

**Comparison of Clay HR 1436 and Education Opportunity Zones (Selected Features)**  
**February 3, 1998**

| CLAY BILL -- Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act                                                                                                     | EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY ZONES -- Administration Proposal                                                                                             | CHANGES BASED ON CONSULTATIONS WITH CLAY STAFF                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Districts, through Governor, request presidential declaration of public schools renewal effort                                                              | Districts apply to the Secretary to be Education Opportunity Zones.                                                                                | -- President could "declare" Education Opportunity Zones once Secretary awards grants                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Request is made by consortia of an LEA together with parents, teachers, business and other stakeholders                                                     | Application made by LEA                                                                                                                            | -- Our proposal now requires that districts get support of other stakeholders to apply                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| District submits 3 year plan for improvement that specifies strategies and state and local resources to be used; assistance available for FY 98 --99 --2000 | Initial grants to be 3 years, with years 4 and 5 for demonstrated achievement gains                                                                | -- Our proposal now requires districts to show how they will use federal, state, and local, and private funds to carry out and sustain reform strategies.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Plan must specify adverse conditions, such as high dropouts and teacher shortages, and state detailed approaches to address.                                | Assumes high poverty districts need assistance and provides support to those demonstrating evidence of capacity and commitment to achieve reforms. | -- Proposal clarifies that Department will select The Education Department districts that agree to: (1) use high standards and tests of student achievement to identify and provide help to students, teachers and schools who need it; (2) prevent students from falling behind by ensuring quality teaching, challenging curricula, and extended learning time; and (3) ensure students meet promotion standards and turn around failing schools. |

| CLAY BILL -- Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act                                                                                                                                | EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY ZONES -- Administration Proposal                                                   | CHANGES BASED ON CONSULTATIONS WITH CLAY STAFF                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President may direct ED or other agencies to use authority and resources to support state and local assistance efforts -- includes personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and TA. | National activities funds would support TA to Zones and dissemination of models more broadly             | -- Looking at ways to involve other agencies to assist districts, such as with facilities, extra resources, etc. |
| Secretary distributes funds and resources to LEAs selected under this act through existing procedures used to distribute funds under other K-12 programs                               | New program, with funds distributed under this program. Considering added flexibility in existing funds. | -- Proposal involves a new program with limited opportunity to expand schoolwide flexibility.                    |
| \$250 M in first year                                                                                                                                                                  | \$200 M in first year; \$1.5 billion over 5 years.                                                       | -- Similar dollar level                                                                                          |
| Explicit matching requirement                                                                                                                                                          | No matching requirement, but federal contribution declines after peak in year 2                          |                                                                                                                  |

# DRAFT

## Quick Comparison of Clay HR 1436 and Education Opportunity Zones -- January 14, 1998

| CLAY BILL                                                                                                                                                   | ZONES                                                                               | STEPS TO<br>ENHANCE/EMPHASIZE<br>SIMILARITIES                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Districts, through Governor, request presidential declaration of public schools renewal effort                                                              | Districts apply to the Secretary to be Education Opportunity Zones.                 | -- Could route applications through governor<br><br>-- President could "declare" Education Opportunity Zones based on recommendation of Secretary<br><br>-- Could adopt part of name -<br>- e.g. Education Opportunity and Renewal Zones |
| Request is made by consortia of an LEA together with parents, teachers, business and other stakeholders                                                     | Application made by LEA                                                             | -- Could require that districts get support of other stakeholders to apply                                                                                                                                                               |
| District submits 3 year plan for improvement that specifies strategies and state and local resources to be used; assistance available for FY 98 --99 --2000 | Initial grants to be 3 years, with years 4 and 5 for demonstrated achievement gains |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Plan must specify adverse conditions, such as poor student performance, high dropouts, overcrowded schools, teacher, material and training shortages        |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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| Plan must contain assurances pertaining to development of plan by consortium, opportunities for professional development, greater parental involvement, focus on student academic improvement, address responsibilities of stakeholders, evaluations, and priority for schools that need to address overcrowding, health and safety concerns, technology readiness and teacher availability and training; also, supplement not supplant and maintenance of effort, plus "other major issues which the local schools consortium determines are critical" | District must demonstrate its commitment to student, teacher and school accountability and greater choice, and must show that it is beginning to make progress in achievement | -- Could require plan to address some of the Clay elements elements                                                                                |
| President may direct ED or other agencies to use authority and resources to support state and local assistance efforts -- includes personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and TA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | National activities funds would support TA to Zones and dissemination of models more broadly                                                                                  | -- Could include provisions allowing POTUS to direct ED and other agencies to assist in other ways, such as with facilities, extra resources, etc. |
| Secretary distributes funds and resources to LEAs selected under this act through existing procedures used to distribute funds under other K-12 programs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | New program, with funds distributed under this program. Considering added flexibility in existing funds.                                                                      | -- Emphasize added flexibility to use existing program funds:                                                                                      |
| \$250 M in first year                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | \$200 M in first year                                                                                                                                                         | -- Emphasize similar dollar level                                                                                                                  |

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| <p>Funds may be used for public school reforms such as in the areas of <b>student targeted resources</b> (includes early childhood, parent training, truancy, alternative schools, and special needs students, including disabled and LEP); <b>classroom focused school development</b> (teacher/principal academies, links with colleges, establishing career ladders, plus other teacher and school safety and school improvement and recognition activities), and <b>accountability reforms</b> (standards/assessments, monitoring progress, establishing performance criteria, establishing promotion and graduation requirements, and providing for strong accountability and corrective action consistent with state law and Title I)</p> | <p>Multiple uses, but generally focused on accountability, choice, capacity building, extra help for kids, and fixing failing schools.</p> | <p>-- Stress areas of shared support, including: accountability, teacher/principal professional development, rewards for successful schools, promotion and graduation requirements, etc..</p> <p>-- Specifically address special ed and LEP students</p> |
| <p>Explicit matching requirement</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>No matching requirement, but federal contribution declines after peak in year 2</p>                                                     | <p>Could add a matching requirement</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p>Annual performance reports submitted to Secretary</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>? (Assume there will be some form of reporting from Zones, especially in year 3.)</p>                                                   | <p>Could require annual progress reports</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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Mike —  
For tomorrow's  
conference call  
with Scott &  
Sandra.

