



All Students Achieving through Reform (All-STAR) Act Overview

S. 3441

Sponsored by:

Senator Richard J. Durbin and Senator Judd Gregg

All Students Achieving through Reform (All-STAR) Act Overview:

The All Students Achieving through Reform (All STAR) Act would establish competitive grants in the Department of Education that will enable and encourage successful public charter school models to expand and replicate. The bill also strengthens public charter school accountability, transparency, and governance.

The All Star Act:

- Authorizes competitive grants focused on replicating and expanding the most successful public charter schools across the country.
- Enable local education agencies, state education agencies, authorized public chartering agencies, and non-profit organizations to compete directly for administering funds.
- Focuses resources on replicating the best models by giving priority to the top performing charters in each state which:
 - Have made AYP the last two consecutive years and exceed the state graduation rate;
 - Have significantly closed the achievement gap and serve a large percentage of low income children and rank among the top 25% of the state's public schools; or
 - Meet benchmarks on an exam chosen by the Secretary of Education.
- Prioritizes eligible entities that plan to replicate and/or expand eligible public charter schools in areas with large numbers of low income students attending schools not making AYP.
- Prioritizes states that implement policies that encourage successful charter schools including: no cap on the growth of public charter schools, autonomy for charter schools, strong authorizing policies, and quality control through performance-based accountability.
- Allows eligible entities to use 20 percent of their grant to establish a reserve account and keep any interest earned on those funds for charter school facility development.
- Requires new levels of charter school authorizer reporting and accountability.
- Additionally, allow schools to use the funds for a variety of costs, all associated with their replication and/or expansion, including:
 - Transportation
 - Hiring additional staff and teachers
 - Special education programs
 - Facilities acquisition and development
 - Any other activities necessary to serve additional students

For additional information on how this program will impact your District or State, please don't hesitate to contact the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools at 202-289-2700.

All-STAR has the support of: The Center for American Progress Action Fund, Thomas B. Fordham Foundation, Democrats for Education Reform, Green Dot America, Progressive Policy Institute, Citizens' Commission on Civil Rights, United Negro College Fund, National Council of La Raza, Education Equality Project, Black Alliance for Educational Options, Charter School Lenders' Coalition, KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program), Uncommon Schools, Achievement First, Aspire Public Schools, Noble Network of Charter Schools, IDEA Public Schools, YES Prep Public Schools, Success Charter Network, Democracy Prep, ICEF Public Schools, NewSchools Venture Fund, Charter School Growth Fund, NCB Capital Impact, The Reinvestment Fund, and the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools.