

2009 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES SUMMARY



**NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)
E-RATE (Schools and Libraries) PROGRAM
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES ACT (MLSA)
PRESERVING THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL RECORD (PAHR) ACT**

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

The New York State Board of Regents instituted standards-based reform 10 years before the enactment of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), has continued to raise standards and expectations, and has been a strong supporter of NCLB's goals. However, significant revisions are necessary in order to close the achievement gap and ensure that all students have the education and skills necessary to compete in the global economy of the 21st century.

The Board remains committed to working with its partners at all levels to establish world-class standards, raise achievement levels, improve graduation rates, address the needs of special populations, expand early childhood education, and develop effective teachers and other educational leaders.

Summary of Recommendations

Accountability

- ▶ Allow states to develop and use more flexible, less constrained growth models to complement existing status measures in determining Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as long as the models are valid, reliable and educationally meaningful
- ▶ Permit states to develop and use value-added models for accountability as long as the measures are valid, reliable and educationally meaningful

Assessments

- ▶ Allow states to determine the most meaningful and educationally sound way to address the diversity of students with disabilities and students who are English language learners (ELLs)



**NEW YORK
STATE**

**BOARD OF
REGENTS**

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**FEDERAL
LEGISLATIVE
and
FUNDING
PRIORITIES
2009**



2009 Legislative Priorities Summary-NCLB (con't)

Assessments (con't)

- For certain students with disabilities, allow states to use alternate or modified assessments based on the instructional level of each student, as reflected in the student's individualized education program (IEP)
- For ELLs, allow states to determine when the student's level of proficiency in English will result in meaningful results from his/her participation in the English Language Arts (ELA) exam and other state assessments

School Improvement

▶ Permit states to exercise appropriate judgment in making accountability determinations and establishing consequences and required interventions for schools and districts based on the scope, depth and persistence of their failure to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Student Academics and Supports

▶ Provide adequate support for interventions targeted to low-performing students, such as ELLs, students with disabilities and low-income students, and offer fiscal and programmatic incentives to implement best practices in raising their achievement

▶ Increase investment and innovation in educational technology to enhance student learning by expanding access to broadband networks, developing rich standards-based digital content, enhancing teachers' technology integration skills, and implementing and monitoring instructional technology standards

Middle and High School Reform

▶ Expand support for career and technical education programs that address student interests, the needs of local employers, and the skills necessary to succeed in the global marketplace

▶ Provide support for programs designed to increase the number of students who graduate career- and college-ready, including early identification programs and services for students at risk of dropping out

Teachers and Other School Leaders

▶ To strengthen teaching and learning for all students, allow states to define and set the standards for the experience, qualifications and characteristics needed for effective teachers and school leaders

Federal-State-Local Partnership

▶ Permit greater state and local flexibility in using targeted federal funds to create cross-program initiatives



P-16 Education

- ▶ Support the development and use of state P-16 longitudinal data systems

School Readiness

- ▶ Provide support for state early childhood initiatives serving ages from birth to eight, including the development of universal, full-day preschool for three- and four-year-olds

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)

WIA supports a structure designed to focus on the education and training needs of out-of-school youth and adults along with the need for economic and workforce development. It connects postsecondary career and technical education and training, adult education and family literacy, and vocational rehabilitation.

Summary of Recommendations

- **Title I- Workforce Investment Act:** Authorize separate funding for the one-stop delivery center infrastructure; maintain the representative balance on youth councils; simplify the determination process for youth participation; ensure representation of key partners on State and Local Workforce Investment Boards
- **Title II- Adult Education and Family Literacy Act:** Reward good state performance; expand funding for state leadership activities; retain state maintenance of effort requirements; create a separately funded health literacy program; create a separately funded literacy zone pilot program
- **Title IV- Vocational Rehabilitation Act:** Enhance the current funding formula; create a separately funded transition program; create a separately funded program for veterans' services; provide incentives to increase the supply of qualified vocational rehabilitation counselors; maintain the current limit on intensive supported employment services; increase opportunities for entrepreneurship and self-employment; expand the Social Security Administration's demonstration authority to test work incentive provisions to increase earnings; modify the funding formula for Centers for Independent Living; improve the effectiveness of Statewide Independent Living Councils

E-RATE (Schools and Libraries) PROGRAM

The E-Rate Program is designed to ensure that schools and libraries have access to affordable telecommunication services, Internet services, and cabling and network infrastructure.

Summary of Recommendations

- Secure permanent exemption from the Anti-deficiency Act
- Simplify the application process
- Prevent additional federal requirements for blocking and filtering access to Internet content



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Participation in a high-quality early education program builds the foundation for a child's success in school and in life.

Summary of Recommendations

- Support passage of the *Providing Resources Early for Kids (PRE-K) Act* or similar proposal that would create a formula grant program for states to assist local pre-school providers in improving the quality of their programs
- Support passage of the *Prepare All Kids Act, Ready to Learn Act, or similar proposal* that would authorize funding to assist states in making voluntary high-quality full-day prekindergarten available and affordable for all children

MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES ACT (MLSA)

The MLSA is the main source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums.

Summary of Recommendations

- **Library Services and Technology Act:** Align priorities of the state grant program with the Act's overall goals and purposes; authorize the Librarian Education for the 21st Century program to ensure the supply of qualified library professionals; improve data collection by authorizing the Institute of Museum and Library Services to collect data and require data collection to be coordinated by state-wide advisory committees
- **Museum Services Act:** Increase the authorization to \$95 million and phase in funding over five years; authorize initial funding for technology upgrades, lifelong learning, capacity building, collection management, community engagement, research, and developing the next generation of museum professionals and authorize future increases for state needs assessments, new grants for conservation, traveling exhibits and assisting small museums in competing for federal grants

PRESERVING THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL RECORD (PAHR) ACT

The PAHR Act would provide federal support to state and local governments, historical societies, libraries, and related organizations to preserve state and local archival records.

Summary of Recommendations

- Support passage of the PAHR Act

For additional information:

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