- Bill

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**Quick Comparison of Clay HR 1436 and Education Opportunity Zones -- January 14, 1998**

| CLAY BILL                                                                                                                                                   | ZONES                                                                               | STEPS TO ENHANCE/EMPHASIZE SIMILARITIES                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| <i>Consider</i><br>Districts, through Governor, request presidential declaration of public schools renewal effort                                           | Districts apply to the Secretary to be Education Opportunity Zones.                 | -- <del>Could route applications</del> through governor<br>-- President could "declare" Education Opportunity Zones based on recommendation of Secretary<br>-- <del>Could adopt part of name -</del><br>- e.g. Education Opportunity and Renewal Zones |
| Request is made by consortia of an LEA together with parents, teachers, business and other stakeholders                                                     | Application made by LEA                                                             | -- <del>Could require</del> that districts get support of other stakeholders to apply                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| Plan must specify adverse conditions, such as poor student performance, high dropouts, overcrowded schools, teacher, material and training shortages        |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

*see 1 to 16*

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| Plan must contain assurances pertaining to development of plan by consortium, opportunities for professional development, greater parental involvement, focus on student academic improvement, address responsibilities of stakeholders, evaluations, and priority for schools that need to address overcrowding, health and safety concerns, technology readiness and teacher availability and training; also, supplement not supplant and maintenance of effort, plus "other major issues which the local schools consortium determines are critical" | District must demonstrate its commitment to student, teacher and school accountability and greater choice, and must show that it is beginning to make progress in achievement | -- Could require plan to address some of the Clay elements elements                                                                                |
| President may direct ED or other agencies to use authority and resources to support state and local assistance efforts -- includes personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and TA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | National activities funds would support TA to Zones and dissemination of models more broadly                                                                                  | -- Could include provisions allowing POTUS to direct ED and other agencies to assist in other ways, such as with facilities, extra resources, etc. |
| Secretary distributes funds and resources to LEAs selected under this act through existing procedures used to distribute funds under other K-12 programs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | New program, with funds distributed under this program. Considering added flexibility in existing funds.                                                                      | -- Emphasize added flexibility to use existing program funds.                                                                                      |
| \$250 M in first year                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | \$200 M in first year                                                                                                                                                         | -- Emphasize similar dollar level                                                                                                                  |

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| <p>Funds may be used for public school reforms such as in the areas of <b>student targeted resources</b> (includes early childhood, parent training, truancy, alternative schools, and special needs students, including disabled and LEP); <b>classroom focused school development</b> (teacher/principal academies, links with colleges, establishing career ladders, plus other teacher and school safety and school improvement and recognition activities), and <b>accountability reforms</b> (standards/assessments, monitoring progress, establishing performance criteria, establishing promotion and graduation requirements, and providing for strong accountability and corrective action consistent with state law and Title I)</p> | <p>Multiple uses, but generally focused on accountability, choice, capacity building, extra help for kids, and fixing failing schools.</p> | <p>-- Stress areas of shared support, including: accountability, teacher/principal professional development, rewards for successful schools, promotion and graduation requirements, etc..</p> <p>-- Specifically address special ed and LEP students</p> |
| <p>Explicit matching requirement</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>No matching requirement, but federal contribution declines after peak in year 2</p>                                                     | <p>Could add a matching requirement</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p>Annual performance reports submitted to Secretary</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>? (Assume there will be some form of reporting from Zones, especially in year 3.)</p>                                                   | <p>Could require annual progress reports</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

**Bill Summary & Status for the 105th Congress**

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**H.R.1436****SPONSOR:** Rep Clay (introduced 04/24/97)

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**SUMMARY:****(AS INTRODUCED)**

Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 - Establishes a procedure by which a local schools consortium shall request, through the State Governor, a declaration by the President that a public schools renewal effort is underway in its community. Requires such request to: (1) include the three-year plan for public schools renewal and improvement; (2) describe the nature and amount of State and local resources which have been or will be committed to such renewal and improvement; and (3) certify that State or local government obligations and expenditures will comply with all applicable matching requirements established pursuant to this Act. Authorizes the President to: (1) make such a requested declaration; and (2) authorize the Department of Education and other Federal agencies to provide assistance under this Act. Requires the consortium to make annual: (1) amendments to the request to include additional initiatives and approaches to improve academic effectiveness and school safety; and (2) progress reports to the Secretary of Education.

(Sec. 5) Sets forth required elements of such public schools renewal and improvement plans, including specification of certain adverse conditions and certain assurances.

(Sec. 6) Authorizes the President to provide for various forms of allowable Federal assistance under this Act. Directs the Secretary to distribute such funds and resources.

(Sec. 7) Sets forth requirements for use of such assistance for various student-targeted resources, classroom-focused school development, accountability reforms, and other, similar types of public school reforms.

(Sec. 8) Allows such assistance to be provided for each of FY 1998 through 2000.

(Sec. 9) Requires the Secretary to report to specified congressional committees on this Act's effectiveness.

(Sec. 10) Authorizes appropriations. Sets forth matching requirements for States or localities, which the President may waive upon the Secretary's recommendation.

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|                          |                               |                            |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>THIS SEARCH</b>       | <b>THIS DOCUMENT</b>          | <b>GO TO</b>               |
| <a href="#">Next Hit</a> | <a href="#">Forward</a>       | <a href="#">New Search</a> |
| <a href="#">Prev Hit</a> | <a href="#">Back</a>          | <a href="#">HomePage</a>   |
| <a href="#">Hit List</a> | <a href="#">Best Sections</a> | <a href="#">Help</a>       |
|                          | <a href="#">Doc Contents</a>  |                            |

---

|                                                    |                                                                         |                                                                        |                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
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## H.R.1436

**Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)**

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### Table of Contents:

Beginning  
April 24, 1997

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

SEC. 4. PROCEDURE FOR DECLARATION.

