



(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To encourage local educational agencies to resume in-person instruction at elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. HINSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To encourage local educational agencies to resume in-person instruction at elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Reopen Schools Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO SUPPORT IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION.**

6 Subsection (c) of section 313 of the Coronavirus Re-
7 sponse and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021

1 (division M of Public Law 116–260) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 “(c) SUBGRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-
4 CIES.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the allocation pro-
6 vided by the Secretary under subsection (b), the
7 State educational agency shall provide services and
8 assistance to local educational agencies and non-pub-
9 lic schools, consistent with the provisions of this sec-
10 tion. Each State shall allocate not less than 90 per-
11 cent of the allocation awarded to the State under
12 this section as subgrants to local educational agen-
13 cies (including charter schools that are local edu-
14 cational agencies) in the State in proportion to the
15 amount of funds such local educational agencies and
16 charter schools that are local educational agencies
17 received under part A of title I of the Elementary
18 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
19 6311 et seq.) in the most recent fiscal year. The
20 State educational agency shall make such subgrants
21 to local educational agencies as follows:

22 “(A) One-third of funds shall be awarded
23 not less than 15 calendar days after receiving
24 an award from the Secretary under this section.

1 “(B) The remaining two-thirds of funds
2 shall be awarded only after the local educational
3 agency submits to the Governor and the Gov-
4 ernor approves a comprehensive school reopen-
5 ing plan based on criteria determined by the
6 Governor in consultation with the State edu-
7 cational agency (including criteria for the Gov-
8 ernor to carry out paragraph (2)), that de-
9 scribes how the local educational agency will
10 safely reopen schools with the physical presence
11 of students, consistent with maintaining safe
12 and continuous operations aligned with chal-
13 lenging State academic standards.

14 “(2) APPROVAL OF PLANS.—The Governor
15 shall approve plans submitted under paragraph
16 (1)(B) within 30 days after the plan is submitted,
17 subject to the following requirements:

18 “(A) A local educational agency that pro-
19 vides in-person instruction for at least 50 per-
20 cent of its students where the students phys-
21 ically attend school no less than 50 percent of
22 each school-week, as it was defined by the local
23 educational agency prior to the coronavirus
24 emergency, shall have its plan automatically ap-
25 proved.

1 “(B) A local educational agency that does
2 not provide in-person instruction to any stu-
3 dents where the students physically attend
4 school in-person shall not be eligible to receive
5 a subgrant under paragraph (1)(B).

6 “(C) A local educational agency that pro-
7 vides in-person instruction to at least some stu-
8 dents where the students physically attend
9 school in-person but does not satisfy the re-
10 quirements in subparagraph (A) shall have its
11 allocation reduced on a pro rata basis as deter-
12 mined by the Governor.

13 “(3) PLAN CONTENTS.—A school reopening
14 plan submitted to a Governor under paragraph
15 (1)(B) shall include, in addition to any other infor-
16 mation necessary to meet the criteria determined by
17 the Governor—

18 “(A) a detailed timeline for when the local
19 educational agency will provide in-person in-
20 struction, including the goals and criteria used
21 for providing full time in-person instruction to
22 all students;

23 “(B) a description of how many days of in-
24 person instruction per calendar week the local

1 educational agency plans to offer to students;

2 and

3 “(C) an assurance that the local edu-
4 cational agency will offer students as much in-
5 person instruction as is safe and practicable,
6 consistent with maintaining safe and continuous
7 operations aligned with challenging State aca-
8 demic standards.”.