



Congressman Jared Polis

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H.R. 4037 -- the Literacy Education for All, Results for the Nation (LEARN) Act

What the Literacy Education for All, Results for the Nation (LEARN) Act does:

The LEARN Act will support comprehensive State and local literacy initiatives to ensure that children from birth through 12th grade have the reading and writing skills necessary for success in school and beyond. Specifically, the bill will:

I. Provide federal support for literacy initiatives by:

- Authorizing \$2.35 billion each year for comprehensive, high-quality State and local literacy initiatives that span birth through 12th grade;
- Enabling States to design a comprehensive literacy plan and make subgrants to early learning providers and school districts to develop and implement high-quality literacy initiatives that will improve the reading and writing skills of all children and students;
- Designating that funds must be allocated as follows:
 - 15% for children birth through kindergarten entry
 - 40% for kindergarten through grade 5
 - 40% for grades 6 through 12;
- Targeting funding to high-need student populations and schools;
- Requiring a rigorous national evaluation of the programs; and
- Including stringent conflict of interest restrictions for the programs' peer review process.

II. Enhance each State's role in improving literacy instruction by:

- Supporting the formation of a State Literacy Leadership Team made up of literacy experts and key stakeholders to assist in the development of a comprehensive State literacy plan that includes a needs assessment, a capacity survey, and an implementation plan to ensure high-quality instruction in reading and writing;
- Requiring States to provide technical assistance to early learning providers and local educational agencies on implementing high-quality professional development programs for literacy instruction; and
- Requiring each State to review pre-service coursework as well as State licensure and certification requirements and make recommendations to improve training in high-quality literacy instruction.

III. Support the creation of local high-quality literacy initiatives by:

- Providing high-quality professional development for instructional staff that is jobembedded, ongoing, and research-based, and supporting teachers in analyzing assessment data to improve student learning;
- Providing children and students with high-quality early literacy instruction and reading and writing instruction;
- Utilizing assessment systems to inform and improve instruction and student learning at all age and grade levels; and
- Supporting school-wide literacy initiatives and additional literacy supports to address the specific learning needs of English language learners, students with disabilities, and struggling readers and writers

Congressional Co-sponsors:

Rep Berman, Howard L. [D-CA-28]
Rep Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-14]
Rep Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]
Rep Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]
Rep Fattah, Chaka [D-PA-2]
Rep Fudge, Marcia L. [D-OH-11]

Rep Grijalva, Raul M. [D-AZ-7]
Rep Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI-2]
Rep Miller, George [D-CA-7]
Rep Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC]
Rep Sablan, Gregorio [D-MP]
Rep Sestak, Joe [D-PA-7]

Supporting Organizations:

Academy for Educational Development
ACT
Alliance for Excellent Education
American Association of Colleges for
Teacher Education
American Association of University Women
American Federation of Teachers
American Occupational Therapy Association
American School Counselor Association
Association for Career and Technical
Education
Association of American Publishers
Association of Assistive Technology Act
Programs
Association of Teacher Educators
Citizen Schools
College Board
Council of Chief State School Officers
Council for Exceptional Children
Higher Education Consortium for Special
Education
Institute for Educational Leadership
International Reading Association
Knowledge Alliance
Learning Disabilities Association of America
National Association of Elementary School
Principals
National Association of Federally Impacted
Schools
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School
Principals
National Association of State Boards of
Education
National Association of State Directors of
Special Education
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Council of Teachers of English
National Down Syndrome Congress
National Down Syndrome Society
National Education Association

National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades
Reform
National Middle School Association
National PTA
National School Boards Association
National School Supply and Equipment
Association
National Title I Association
National Writing Project
Parent-Child Home Program
Pre-K Now
Reading Recovery Council of North America
Scholastic Inc.
School Social Work Association of America
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center
TASH
Teacher Education Division of the Council for
Exceptional Children
Teachers of English to Speakers of Other
Languages, Inc.
The Advocacy Institute
The Arc of the U.S.
The Association of Educational Publishers
United Cerebral Palsy
Vocational Evaluation and Career Assessment
Professionals Association
VSA arts