SEC. 5. ELEMENTS OF RENEWAL AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

SEC. 6. ALLOWABLE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.

SEC. 7. USE OF ASSISTANCE.

SEC. 8. DURATION OF ASSISTANCE.

SEC. 9. REPORT.

SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; MATCHING REQUIREMENT.

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|                          |                               |                            |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>THIS SEARCH</b>       | <b>THIS DOCUMENT</b>          | <b>GO TO</b>               |
| <a href="#">Next Hit</a> | <a href="#">Forward</a>       | <a href="#">New Search</a> |
| <a href="#">Prev Hit</a> | <a href="#">Back</a>          | <a href="#">HomePage</a>   |
| <a href="#">Hit List</a> | <a href="#">Best Sections</a> | <a href="#">Help</a>       |
|                          | <a href="#">Doc Contents</a>  |                            |

---

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## H.R.1436

### Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

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HR 1436 IH

105th CONGRESS

1st Session

**H. R. 1436**

To assist local communities in the renewal of their public schools.

#### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**April 24, 1997**

Mr. CLAY (for himself, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. FORD, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. WATERS, Mr. HILLIARD, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. STOKES, Mr. BISHOP, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. CARSON, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DIXON, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RUSH, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. WYNN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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#### A BILL

To assist local communities in the renewal of their public schools.

*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 'Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997'.

## **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

(a) **FINDINGS-** The Congress finds the following:

- (1) Although the majority of our Nation's elementary and secondary public schools provide high quality education for our children, many schools need additional resources to implement immediate assistance and reform to enable them to provide a basic and safe education for their students.
- (2) The Government Accounting Office recently found that 1/3 of all elementary and secondary schools in the United States, serving 14,000,000 students, need extensive repair and renovation.
- (3) Recent reform of under-achieving schools in a number of States and school districts demonstrates that parents, teachers, school administrators, other educators, and local officials, given adequate resources and expertise, can succeed in dramatically improving public education and creating high performance schools.
- (4) Such reform efforts show that parental and community involvement in those reforms is indispensable to the objective of high quality, safe, and accountable schools.
- (5) Despite the successes of such reforms, public schools are facing tremendous challenges in educating children for the 21st century. The elementary and secondary school population will grow by 10 percent by the year 2005, and over the next 10 years, schools will need more than 2,000,000 additional teachers to meet the demands of such expected enrollments.
- (6) Almost 7 of 10 Americans support increased Federal assistance to our Nation's public schools, and that support crosses all boundaries, including cities, towns, and rural areas.
- (7) When Federal investment in public schools and children has increased, test scores have improved, and high school graduation rates and college enrollments have increased.
- (8) The Federal Government should encourage communities that demonstrate a strong commitment to restore and reform their public schools.

(b) **PURPOSE-** It is the purpose of this Act to assist local communities that are taking the initiative--

- (1) to overcome adverse conditions in their public schools;
- (2) to revitalize their public schools in accordance with local plans to achieve higher academic standards and safer and improved learning environments; and
- (3) to ensure that every community public school provides a quality education for all

students

## SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

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### ***THIS SEARCH***

Next Hit

Prev Hit

Hit List

### ***THIS DOCUMENT***

Forward

Back

Best Sections

Doc Contents

### ***GO TO***

New Search

HomePage

Help

---

---

|                          |                               |                            |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>THIS SEARCH</b>       | <b>THIS DOCUMENT</b>          | <b>GO TO</b>               |
| <a href="#">Next Hit</a> | <a href="#">Forward</a>       | <a href="#">New Search</a> |
| <a href="#">Prev Hit</a> | <a href="#">Back</a>          | <a href="#">HomePage</a>   |
| <a href="#">Hit List</a> | <a href="#">Best Sections</a> | <a href="#">Help</a>       |
|                          | <a href="#">Doc Contents</a>  |                            |

---

---

## H.R.1436

### Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

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For purposes of this Act:

- (1) CONSORTIUM- The term 'consortium' means a local schools consortium as defined in paragraph (2).
- (2) LOCAL SCHOOLS CONSORTIUM- The term 'local schools consortium' means the local educational agency in collaboration with a group composed of affected parents, students, and representatives of teachers, school employees and administrators, local business and community leaders and representative of local higher education group working or residing within the boundary of a local educational agency.
- (3) PARENT- The term 'parent' includes any of the following:
  - (A) A grandparent.
  - (B) A legal guardian.
  - (C) Any other person standing in loco parentis.
- (3) PLAN- The term 'plan' means a 3-year public schools renewal and improvement plan described in section 5.
- (4) SECRETARY- The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Education.
- (5) STATE- The term 'State' means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the American Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa.

#### SEC. 4. PROCEDURE FOR DECLARATION.

- (a) IN GENERAL- A request for a declaration by the President that a 'public schools renewal effort is underway' shall be made by a local schools consortium.

(b) **REQUEST-** The local education agency shall submit the request to the Governor of the State who shall, with or without comment, forward such request to the President not more than 30 days after the Governor's receipt of such request. Such request shall--

(1) include the plan;

(2) describe the nature and amount of State and local resources which have been or will be committed to the renewal and improvement of the public schools; and

(3) certify that State or local government obligations and expenditures will comply with all applicable matching requirements established pursuant to this Act.

(c) **DECLARATION-** Based on a request made under this Act, the President, in consultation with the Secretary, may declare that a 'public schools renewal effort is underway' in such community and authorize the Department of Education and other Federal agencies to provide assistance under this Act.

(d) **PROGRESS REPORTS-** The consortium shall--

(1) amend such request annually to include additional initiatives and approaches undertaken by the local educational agency to improve the academic effectiveness and safety of its public school system.

(2) submit annual performance reports to the Secretary which shall describe progress in achieving the goals of the plan.

