

Calendar No. 217

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 120

A bill to expand the number of scholarships available to Pakistani women under the Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 23 (legislative day, JANUARY 3), 2013

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COONS, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

OCTOBER 10, 2013

Reported by Mr. MENENDEZ, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

A bill to expand the number of scholarships available to Pakistani women under the Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program.

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 “Malala Yousafzai
5 Scholarship Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
3 ings:

4 (1) On October 9, 2012, 15-year-old Malala
5 Yousafzai was shot in the head by Taliban gunmen
6 in Pakistan on her way home from school.

7 (2) When Malala was 11 years old, she bravely
8 stood up to the Taliban and wrote a secret blog doc-
9 umenting their crackdown on women’s rights and
10 education in 2009.

11 (3) Malala’s advocaey for women’s education
12 made her a target of the Taliban.

13 (4) The Taliban called Malala’s efforts to high-
14 light the need for women’s education an “obscenity”.

15 (5) According to the United Nation’s 2012
16 Education for All Global Monitoring Report, “Paki-
17 stan has the second largest number of children out
18 of school [in the world]” and “nearly half of rural
19 females have never been to school.”.

20 (6) According to a Council on Foreign Rela-
21 tions report titled “What Works in Girls’ Edu-
22 cation”, “A 100-country study by the World Bank
23 shows that increasing the share of women with a
24 secondary education by 1 percent boosts annual per
25 capita income growth by 0.3 percentage points.”.

1 (7) According to the World Bank, “The benefits
2 of women’s education go beyond higher productivity
3 for 50 percent of the population. More educated
4 women also tend to be healthier, participate more in
5 the formal labor market, earn more income, have
6 fewer children, and provide better health care and
7 education to their children, all of which eventually
8 improve the well-being of all individuals and lift
9 households out of poverty. These benefits also trans-
10 mit across generations, as well as to their commu-
11 nities at large.”.

12 (8) According to United Nation’s 2012 Edu-
13 cation For All Global Monitoring Report, “education
14 can make a big difference to women’s earnings. In
15 Pakistan, women with a high level of literacy earned
16 95 percent more than women with no literacy
17 skills.”.

18 (9) In January 2010, Secretary of State Hillary
19 Rodham Clinton stated, “We will open the doors of
20 education to all citizens, but especially to girls and
21 women . . . We are doing all of these things because
22 we have seen that when women and girls have the
23 tools to stay healthy and the opportunity to con-
24 tribute to their families’ well-being, they flourish and
25 so do the people around them.”.

1 (10) The United States provides critical foreign
2 assistance to Pakistan’s education sector to improve
3 access to and the quality of basic and higher edu-
4 cation.

5 (11) The Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship
6 Program administered by the United States Agency
7 for International Development awards scholarships
8 to academically talented, financially needy Pakistani
9 students from remote regions of the country to pur-
10 sue bachelor’s or master’s degrees at participating
11 Pakistani universities.

12 (12) Twenty-five percent of the 1,807 Merit
13 and Needs-Based Scholarships awarded to date have
14 been for women, with the goal of awarding 50 per-
15 cent of the scholarships for fall 2013 matriculation
16 to women.

17 (13) The United Nations declared November 10
18 as “Malala Day”—a global day of support for and
19 recognition of Malala’s bravery and courage in pro-
20 moting women’s education.

21 (14) On December 10, 2012, the United Na-
22 tions and the Government of Pakistan launched the
23 “Malala Fund for Girls’ Education” to improve
24 girls’ access to education worldwide, with Pakistan
25 donating the first \$10,000,000 to the Fund.

1 (15) The Government of Pakistan has stated
2 that it plans to open 16 schools for poor children in
3 areas affected by conflict or natural disasters and
4 name them “Malala Schools” after Malala
5 Yousafzai.

6 (16) The Government of Pakistan, the United
7 Nations, the World Bank, and other international
8 organizations have set an April 2013 deadline to put
9 forward a plan to provide education for all of Paki-
10 stan’s school-aged children by the end of 2015.

11 (17) More than 1,000,000 people around the
12 world have signed the United Nations Special Envoy
13 for Global Education petition calling on the Govern-
14 ment of Pakistan to enroll every boy and girl in pri-
15 mary school.

16 (18) Pakistani civil society organizations col-
17 lected an additional 1,200,000 signatures from Paki-
18 stanis on a petition dedicated to Malala’s cause.

19 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—It is the sense of Congress that—

21 (1) education and freedom from discrimination
22 are fundamental human rights; and

23 (2) educational exchanges increase people-to-
24 people ties and promote institutional linkages be-
25 tween the United States and other countries.

