

# Full Committee Print

U:\2010REPT\14REPT\JANSTIM\RJANSTIM.007

62

foster additional collaboratives similar to the Interstate Nurse Licensing Compact.

## *Pandemic Influenza*

The Committee has also included \$870,000,000 for pandemic influenza activities, which represents the third installment to implement the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Strategy. The Committee recognizes that influenza vaccine production facilities may soon come online that will bring the domestic influenza vaccine capacity within reach of the targets set by the preparedness strategy by early in the next decade. However, the Committee notes that even with this additional manufacturing capacity, supply of a pandemic vaccine manufactured after the detection of a potential pandemic would be extremely limited in the first weeks and months, and not reach everyone until 6 months after production begins. The Committee encourages the Department to invest in processes, adjuvants, contingency plans, and/or vaccine strategies that could address this potential shortcoming.

The Committee is also concerned that the influenza vaccine production capacity in the United States will soon outpace demand by large numbers. The Committee encourages the Department to identify ways to increase demand for the annual influenza vaccine and to develop contingency plans to ensure that the hard-earned increase in domestic production is not short-lived.

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

The Committee recommends \$13,000,000,000 for education for the disadvantaged.

#### *Grants to Local Educational Agencies*

The Committee recommends \$11,000,000,000 for title I grants to local educational agencies [LEAs], which shall be available through September 30, 2010. From this amount, \$5,500,000,000 shall be allocated through the targeted formula and the same amount through the education finance incentive grant formula. LEAs must spend at least 15 percent of their total allocations for early childhood education.

#### *School Improvement Grants*

The Committee recommends \$2,000,000,000 for the School Improvement Grants program, which enables States to provide assistance to schools not making adequate yearly progress for at least 2 years. The Committee strongly urges the Department to encourage States to use 40 percent of their allocations for middle and high schools.

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

The Committee recommends an additional \$17,070,000,000 for school improvement programs.

# Full Committee Print

U:\2010REPT\14REPT\JANSTIM\RJANSTIM.007

63

## *Educational Technology State Grants*

The Committee recommends an additional \$1,000,000,000 for educational technology State grants. Under the authorizing statute, States must use 50 percent of their allocations for competitive grants and distribute 50 percent to local educational agencies [LEAs] through a formula based on each LEA's share of funds under title I, part A.

## *Education for Homeless Children and Youth*

The Committee recommends an additional \$70,000,000 for carrying out education activities authorized by title VII, subtitle B of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. The Committee notes that the foreclosure crisis has caused a large increase in the number of homeless students; this funding will help districts provide transportation and other services to ensure that homeless students won't be uprooted from their school.

## *School Modernization*

The Committee recommends \$16,000,000,000 for a new program to renovate, repair and build public schools, including early learning facilities.

The purpose of this program is to reduce the staggering backlog of infrastructure improvements that are needed in the Nation's schools, in ways that will promote greater energy efficiency and provide students with greater access to information technology.

The funding will be allocated to States on the basis of their share of the fiscal year 2008 title I allocations, after a 1 percent reservation of funds for outlying areas and Bureau of Indian Affairs schools, and a 2 percent reservation for local educational agencies [LEAs] that educate federally connected students or have federally owned land. Funding that is allocated to States will be allocated to LEAs partly by formula and partly by competition.

The 100 LEAs in the Nation with the most poor children will be allocated their funding by formula, on the basis of the LEA's share of its State's title I allocation. These districts must give a priority to funding "green" projects. The rest of the funding will be awarded to LEAs on a competitive basis by the States, using criteria including: percentage of poor children; need for renovation, repair, and construction; plans to use "green" practices; capability to implement projects expeditiously; and the LEA's fiscal capacity.

Permissible use of the funds include: renovating, repairing, and constructing public school buildings, including early learning facilities; repairing, replacing, or installing roofs, windows, heating, ventilation, or air conditioning systems; meeting fire and safety codes; reducing energy consumption; complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act; improving environmental conditions of school sites, including removing asbestos and reducing exposure to mold, mildew, and lead-based paint; upgrading or installing educational technology infrastructure; and broadening the use of school buildings to the community.