## **SEC. 5. ELEMENTS OF RENEWAL AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN.**

(a) **IN GENERAL-** As part of its request to the President, and in order to receive assistance under this section, a consortium shall submit a plan that includes the elements described in subsections (b) and (c).

(b) **ADVERSE CONDITIONS-** The plan shall specify the existence of any of the following factors:

(1)(A) A substantial percentage of students in the affected public schools have been performing well below the national average, or below other benchmarks, including State developed benchmarks in such basic skills as reading, math, and science, consistent with Goals 2000 and title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; or

(B) a substantial percentage of such students are failing to complete high school.

(2) Some or all of such schools are overcrowded or have physical plant conditions that threaten the health, safety, and learning environment of the schools' populations.

(3) There is a substantial shortage of certified teachers, teaching materials, and technology training.

**THIS SEARCH**

Next Hit

Prev Hit

Hit List

**THIS DOCUMENT**

Forward

Back

Best Sections

Doc Contents

**GO TO**

New Search

HomePage

Help

---

---

---

**THIS SEARCH**

[Next Hit](#)

[Prev Hit](#)

[Hit List](#)

**THIS DOCUMENT**

[Forward](#)

[Back](#)

[Best Sections](#)

[Doc Contents](#)

**GO TO**

[New Search](#)

[HomePage](#)

[Help](#)

---

---

## H.R.1436

### Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

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(4) Some or all of the schools are located where crime and safety problems interfere with the schools' ability to educate students to high academic standards.

(c) ASSURANCES- The plan shall also include assurances from the local educational agency that--

(1) the plan was developed by the local schools consortium after extensive public discussion with State education officials, affected parents, students, teachers and representatives of teachers and school employees, administrators, higher education officials, other educators, and business and community leaders;

(2) describe how the consortium will use resources to meet the types of reforms described in section 7;

(3) provide effective opportunities for professional development of public school teachers, school staff, principals, and school administrators;

(4) provide for greater parental involvement in school affairs;

(5) focus substantially on successful and continuous improvement in the basic academic performance of the students in the public schools;

(6) address the unique responsibilities of all stake holders in the public school system, including students, parents, teachers, school administrators, other educators, governmental officials, and business and community leaders, for the effectiveness of the public school system especially with respect to the schools targeted for greatest assistance;

(7) provide for regular objective evaluation of the effectiveness of the plan;

(8) the agency will give priority to public schools that need the most assistance in improving overcrowding, physical problems and other health and safety concerns, readiness for telecommunications equipment, and teacher training and the pool of certified teachers;

(9) ensure that funds received under this Act shall be used to supplement, not supplant other non-Federal funds;

(10) certify that the combined fiscal effort per student or the aggregate expenditures within the State with respect to the provision of free public education for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the request for a declaration is made was not less than 90 percent of such combined fiscal effort or aggregate expenditures for the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the request for a declaration is made; and

(11) will address other major issues which the local schools consortium determines are critical to renewal of its public schools.

## SEC. 6. ALLOWABLE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL- To provide assistance under this Act, the President may--

(1) direct the Department of Education, with or without reimbursement, to use the authority and the resources granted to it under Federal law (including personnel, educational equipment and supplies, facilities, and managerial, technical, and advisory services) in support of State and local assistance efforts;

(2) direct any other Federal agency to provide assistance as described in paragraph (1);

(3) coordinate such assistance provided by Federal agencies; and

(4) provide technical assistance and advisory assistance to the affected local educational agency.

(b) DISTRIBUTION OF ASSISTANCE FUNDS-

(1) IN GENERAL- At the direction of the President, the Secretary shall distribute funds and resources provided pursuant to a declaration under this Act to local educational agencies selected for assistance under this Act.

(2) EXISTING PROCEDURES- The Secretary shall determine the best method of distributing funds under this Act through personnel and existing procedures that are used to distribute funds under other elementary and secondary education programs.

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### THIS SEARCH

[Next Hit](#)

[Prev Hit](#)

[Hit List](#)

### THIS DOCUMENT

[Forward](#)

[Back](#)

[Best Sections](#)

[Doc Contents](#)

### GO TO

[New Search](#)

[HomePage](#)

[Help](#)

---

---

|                          |                               |                            |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>THIS SEARCH</b>       | <b>THIS DOCUMENT</b>          | <b>GO TO</b>               |
| <a href="#">Next Hit</a> | <a href="#">Forward</a>       | <a href="#">New Search</a> |
| <a href="#">Prev Hit</a> | <a href="#">Back</a>          | <a href="#">HomePage</a>   |
| <a href="#">Hit List</a> | <a href="#">Best Sections</a> | <a href="#">Help</a>       |
|                          | <a href="#">Doc Contents</a>  |                            |

---

---

## H.R.1436

### Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

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(c) PROHIBITION- No provision of this Act shall be construed to authorize any action or conduct prohibited under the General Education Provisions Act.

#### SEC. 7. USE OF ASSISTANCE.

Assistance provided pursuant to this Act may be used only to carry out a plan, and to effectuate the following and similar types of public school reforms:

##### (1) STUDENT-TARGETED RESOURCES-

- (A) Increasing and improving high-quality early childhood educational opportunities.
- (B) Providing comprehensive parent training so that parents better prepare children before they reach school age.
- (C) Establishing intensive truancy prevention and dropout prevention programs.
- (D) Establishing alternative public schools and programs for troubled students and dropouts, and establishing other public school learning 'safety nets'.
- (E) Enhancing assistance for students with special needs (including limited English proficient students, English as a second language, and students with disabilities).

##### (2) CLASSROOM FOCUSED SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT-

- (A) Establishing teacher and principal academies to assist in training and professional development.
- (B) Establishing effective training links for students with area colleges and universities.
- (C) Establishing career ladders for teachers and school employees.

(D) Establishing teacher mentor programs.

(E) Establishing recruitment programs at area colleges and universities to recruit and train college students for the teaching profession.

(F) Establishing stronger links between schools and law enforcement and juvenile justice authority.

(G) Establishing stronger links between schools and parents concerning safe classrooms and effective classroom activities and learning.

