

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 3036
OFFERED BY MR. GEORGE MILLER OF
CALIFORNIA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “No Child Left Inside
3 Act of 2008”.

**4 SEC. 2. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ACT
5 AMENDMENTS.**

6 (a) ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING
7 PROGRAM.—Section 5 of the National Environmental
8 Education Act (20 U.S.C. 5504) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (b)—

10 (A) in paragraph (1)—

11 (i) by inserting “creating opportuni-
12 ties for enhanced and ongoing professional
13 development and” before “classroom”; and

14 (ii) by inserting “(including inte-
15 grating scientifically valid research teach-
16 ing methods and technology-based teaching

1 methods into the curriculum)” after “prac-
2 tices”;

3 (B) in paragraph (3)—

4 (i) by striking “curriculum, including”
5 and inserting “curriculum (including”;

6 (ii) by striking “groups;” and insert-
7 ing “groups) which—”; and

8 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(A) are aligned with challenging State
11 and local academic content standards to the ex-
12 tent such standards exist; and

13 “(B) advance the teaching of interdiscipli-
14 nary courses that integrate the study of nat-
15 ural, social, and economic systems and that in-
16 clude strong field components;”;

17 (C) in paragraph (7), by striking “and fo-
18 rums;” and inserting “forums, and bringing
19 teachers into contact with working professionals
20 in environmental fields to expand such teachers’
21 subject matter knowledge of, and research in,
22 environmental issues;”;

23 (D) in paragraph (8), by striking “; and”
24 and inserting “, including environmental edu-
25 cation distance learning programs for teachers

1 using curricula that are innovative, content-
2 based, and based on scientifically valid research
3 that is current as of the date of the program
4 involved;”;

5 (E) by redesignating paragraph (9) as
6 paragraph (13);

7 (F) by redesignating paragraphs (4)
8 through (8) as paragraphs (5) through (9), re-
9 spectively;

10 (G) by inserting after paragraph (3) the
11 following:

12 “(4) encouraging individuals traditionally
13 under-represented in environmental careers to pur-
14 sue postsecondary degrees in majors leading to such
15 careers;”;

16 (H) by inserting after paragraph (9) (as so
17 redesignated) the following:

18 “(10) establishment of programs to prepare
19 teachers at a school to provide environmental edu-
20 cation professional development to other teachers at
21 the school and programs to promote outdoor envi-
22 ronmental education activities as part of the regular
23 school curriculum and schedule in order to further
24 the knowledge and development of teachers and stu-
25 dents;

1 cational agencies, or institutions of higher education
2 that have demonstrated expertise and experience in
3 the development of the institutional, financial, intel-
4 lectual, or policy resources needed to help the field
5 of environmental education become more effective
6 and widely practiced.

7 “(2) DURATION.—The Secretary shall award
8 each grant under this section for a period of not less
9 than 1 year and not more than 3 years.

10 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds made available
11 under this section shall be used for 1 or more of the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(1) Developing and implementing challenging
14 State academic content standards, student academic
15 achievement standards, and State curriculum frame-
16 works in environmental education.

17 “(2) Replicating or disseminating information
18 about proven and tested model environmental edu-
19 cation programs that—

20 “(A) use the environment as an integrating
21 theme or content throughout the curriculum; or

22 “(B) provide integrated, interdisciplinary
23 instruction about natural, social, and economic
24 systems along with field experience that pro-
25 vides students with opportunities to directly ex-

1 perience nature in ways designed to improve
2 overall academic performance, self-esteem, per-
3 sonal responsibility, community involvement,
4 personal health (including addressing child obe-
5 sity issues), or their understanding of nature.

6 “(3) Developing and implementing new policy
7 approaches to advancing environmental education at
8 the State and national level.

9 “(4) Conducting studies of national significance
10 that—

11 “(A) evaluate the effectiveness of teaching
12 environmental education as a separate subject,
13 and as an integrating concept or theme; or

14 “(B) evaluate the effectiveness of using en-
15 vironmental education in helping students im-
16 prove their assessment scores in mathematics,
17 reading or language arts, and the other core
18 academic subjects.

19 “(5) Executing projects that advance wide-
20 spread State and local educational agency adoption
21 and use of environmental education content stand-
22 ards, including adoption and use of such standards
23 in textbook selection criteria.

24 “(6) Developing a State environmental literacy
25 plan that includes the following:

1 “(A) A description of how the State edu-
2 cational agency will measure the environmental
3 literacy of students, including—

4 “(i) relevant State academic content
5 standards and content areas regarding en-
6 vironmental education, and courses or sub-
7 jects where environmental education in-
8 struction will take place; and

9 “(ii) a description of the relationship
10 of the plan to the secondary school gradua-
11 tion requirements of the State.

12 “(B) A description of programs for profes-
13 sional development for teachers to improve the
14 teachers’—

15 “(i) environmental content knowledge;

16 “(ii) skill in teaching about environ-
17 mental issues; and

18 “(iii) field-based pedagogical skills.

19 “(C) A description of how the State edu-
20 cational agency will implement the plan, includ-
21 ing securing funding and other necessary sup-
22 port.

23 “(7) Developing evidence-based approaches to
24 build capacity to increase the number of elementary
25 and secondary environmental educators.