# Full Committee Print

U:\2010REPT\14REPT\JANSTIM\RJANSTIM.007

64

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Committee recommendation includes an additional \$13,500,000,000 for Special Education. Of this amount, \$13,000,000,000 is available for services to children with disabilities, age 3–21. The Committee intends for these funds to be used to enhance services to and outcomes for such children with disabilities and strongly encourages the Department to engage in appropriate oversight and monitoring to accomplish this objective. Local educational agencies must spend not less than 15 percent of their funds on early childhood education. The remaining \$500,000,000 available within this account is for State Grants for Preschool.

## REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH

The Committee recommendation includes \$610,000,000 for Rehabilitation Services and Disability Research. Of this amount, \$500,000,000 is available for additional support for State vocational rehabilitation services. The Committee intends for these funds to reduce or eliminate waiting lists and expand services to underserved or unserved disabled populations. The Committee encourages the Department to ensure that this investment leads to improved employment outcomes for the disabled.

The Committee recommendation also includes a total of \$110,000,000 in additional support for independent living services for the disabled. From this amount, \$75,000,000 is for the Centers for Independent Living program, \$25,000,000 for Services for Older Blind Individuals and \$10,000,000 for State Grants for Independent Living. Of the funds made available for Centers for Independent Living, the Department should ensure that these funds are used to expand services to persons with disabilities, particularly for those in areas that are currently underserved.

## STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Committee has included \$13,869,000,000 for Pell Grants. These funds are sufficient to increase the maximum Pell Grant by \$281 for award year 2009–2010, to increase the maximum Pell Grant by \$400 for the award year 2010–2011, and to reduce or eliminate the Pell Grant shortfall.

The Committee has also included \$61,000,000 for Federal Perkins loans capital contributions. The Federal Perkins loan program supports student loan revolving funds built up with capital contributions to participating institutions.

## HIGHER EDUCATION

The Committee has included \$100,000,000 for Teacher Quality Partnership Grants. The purpose of the Teacher Quality Partnership Grants program is to improve the quality of new teachers and to recruit highly qualified individuals, including minorities and individuals from other occupations, into the teaching force.

## HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES

The bill includes \$3,500,000,000 for facility modernization and instructional equipment for institutions of higher education. The

# Full Committee Print

U:\2010REPT\14REPT\JANSTIM\RJANSTIM.007

65

funds would be distributed to States by formula in proportion to the State's share of full-time equivalent undergraduate students. States must give priority to the needs of institutions that serve high numbers of minority students and those that have been impacted by a major disaster and to projects that improve energy efficiency. The Committee recognizes the major contribution made by community colleges in retraining America's workers and has included bill language requiring States to direct a proportionate share of the funding to community colleges.

## DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

### OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Committee recommendation includes \$4,000,000 for the Office of the Inspector General to ensure appropriate oversight of funds available to and activities supported by the Department of Education. The Committee expects to be notified immediately of any issues that are identified during such audits and oversight work.

## RELATED AGENCIES

### CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

#### OPERATING EXPENSES

The Committee has included \$160,000,000 for AmeriCorps programs, including \$13,000,000 for research related to volunteer service and \$6,000,000 for upgrades to information technology, including a full replacement of the AmeriCorps portal.

The Committee has included bill language setting aside \$65,000,000 for additional AmeriCorps VISTA members. The Committee is aware that small non-profits are responding to growing community needs while experiencing declining donations. VISTA members are well suited to assist these non-profits due to their unique mission to alleviate poverty and the ability of VISTA members to be placed in organizations too small to administer Federal grants. The Corporation shall waive any cost-sharing requirements as part of an effort to target these resources to the organizations most in need of assistance.

In addition, the Committee recommendation includes \$1,000,000 as a supplemental payment to State Commissions on Volunteer Service to account for the cost of additional applications, and \$10,000,000 to support additional members in the National Civilian Community Corps. The Committee encourages the Corps to give priority to community applications that alter the built environment in ways that promote healthy behaviors such as the creation of bike and walking trails.

#### NATIONAL SERVICE TRUST

The Committee has included \$40,000,000 to support the additional members and offset any losses incurred as a result of declining interest rates. Funds are available until expended and may be invested immediately upon enactment. The Committee has included language allowing the Corporation to transfer additional