(H) Establishing parent and community patrols in and around schools to assist safe schools and passage to schools.

(I) Implementing research-based promising educational practices and promoting exemplary school recognition programs.

(J) Expanding the time students spend on school-based learning activities and in extracurricular activities.

### (3) ACCOUNTABILITY REFORMS-

(A) Establishing high learning standards and meaningful assessments of whether standards are being met.

(B) Monitoring school progress and determining how to more effectively use school system resources.

(C) Establishing performance criteria for teachers and principals through such entities as joint school board and union staff improvement committees.

✓ (D) Establishing promotion and graduation requirements for students, including requirements for reading, mathematics, and science performance.

(E) Providing for strong accountability and corrective action from a continuum of options, consistent with State law and title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

## SEC. 8. DURATION OF ASSISTANCE.

Assistance under this Act may be provided for each of fiscal years 1998 through 2000.

## SEC. 9. REPORT.

Not later than March 31, 2000, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Labor and Human Resources of the Senate assessing the effectiveness of this Act in assisting recipient local schools consortia in carrying out their plans submitted under this Act.

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**THIS SEARCH**

[Next Hit](#)

[Prev Hit](#)

[Hit List](#)

**THIS DOCUMENT**

[Forward](#)

[Back](#)

[Best Sections](#)

[Doc Contents](#)

**GO TO**

[New Search](#)

[HomePage](#)

[Help](#)

---

---

---

**THIS SEARCH**

[Next Hit](#)

[Prev Hit](#)

[Hit List](#)

**THIS DOCUMENT**

[Forward](#)

[Back](#)

[Best Sections](#)

[Doc Contents](#)

**GO TO**

[New Search](#)

[HomePage](#)

[Help](#)

---

## H.R.1436

### Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

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#### SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; MATCHING REQUIREMENT.

(a) **AUTHORIZATION-** There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act--

(1) for fiscal year 1998, \$250,000,000; and

(2) for fiscal year 1999, \$500,000,000; and

(3) for fiscal year 2000, such sums as may be necessary.

(b) **MATCHING REQUIREMENT-**

(1) **IN GENERAL-** Federal funds expended or obligated under this Act shall be matched (in an amount equal to such amount so expended or obligated) from State or local funds.

(2) **OTHER FEDERAL RESOURCES-** The Secretary shall, by regulation and in consultation with the heads of other Federal agencies, establish matching requirements for other Federal resources provided under this Act.

(3) **WAIVER-** Based upon the recommendation of the Secretary, the President may waive paragraph (1) or (2).

# **THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS RENEWAL AND IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1997**

April 24, 1997

Americans overwhelmingly continue to support public education. And yet, the adverse conditions confronting many public school districts have to some degree shaken public confidence and fueled the anti-public education campaign of the Far Right.

The vast majority of parents want to continue sending their children to public schools that are safe, orderly, and provide a high quality education. Throughout the United States, communities have begun to implement major efforts to renew their public school systems. These locally-driven efforts have begun to turn things around, strengthening parental involvement, restoring accountability, discipline and order, providing school environments safe from violence and drugs, helping teachers become better trained and certified, and equipping schools with the infrastructure, equipment and technology necessary to prepare our children for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Voucher proponents suggest that parents and students are "on their own" and should use Federally-funded vouchers to "escape" public education. Representative Clay thinks there's a much more egalitarian approach. And, the Federal Government can offer a helping hand to locally-driven efforts to restore a national treasure: our public schools!!

## **KEY FEATURES OF THE CLAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS' RENEWAL PROPOSAL**

- A local consortium, composed of the local educational agency and a group of parents, students, representatives of teachers, school employees, community and business leaders and others, may submit a request to the President for a declaration that a "major public schools renewal effort is underway" in that community.
- As part of its request, the consortium must prepare and submit a 3-year locally-inspired public schools renewal plan that spells out certain "adverse conditions" and "assurances" about the consortium's commitment to public school renewal. Annual updates and progress reports concerning the plan must be submitted.
- Among those assurances, the consortium must guarantee that the plan was developed and will be implemented by stakeholders in that community's public schools system; that the State or local community will match Federal money and resources provided by the President; and that such considerations as parental involvement, teacher training, technology enhancements, school and classroom safety, and truancy and drop-out prevention lie at the heart of reform of that school system.
- The President, along with the Secretary of Education, may approve the consortium's request for assistance and may direct various types of Federal assistance.
- Based upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Education, the President may waive the matching requirements.
- \$250 million is authorized for FY 1998, \$500 million for FY 1999, and "such sums" for FY 2000.

This is not a new "Federal program." Rather the assistance will be channeled through existing elementary and secondary programs such as Title I, Safe and Drug Free Schools, and Goals 2000. In a rather simple, yet dramatic way, this proposal provides additional help and encouragement to the thousands of communities throughout the United States that think our public schools are worth renewal, not abandonment!

1) Spell out the "adverse conditions" confronting that community's public schools, which conditions must constitute one of the following:

- A substantial number of students have been failing to meet certain national or state benchmarks in basic skills.
- The schools have severe overcrowding or physical plant conditions that threaten health and safety.
- There are substantial shortages in certified teachers, training opportunities and instructional materials.
- Schools are located in areas where crime is so prevalent that student achievement suffers.

2) Provide a host of "assurances" concerning the commitment of the consortium to genuine public school reform, including:

- That the consortium developed the plan after extensive consultation with state education officials, teachers, parents, business and community leaders and other public education stakeholders.
- That improved parental involvement in the public schools will be addressed.
- That there will be regular, objective evaluation of the plan.
- That use of funds and other resources provided under the plan will be prioritized to address overcrowding and school infrastructure problems, improved teacher certification and training, readiness for technology, and health and safety concerns.
- That the State or local government will match Federal resources (unless the President waives matching requirements).
- That funds received will supplement, not supplant, other Federal and non-Federal resources.

#### **Sec. 6. Federal Assistance.**

The President may authorize the Department of Education and other Federal agencies to provide personnel, educational equipment and facilities, and other services to an LEA to which the President has made the requisite declaration.

