

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8551

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize an interstate teaching application program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 9, 2020

Mr. CARSON of Indiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize an interstate teaching application program.

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 “Interstate Teaching
5 Mobility Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROGRAM FOR INTERSTATE TEACHING APPLICA-**
7 **TIONS.**

8 Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education
9 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.) is amended by add-
10 ing at the end the following:

1 **“PART D—INTERSTATE TEACHING**

2 **APPLICATIONS**

3 **“SEC. 2401. PROGRAM FOR INTERSTATE TEACHING APPLI-**
4 **CATIONS.**

5 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, in consulta-
6 tion with an eligible entity, may establish and carry out
7 a program to allow States to voluntarily participate in an
8 interstate teaching application process that allows teach-
9 ers who are licensed or certified in any participating
10 State—

11 “(1) to be eligible for licensure or certification
12 in other participating States without subsequently
13 completing additional licensure or certification re-
14 quirements; and

15 “(2) to be able to apply for open teaching posi-
16 tions in schools that receive funds under part A of
17 title I in other participating States, unless the open
18 position falls outside the applicant’s content area or
19 grade level for which the applicant is already li-
20 censed or certified.

21 “(b) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out a
22 program established under subsection (a), the Secretary,
23 in consultation with an eligible entity, shall—

24 “(1) create an application for eligible teachers
25 licensed or certified in a State participating in the

1 program who wish to teach in other States partici-
2 pating in the program;

3 “(2) require each participating State to recog-
4 nize a teaching licensure or certification of each such
5 teacher who meets the application requirements
6 under subsection (c)(1), and allow such teacher to
7 teach in an open teaching position described in sub-
8 section (a)(2), without requiring such teacher to
9 complete additional requirements for licensure or
10 certification;

11 “(3) ensure that participating States maintain
12 the eligibility requirements described in subsection
13 (d);

14 “(4) provide technical assistance to partici-
15 pating States; and

16 “(5) provide an electronic application process
17 for teachers to apply for the program.

18 “(c) PARTICIPATING TEACHERS.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each teacher seeking to
20 participate in a program established under sub-
21 section (a) shall submit an application containing—

22 “(A) proof of an active teaching license or
23 certification in a participating State;

24 “(B) the teacher’s results on each of the
25 assessments described in subparagraphs (A)

1 through (C) of subsection (d)(1) that are re-
2 quired by the initial licensing or certifying par-
3 ticipating State; and

4 “(C) such other information as the Sec-
5 retary considers appropriate.

6 “(2) CONTRACT.—The eligible entity referred to
7 in subsections (a) and (b) shall collect and assist the
8 Secretary in reviewing the teacher applications sub-
9 mitted under paragraph (1).

10 “(d) PARTICIPATING STATES.—A State shall be eligi-
11 ble to participate in a program established under sub-
12 section (a) if—

13 “(1) such State, in awarding a teaching license
14 or certification to an individual, requires—

15 “(A) an assessment of the content knowl-
16 edge necessary for postsecondary education and
17 a career before a teacher begins teaching in a
18 classroom;

19 “(B) an assessment of pedagogical skills
20 necessary for postsecondary education and a ca-
21 reer before a teacher begins teaching in a class-
22 room; and

23 “(C) a performance assessment necessary
24 for postsecondary education and a career before
25 a teacher begins teaching in a classroom; and

1 “(2) the assessments described in paragraph
2 (1) and required by such State are identified as suf-
3 ficiently rigorous by an organization such as the
4 Council of Chief State School Officers.

5 “(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may issue such
6 regulations as the Secretary considers necessary to carry
7 out this section.

8 “(f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘eligible
9 entity’ means an organization or other entity that provides
10 support to States and teachers in teacher certification and
11 licensure, approved by the Secretary.”.

12 **SEC. 3. CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**

13 The table of contents for the Elementary and Sec-
14 ondary Education Act of 1965 is amended by inserting
15 after the item relating to section 2302 the following:

 “PART D—INTERSTATE TEACHING APPLICATIONS

 “Sec. 2401. Program for interstate teaching applications.”.

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