-1 friendships between
10 them.

11 (10) The Best Buddies e-Buddies program sup-
12 ports e-mail friendships between people with and
13 without intellectual disabilities.

14 (11) The Best Buddies Citizens program pairs
15 adults with intellectual disabilities in 1-to-1 friend-
16 ships with other people in the corporate and civic
17 communities.

18 (12) The Best Buddies Jobs program promotes
19 the integration of people with intellectual disabilities
20 into the community through supported employment.

21 (13) The Best Buddies Ambassadors program
22 educates and empowers people with intellectual dis-
23 abilities to be leaders and public speakers in their
24 schools, communities, and workplaces. Best Buddies

1 Ambassadors prepares people with intellectual dis-
2 abilities to become active agents of change.

3 (14) Best Buddies Promoters empowers youth
4 to become advocates for people with intellectual dis-
5 abilities. Students who take part in Best Buddies
6 Promoters are introduced to the disability rights
7 movement and the importance of inclusion through
8 local awareness events.

9 (b) PURPOSE.—The purposes of this title are to—

10 (1) provide support to Best Buddies to increase
11 participation in and public awareness about Best
12 Buddies programs that serve people with intellectual
13 disabilities;

14 (2) dispel negative stereotypes about people
15 with intellectual disabilities; and

16 (3) promote the extraordinary contributions of
17 people with intellectual disabilities.

18 **SEC. 202. ASSISTANCE FOR BEST BUDDIES.**

19 (a) EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of Edu-
20 cation may award grants to, or enter into contracts or co-
21 operative agreements with, Best Buddies to carry out ac-
22 tivities to promote the expansion of Best Buddies, includ-
23 ing activities to increase the participation of people with
24 intellectual disabilities in social relationships and other as-

1 pects of community life, including education and employ-
2 ment, within the United States.

3 (b) LIMITATIONS.—Amounts appropriated to carry
4 out this title may not be used for direct treatment of dis-
5 eases, medical conditions, or mental health conditions.

6 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this title
7 shall be construed to limit the use of non-Federal funds
8 by Best Buddies.

9 **SEC. 203. APPLICATION AND ANNUAL REPORT.**

10 (a) APPLICATION.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for a grant,
12 contract, or cooperative agreement under section
13 202(a), Best Buddies shall submit an application at
14 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
15 formation as the Secretary of Education may re-
16 quire.

17 (2) CONTENT.—At a minimum, an application
18 under this subsection shall contain the following:

19 (A) A description of activities to be carried
20 out under the grant, contract, or cooperative
21 agreement.

22 (B) Information on specific measurable
23 goals and objectives to be achieved through ac-
24 tivities carried out under the grant, contract, or
25 cooperative agreement.

1 (b) ANNUAL REPORT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receipt of
3 any funds under section 202(a), Best Buddies shall
4 agree to submit an annual report at such time, in
5 such manner, and containing such information as
6 the Secretary of Education may require.

7 (2) CONTENT.—At a minimum, each annual re-
8 port under this subsection shall describe the degree
9 to which progress has been made toward meeting the
10 specific measurable goals and objectives described in
11 the applications submitted under subsection (a).

12 **SEC. 204. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
14 retary of Education for grants, contracts, or cooperative
15 agreements under section 202(a), \$4,000,000 for fiscal
16 year 2014 and such sums as may be necessary for each
17 of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.

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