The Secretary of Education may be directed by the President to distribute money and other resources to selected LEAs. The Secretary is required to determine the best way to distribute funds through personnel and procedures applicable to existing Federal elementary and secondary education programs.

General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) provisions apply.

#### **Sec. 7. Use of Assistance – Allowable Reforms.**

Broadly spells out the kinds of reforms the plan must address in order to receive a Presidential stamp of approval.

***School-based reforms*** – including increased early childhood education, comprehensive parent training, intensive truancy prevention programs, new and alternative schools for dropouts, and enhanced special needs assistance (e.g. ESL students and students with disabilities).

***Classroom focused development*** – including teacher and principal training academies, recruitment programs at area colleges and universities, stronger links between local law enforcement, schools, and parents, and teacher-mentor programs.

***Accountability reforms*** – including higher learning standards and meaningful assessments, monitoring schools and determining how to more effectively employ resources, and promotion and graduation requirements (particularly in the basics).

#### ***Sec. 8. Duration of Assistance.***

Provides that assistance is available for FY 1998 - 2000.

#### ***Sec. 9. Report.***

Requires the Secretary of Education to submit a report to relevant committees of Congress regarding progress under the Act.

#### ***Sec. 10. Authorization of Appropriations.***

Authorizes \$250 million for FY 1998, \$500 million for FY 1999, and "such sums" for FY 2000.

Grants the Secretary of Education regulatory authority to determine matching requirements for non-monetary Federal resources.

Grants the Secretary waiver authority with regard to matching requirements.

***Bill Summary & Status for the 105th Congress***

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**[NEW SEARCH](#) | [HOME](#) | [HELP](#) | [ABOUT DIGESTS](#)**

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**H.R.1436****SPONSOR:** [Rep Clay](#) (introduced 04/24/97)

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**SUMMARY:****(AS INTRODUCED)**

Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 - Establishes a procedure by which a local schools consortium shall request, through the State Governor, a declaration by the President that a public schools renewal effort is underway in its community. Requires such request to: (1) include the three-year plan for public schools renewal and improvement; (2) describe the nature and amount of State and local resources which have been or will be committed to such renewal and improvement; and (3) certify that State or local government obligations and expenditures will comply with all applicable matching requirements established pursuant to this Act. Authorizes the President to: (1) make such a requested declaration; and (2) authorize the Department of Education and other Federal agencies to provide assistance under this Act. Requires the consortium to make annual: (1) amendments to the request to include additional initiatives and approaches to improve academic effectiveness and school safety; and (2) progress reports to the Secretary of Education.

(Sec. 5) Sets forth required elements of such public schools renewal and improvement plans, including specification of certain adverse conditions and certain assurances.

(Sec. 6) Authorizes the President to provide for various forms of allowable Federal assistance under this Act. Directs the Secretary to distribute such funds and resources.

(Sec. 7) Sets forth requirements for use of such assistance for various student-targeted resources, classroom-focused school development, accountability reforms, and other, similar types of public school reforms.

(Sec. 8) Allows such assistance to be provided for each of FY 1998 through 2000.

(Sec. 9) Requires the Secretary to report to specified congressional committees on this Act's effectiveness.

(Sec. 10) Authorizes appropriations. Sets forth matching requirements for States or localities, which the President may waive upon the Secretary's recommendation.

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|                          |                               |                            |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>THIS SEARCH</b>       | <b>THIS DOCUMENT</b>          | <b>GO TO</b>               |
| <a href="#">Next Hit</a> | <a href="#">Forward</a>       | <a href="#">New Search</a> |
| <a href="#">Prev Hit</a> | <a href="#">Back</a>          | <a href="#">HomePage</a>   |
| <a href="#">Hit List</a> | <a href="#">Best Sections</a> | <a href="#">Help</a>       |
|                          | <a href="#">Doc Contents</a>  |                            |

---

|                                                    |                                                                         |                                                                 |                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">GPO's PDF<br/>version of this bill</a> | <a href="#">References to this bill in the<br/>Congressional Record</a> | <a href="#">Link to the Bill<br/>Summary &amp; Status file.</a> | <a href="#">Download this bill.<br/>(18,909 bytes).</a> |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|

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## H.R.1436

Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

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### Table of Contents:

Beginning

April 24, 1997

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

SEC. 4. PROCEDURE FOR DECLARATION.

SEC. 5. ELEMENTS OF RENEWAL AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

SEC. 6. ALLOWABLE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.

SEC. 7. USE OF ASSISTANCE.

SEC. 8. DURATION OF ASSISTANCE.

SEC. 9. REPORT.

SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; MATCHING REQUIREMENT.

---

---

**THIS SEARCH**

Next Hit

Prev Hit

Hit List

**THIS DOCUMENT**

Forward

Back

Best Sections

Doc Contents

**GO TO**

New Search

HomePage

Help

---

---

## H.R.1436

### Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

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HR 1436 IH

105th CONGRESS

1st Session

**H. R. 1436**

To assist local communities in the renewal of their public schools.

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**April 24, 1997**

Mr. CLAY (for himself, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. FORD, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. WATERS, Mr. HILLIARD, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. STOKES, Mr. BISHOP, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. CARSON, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DIXON, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RUSH, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. WYNN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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### A BILL

To assist local communities in the renewal of their public schools.

*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 'Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997'.

## **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

(a) **FINDINGS-** The Congress finds the following:

(1) Although the majority of our Nation's elementary and secondary public schools provide high quality education for our children, many schools need additional resources to implement immediate assistance and reform to enable them to provide a basic and safe education for their students.

(2) The Government Accounting Office recently found that 1/3 of all elementary and secondary schools in the United States, serving 14,000,000 students, need extensive repair and renovation.

(3) Recent reform of under-achieving schools in a number of States and school districts demonstrates that parents, teachers, school administrators, other educators, and local officials, given adequate resources and expertise, can succeed in dramatically improving public education and creating high performance schools.