1 (b) ~~CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR EDUCATIONAL INITIA-~~
2 ~~TIVES IN PAKISTAN.~~—Congress encourages the Depart-
3 ment of State and the United States Agency for Inter-
4 national Development to continue their support for initia-
5 tives led by the Government of Pakistan and Pakistani
6 civil society that promote education in Pakistan, especially
7 education for women.

8 **SEC. 4. MERIT AND NEEDS-BASED SCHOLARSHIP PRO-**
9 **GRAM.**

10 (a) ~~EXPANSION.~~—The USAID Administrator shall
11 increase the number of scholarships available under the
12 Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program (referred to
13 in this Act as the “Program”) administered by the United
14 States Agency for International Development (referred to
15 in this Act as “USAID”) during each of the fiscal years
16 2013 through 2016 by 30 percent compared to the num-
17 ber of scholarships awarded during fiscal year 2012.

18 (b) ~~LIMITATIONS.~~—

19 (1) ~~WOMEN.~~—The additional scholarships avail-
20 able under subsection (a) may only be awarded to
21 women, in accordance with other scholarship eligi-
22 bility criteria already established by USAID.

23 (2) ~~ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES.~~—Additional schol-
24 arships added by subsection (a) shall be awarded for
25 a range of disciplines to improve the employability of

1 graduates and to meet the needs of the scholarship
2 recipients.

3 ~~(3) OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS.—~~The USAID Ad-
4 ministrator shall make every effort to award 50 per-
5 cent of the scholarships available under the Program
6 ~~(excluding the additional scholarships available~~
7 ~~under subsection (a))~~ to Pakistani women.

8 **SEC. 5. ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING.**

9 (a) ~~IN GENERAL.—~~The USAID Administrator shall
10 designate appropriate USAID officials to brief the appro-
11 priate congressional committees, not later than 1 year
12 after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually
13 thereafter for the next 3 years, on the implementation of
14 section 4.

15 (b) ~~CONTENTS.—~~The briefing described in subsection
16 (a) shall include, among other relevant information, for
17 the most recently concluded fiscal year—

18 (1) the total number of scholarships that were
19 awarded through the Program;

20 (2) the disciplines of study chosen by the schol-
21 arship recipients;

22 (3) the percentage of the scholarships that were
23 awarded to students seeking a bachelor's degree or
24 a master's degree, respectively; and

1 (4) the percentage of scholarship recipients that
 2 voluntarily dropped out of school or were involun-
 3 tarily pushed out of the program for failure to meet
 4 program requirements.

5 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 (a) ~~TRANSFER OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE FUND-~~
 7 ~~ING.~~—Of the amounts appropriated for fiscal years 2013
 8 and 2014 pursuant to the authorization under title II of
 9 the ~~Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009~~
 10 ~~(Public Law 111–73)~~, \$400,000 shall be made available
 11 in each of the fiscal years 2013 and 2014 for the Program.

12 (b) ~~FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR~~
 13 ~~PAKISTANI WOMEN.~~—Of the amounts appropriated for
 14 fiscal years 2015 and 2016 for the purpose of providing
 15 assistance to Pakistan under the Foreign Assistance Act
 16 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.), \$400,000 shall be made
 17 available in each of the fiscal years 2015 and 2016 for
 18 the Program.

19 (c) ~~AVAILABILITY.~~—Amounts made available in sub-
 20 sections (a) and (b) shall remain available until expended.

21 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

22 *This Act may be cited as the “Malala Yousafzai Schol-*
 23 *arship Act’ ”.*

24 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

25 (a) *FINDINGS.*—*Congress makes the following findings:*

1 (1) *On October 9, 2012, 15-year-old Malala*
2 *Yousafzai was shot in the head by Taliban gunmen*
3 *in Pakistan on her way home from school.*

4 (2) *When Malala was 11 years old, she bravely*
5 *stood up to the Taliban and wrote a secret blog docu-*
6 *menting their crackdown on women’s rights and edu-*
7 *cation in 2009.*

8 (3) *Malala’s advocacy for women’s education*
9 *made her a target of the Taliban.*

10 (4) *The Taliban called Malala’s efforts to high-*
11 *light the need for women’s education an “obscenity”.*

12 (5) *On July 12, 2013, Malala celebrated her 16th*
13 *birthday by delivering a speech before the United Na-*
14 *tions General Assembly in which she said, “So let us*
15 *wage a glorious struggle against illiteracy, poverty,*
16 *and terrorism. Let us pick up our books and our*
17 *pens. They are the most powerful weapons. One child,*
18 *one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the*
19 *world. Education is the only solution.”.*