1 “(c) APPLICATIONS.—Each nonprofit organization,
2 State educational agency, local educational agency, or in-
3 stitution of higher education desiring a grant under this
4 section shall submit to the Secretary an application that
5 contains a plan to initiate, expand, or improve environ-
6 mental education programs in order to make progress to-
7 ward meeting State standards for environmental learning
8 (to the extent such standards exist) and environmental lit-
9 eracy and contains an evaluation and accountability plan
10 for activities assisted under this section that includes rig-
11 orous objectives that measure the impact of activities
12 funded under this section.

13 “(d) REQUIREMENTS.—

14 “(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—In order to continue
15 receiving grant funds under this section after the
16 first year of a multi-year grant under this section,
17 the grantee shall submit to the Secretary an annual
18 report that—

19 “(A) describes the activities assisted under
20 this section that were conducted during the pre-
21 ceding year;

22 “(B) describes the results of the grantee’s
23 evaluation and accountability plan; and

1 “(C) demonstrates that the grantee has
2 undertaken activities to accomplish at least one
3 of the following:

4 “(i) Responsibly preparing children to
5 understand and address major challenges
6 facing the United States, such as increas-
7 ing the supply of clean energy, climate
8 change, environmental health risks, and
9 environmental disaster and emergency pre-
10 paredness.

11 “(ii) Supporting systemic education
12 reform by strengthening environmental
13 education as an integral part of the ele-
14 mentary school and secondary school cur-
15 riculum.

16 “(iii) Helping ensure that all students
17 meet challenging State academic content
18 and student academic achievement stand-
19 ards in environmental learning.

20 “(iv) Supporting efforts to enable stu-
21 dents to engage in environmental edu-
22 cation.

23 “(v) Leveraging and expanding pri-
24 vate and public support for environmental

1 education partnerships at national, State,
2 and local levels.

3 “(vi) Awarding grants to initiate, ex-
4 pand, or improve environmental education
5 programs for elementary and secondary
6 students.

7 “(vii) Restoring and increasing field
8 experiences as part of the regular school
9 curriculum and schedule in order to im-
10 prove students’ overall academic perform-
11 ance, self-esteem, personal responsibility,
12 community involvement, personal health
13 (including addressing child obesity issues),
14 and understanding of nature.

15 “(2) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more
16 than 5 percent of the grant funds made available to
17 a nonprofit organization, State educational agency,
18 local educational agency, or institution of higher
19 education under this section for any fiscal year may
20 be used for administrative expenses.

21 “(3) STATE ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY
22 PLANS.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State educational
24 agency receiving a grant under this section
25 shall—

1 “(i) have a State environmental lit-
2 eracy plan that is consistent with the re-
3 quirements of subsection (b)(6) and that is
4 peer reviewed within the State by a panel
5 composed of experts in environmental edu-
6 cation and representatives from other re-
7 lated State agencies; or

8 “(ii) develop a State environmental
9 literacy plan described in subsection (b)(6)
10 with funds made available under this sec-
11 tion prior to using the grant funds for any
12 other purpose.

13 “(B) PEER REVIEW.—If an environmental
14 literacy plan described in subparagraph (A)(i)
15 has not been peer reviewed within the State, the
16 State educational agency, notwithstanding sub-
17 section (b), shall use funds made available
18 under this section to complete such review, as
19 described in such subparagraph, prior to using
20 the grant funds for any other purpose.

21 “(C) OTHER GRANTEEES.—An applicant for
22 a grant under this section that is not a State
23 educational agency and applies for funding to
24 be used for the purpose described in subsection
25 (b)(6) shall demonstrate in the application that

1 the applicant has consulted with the State edu-
2 cational agency about such use of funds.

3 “(e) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—

4 “(1) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share
5 under this section shall not exceed—

6 “(A) 90 percent of the total cost of a pro-
7 gram assisted under this section for the first
8 year for which the program receives assistance
9 under this section;

10 “(B) 75 percent of such cost for the sec-
11 ond; and

12 “(C) 50 percent of such cost for each sub-
13 sequent such year.

14 “(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
15 one year after enactment of this bill, the Secretary
16 shall submit to the Committee on Education and
17 Labor of the House of Representatives and the Com-
18 mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
19 of the Senate a report that—

20 “(A) describes the programs assisted under
21 this section;

22 “(B) documents the success of such pro-
23 grams in improving national and State environ-
24 mental education capacity; and

1 “(C) makes such recommendations as the
2 Secretary determines appropriate for the con-
3 tinuation and improvement of the programs as-
4 sisted under this section.

5 “(3) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts made
6 available to the Secretary to carry out this section
7 shall remain available until expended.

8 “(f) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made
9 available under this section shall be used to supplement,
10 and not supplant, any other Federal, State, or local funds
11 available for environmental education activities.

12 “(g) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section
14 shall be construed to mandate academic content
15 standards, curricula, or assessments in environ-
16 mental education.

17 “(2) OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.—Nothing in
18 this section shall be construed to authorize an officer
19 or employee of the Federal Government to mandate,
20 direct, or control a State, local educational agency,
21 or school’s specific instructional content, academic
22 achievement standards, assessments, curriculum, or
23 program of instruction.

1 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009.”.

4 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
5 tents in section 1(b) of the National Environmental Edu-
6 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 5501 note) is amended by striking
7 the item relating to section 11 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 11. National capacity environmental education grant program.

“Sec. 12. Authorization.”.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to reauthorize
and enhance the National Environmental Education Act,
and for other purposes.”.