(4) Such reform efforts show that parental and community involvement in those reforms is indispensable to the objective of high quality, safe, and accountable schools.

(5) Despite the successes of such reforms, public schools are facing tremendous challenges in educating children for the 21st century. The elementary and secondary school population will grow by 10 percent by the year 2005, and over the next 10 years, schools will need more than 2,000,000 additional teachers to meet the demands of such expected enrollments.

(6) Almost 7 of 10 Americans support increased Federal assistance to our Nation's public schools, and that support crosses all boundaries, including cities, towns, and rural areas.

(7) When Federal investment in public schools and children has increased, test scores have improved, and high school graduation rates and college enrollments have increased.

(8) The Federal Government should encourage communities that demonstrate a strong commitment to restore and reform their public schools.

(b) **PURPOSE-** It is the purpose of this Act to assist local communities that are taking the initiative--

(1) to overcome adverse conditions in their public schools;

(2) to revitalize their public schools in accordance with local plans to achieve higher academic standards and safer and improved learning environments; and

(3) to ensure that every community public school provides a quality education for all

students.

### SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

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**THIS SEARCH**

[Next Hit](#)

[Prev Hit](#)

[Hit List](#)

**THIS DOCUMENT**

[Forward](#)

[Back](#)

[Best Sections](#)

[Doc Contents](#)

**GO TO**

[New Search](#)

[HomePage](#)

[Help](#)

---

---

|                          |                               |                            |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>THIS SEARCH</b>       | <b>THIS DOCUMENT</b>          | <b>GO TO</b>               |
| <a href="#">Next Hit</a> | <a href="#">Forward</a>       | <a href="#">New Search</a> |
| <a href="#">Prev Hit</a> | <a href="#">Back</a>          | <a href="#">HomePage</a>   |
| <a href="#">Hit List</a> | <a href="#">Best Sections</a> | <a href="#">Help</a>       |
|                          | <a href="#">Doc Contents</a>  |                            |

---

---

## H.R.1436

### Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

---

For purposes of this Act:

- (1) CONSORTIUM- The term 'consortium' means a local schools consortium as defined in paragraph (2).
- (2) LOCAL SCHOOLS CONSORTIUM- The term 'local schools consortium' means the local educational agency in collaboration with a group composed of affected parents, students, and representatives of teachers, school employees and administrators, local business and community leaders and representative of local higher education group working or residing within the boundary of a local educational agency.
- (3) PARENT- The term 'parent' includes any of the following:
- (A) A grandparent.
  - (B) A legal guardian.
  - (C) Any other person standing in loco parentis.
- (3) PLAN- The term 'plan' means a 3-year public schools renewal and improvement plan described in section 5.
- (4) SECRETARY- The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Education.
- (5) STATE- The term 'State' means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the American Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa.

#### SEC. 4. PROCEDURE FOR DECLARATION.

- (a) IN GENERAL- A request for a declaration by the President that a 'public schools renewal effort is underway' shall be made by a local schools consortium.

(b) **REQUEST-** The local education agency shall submit the request to the Governor of the State who shall, with or without comment, forward such request to the President not more than 30 days after the Governor's receipt of such request. Such request shall--

(1) include the plan;

(2) describe the nature and amount of State and local resources which have been or will be committed to the renewal and improvement of the public schools; and

(3) certify that State or local government obligations and expenditures will comply with all applicable matching requirements established pursuant to this Act.

(c) **DECLARATION-** Based on a request made under this Act, the President, in consultation with the Secretary, may declare that a 'public schools renewal effort is underway' in such community and authorize the Department of Education and other Federal agencies to provide assistance under this Act.

(d) **PROGRESS REPORTS-** The consortium shall--

(1) amend such request annually to include additional initiatives and approaches undertaken by the local educational agency to improve the academic effectiveness and safety of its public school system.

(2) submit annual performance reports to the Secretary which shall describe progress in achieving the goals of the plan.

## **SEC. 5. ELEMENTS OF RENEWAL AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN.**

(a) **IN GENERAL-** As part of its request to the President, and in order to receive assistance under this section, a consortium shall submit a plan that includes the elements described in subsections (b) and (c).

(b) **ADVERSE CONDITIONS-** The plan shall specify the existence of any of the following factors:

(1)(A) A substantial percentage of students in the affected public schools have been performing well below the national average, or below other benchmarks, including State developed benchmarks in such basic skills as reading, math, and science, consistent with Goals 2000 and title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; or

(B) a substantial percentage of such students are failing to complete high school.

(2) Some or all of such schools are overcrowded or have physical plant conditions that threaten the health, safety, and learning environment of the schools' populations.

(3) There is a substantial shortage of certified teachers, teaching materials, and technology training.

**THIS SEARCH**

Next Hit

Prev Hit

Hit List

**THIS DOCUMENT**

Forward

Back

Best Sections

Doc Contents

**GO TO**

New Search

HomePage

Help



---

**THIS SEARCH**[Next Hit](#)[Prev Hit](#)[Hit List](#)**THIS DOCUMENT**[Forward](#)[Back](#)[Best Sections](#)[Doc Contents](#)**GO TO**[New Search](#)[HomePage](#)[Help](#)

---

---

## H.R.1436

---

### Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

---

(4) Some or all of the schools are located where crime and safety problems interfere with the schools' ability to educate students to high academic standards.

