First Look: Code Like a Girl Act (HR 3316 / S 1968, 115th Congress)

Directs the National Science Foundation to award grants to encourage young girls to participate in computer science and other STEM activities.

Updated last March 6, 2018
for the 07/19/2017 version of HR 3316

WHAT IT DOES

The Code Like a Girl Act directs the National Science Foundation (NSF) to award competitive grants to institutions of higher education, local educational agencies, or nonprofit organizations to accelerate research efforts to increase understanding of the factors that contribute to the willingness or unwillingness of girls under the age of 11 to participate in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, including computer science) activities.

The NSF shall also award competitive grants to such institutions and organizations to enter into partnerships with local education agencies to develop and evaluate interventions in pre-K and elementary school classrooms that seek to increase participation by such girls in computer science activities. The NSF must:

1. ensure that the materials developed under a program funded by such a grant that are demonstrated as being effective in achieving grant goals are made available free of charge to the public on an Internet website,
2. convene an annual meeting of participating partnerships to foster greater national collaboration, and
3. furnish such partnerships with technical assistance in meeting grant program requirements.

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