(c) ASSURANCES- The plan shall also include assurances from the local educational agency that--

(1) the plan was developed by the local schools consortium after extensive public discussion with State education officials, affected parents, students, teachers and representatives of teachers and school employees, administrators, higher education officials, other educators, and business and community leaders;

(2) describe how the consortium will use resources to meet the types of reforms described in section 7;

(3) provide effective opportunities for professional development of public school teachers, school staff, principals, and school administrators;

(4) provide for greater parental involvement in school affairs;

(5) focus substantially on successful and continuous improvement in the basic academic performance of the students in the public schools;

(6) address the unique responsibilities of all stake holders in the public school system, including students, parents, teachers, school administrators, other educators, governmental officials, and business and community leaders, for the effectiveness of the public school system especially with respect to the schools targeted for greatest assistance;

(7) provide for regular objective evaluation of the effectiveness of the plan;

(8) the agency will give priority to public schools that need the most assistance in improving overcrowding, physical problems and other health and safety concerns, readiness for telecommunications equipment, and teacher training and the pool of certified teachers;

(9) ensure that funds received under this Act shall be used to supplement, not supplant other non-Federal funds;

(10) certify that the combined fiscal effort per student or the aggregate expenditures within the State with respect to the provision of free public education for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the request for a declaration is made was not less than 90 percent of such combined fiscal effort or aggregate expenditures for the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the request for a declaration is made; and

(11) will address other major issues which the local schools consortium determines are critical to renewal of its public schools.

## **SEC. 6. ALLOWABLE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.**

(a) **IN GENERAL-** To provide assistance under this Act, the President may--

(1) direct the Department of Education, with or without reimbursement, to use the authority and the resources granted to it under Federal law (including personnel, educational equipment and supplies, facilities, and managerial, technical, and advisory services) in support of State and local assistance efforts;

(2) direct any other Federal agency to provide assistance as described in paragraph (1);

(3) coordinate such assistance provided by Federal agencies; and

(4) provide technical assistance and advisory assistance to the affected local educational agency.

(b) **DISTRIBUTION OF ASSISTANCE FUNDS-**

(1) **IN GENERAL-** At the direction of the President, the Secretary shall distribute funds and resources provided pursuant to a declaration under this Act to local educational agencies selected for assistance under this Act.

(2) **EXISTING PROCEDURES-** The Secretary shall determine the best method of distributing funds under this Act through personnel and existing procedures that are used to distribute funds under other elementary and secondary education programs.

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**THIS SEARCH**

Next Hit  
Prev Hit  
Hit List

**THIS DOCUMENT**

Forward  
Back  
Best Sections  
Doc Contents

**GO TO**

New Search  
HomePage  
Help

---

---

---

**THIS SEARCH**

Next Hit

Prev Hit

Hit List

**THIS DOCUMENT**

Forward

Back

Best Sections

Doc Contents

**GO TO**

New Search

HomePage

Help

---

---

## **H.R.1436**

### **Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)**

---

(c) PROHIBITION- No provision of this Act shall be construed to authorize any action or conduct prohibited under the General Education Provisions Act.

#### **SEC. 7. USE OF ASSISTANCE.**

Assistance provided pursuant to this Act may be used only to carry out a plan, and to effectuate the following and similar types of public school reforms:

##### **(1) STUDENT-TARGETED RESOURCES-**

- (A) Increasing and improving high-quality early childhood educational opportunities.
- (B) Providing comprehensive parent training so that parents better prepare children before they reach school age.
- (C) Establishing intensive truancy prevention and dropout prevention programs.
- (D) Establishing alternative public schools and programs for troubled students and dropouts, and establishing other public school learning 'safety nets'.
- (E) Enhancing assistance for students with special needs (including limited English proficient students, English as a second language, and students with disabilities).

##### **(2) CLASSROOM FOCUSED SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT-**

- (A) Establishing teacher and principal academies to assist in training and professional development.
- (B) Establishing effective training links for students with area colleges and universities.
- (C) Establishing career ladders for teachers and school employees.

(D) Establishing teacher mentor programs.

(E) Establishing recruitment programs at area colleges and universities to recruit and train college students for the teaching profession.

(F) Establishing stronger links between schools and law enforcement and juvenile justice authority.

(G) Establishing stronger links between schools and parents concerning safe classrooms and effective classroom activities and learning.

(H) Establishing parent and community patrols in and around schools to assist safe schools and passage to schools.

(I) Implementing research-based promising educational practices and promoting exemplary school recognition programs.

(J) Expanding the time students spend on school-based learning activities and in extracurricular activities.

### (3) ACCOUNTABILITY REFORMS-

(A) Establishing high learning standards and meaningful assessments of whether standards are being met.

(B) Monitoring school progress and determining how to more effectively use school system resources.

(C) Establishing performance criteria for teachers and principals through such entities as joint school board and union staff improvement committees.

(D) Establishing promotion and graduation requirements for students, including requirements for reading, mathematics, and science performance.

(E) Providing for strong accountability and corrective action from a continuum of options, consistent with State law and title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

## SEC. 8. DURATION OF ASSISTANCE.

Assistance under this Act may be provided for each of fiscal years 1998 through 2000.

## SEC. 9. REPORT.

Not later than March 31, 2000, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Labor and Human Resources of the Senate assessing the effectiveness of this Act in assisting recipient local schools consortia in carrying out their plans submitted under this Act.

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**THIS SEARCH**

Next Hit

Prev Hit

Hit List

**THIS DOCUMENT**

Forward

Back

Best Sections

Doc Contents

**GO TO**

New Search

HomePage

Help

---

---

**THIS SEARCH**

[Next Hit](#)

[Prev Hit](#)

[Hit List](#)

**THIS DOCUMENT**

[Forward](#)

[Back](#)

[Best Sections](#)

[Doc Contents](#)

**GO TO**

[New Search](#)

[HomePage](#)

[Help](#)

---

---

## H.R.1436

### Public Schools Renewal and Improvement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

---

#### SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; MATCHING REQUIREMENT.

(a) AUTHORIZATION- There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act--

- (1) for fiscal year 1998, \$250,000,000; and
- (2) for fiscal year 1999, \$500,000,000; and
- (3) for fiscal year 2000, such sums as may be necessary.

(b) MATCHING REQUIREMENT-

- (1) IN GENERAL- Federal funds expended or obligated under this Act shall be matched (in an amount equal to such amount so expended or obligated) from State or local funds.
- (2) OTHER FEDERAL RESOURCES- The Secretary shall, by regulation and in consultation with the heads of other Federal agencies, establish matching requirements for other Federal resources provided under this Act.
- (3) WAIVER- Based upon the recommendation of the Secretary, the President may waive paragraph (1) or (2).