20 (6) *According to the United Nation’s 2012 Edu-*
21 *cation for All Global Monitoring Report, “Pakistan*
22 *has the second largest number of children out of school*
23 *[in the world]” and “nearly half of rural females have*
24 *never been to school.”.*

1 (7) *According to a Council on Foreign Relations*
2 *report titled “What Works in Girls’ Education”, “A*
3 *100-country study by the World Bank shows that in-*
4 *creasing the share of women with a secondary edu-*
5 *cation by 1 percent boosts annual per capita income*
6 *growth by 0.3 percentage points.”.*

7 (8) *According to the World Bank, “The benefits*
8 *of women’s education go beyond higher productivity*
9 *for 50 percent of the population. More educated*
10 *women also tend to be healthier, participate more in*
11 *the formal labor market, earn more income, have*
12 *fewer children, and provide better health care and*
13 *education to their children, all of which eventually*
14 *improve the well-being of all individuals and lift*
15 *households out of poverty. These benefits also transmit*
16 *across generations, as well as to their communities at*
17 *large.”.*

18 (9) *According to United Nation’s 2012 Edu-*
19 *cation For All Global Monitoring Report, “education*
20 *can make a big difference to women’s earnings. In*
21 *Pakistan, women with a high level of literacy earned*
22 *95 percent more than women with no literacy skills.”.*

23 (10) *In January 2010, Secretary of State Hil-*
24 *lary Rodham Clinton stated, “We will open the doors*
25 *of education to all citizens, but especially to girls and*

1 *women...We are doing all of these things because we*
2 *have seen that when women and girls have the tools*
3 *to stay healthy and the opportunity to contribute to*
4 *their families' well-being, they flourish and so do the*
5 *people around them.”.*

6 *(11) The United States provides critical foreign*
7 *assistance to Pakistan's education sector to improve*
8 *access to and the quality of basic and higher edu-*
9 *cation.*

10 *(12) The Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship*
11 *Program administered by the United States Agency*
12 *for International Development awards scholarships to*
13 *academically talented, financially needy Pakistani*
14 *students from remote regions of the country to pursue*
15 *bachelor's or master's degrees at participating Paki-*
16 *stani universities.*

17 *(13) Fifty percent of the 974 Merit and Needs-*
18 *Based Scholarships awarded during fiscal year 2013*
19 *were awarded to Pakistani women. Historically, only*
20 *25 percent of such scholarships have been awarded to*
21 *women.*

22 *(14) The United Nations declared July 12 as*
23 *“Malala Day”—a global day of support for and rec-*
24 *ognition of Malala's bravery and courage in pro-*
25 *moting women's education.*

1 (15) *On December 10, 2012, the United Nations*
2 *and the Government of Pakistan launched the*
3 *“Malala Fund for Girls’ Education” to improve girls’*
4 *access to education worldwide, with Pakistan donat-*
5 *ing the first \$10,000,000 to the Fund.*

6 (16) *More than 1,000,000 people around the*
7 *world have signed the United Nations Special Envoy*
8 *for Global Education petition calling on the Govern-*
9 *ment of Pakistan to enroll every boy and girl in pri-*
10 *mary school.*

11 (17) *Pakistani civil society organizations col-*
12 *lected almost 2,000,000 signatures from Pakistanis on*
13 *a petition dedicated to Malala’s cause of education for*
14 *all.*

15 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

16 (a) *IN GENERAL.—It is the sense of Congress that—*

17 (1) *every individual should have the opportunity*
18 *to pursue an education;*

19 (2) *every individual, regardless of gender, should*
20 *have the opportunity to pursue an education without*
21 *fear of discrimination; and*

22 (3) *educational exchanges increase people-to-peo-*
23 *ple ties and promote institutional linkages between*
24 *the United States and other countries.*

1 **(b) CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR EDUCATIONAL INITIA-**
2 *TIVES IN PAKISTAN.*—*The Senate encourages the Depart-*
3 *ment of State and the United States Agency for Inter-*
4 *national Development to continue their support for initia-*
5 *tives led by the Government of Pakistan and Pakistani civil*
6 *society that promote education in Pakistan, especially edu-*
7 *cation for women.*

8 **SEC. 4. MERIT AND NEEDS-BASED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

9 **(a) EXPANSION.**—*Using funding made available under*
10 *section 6, the Administrator of the United States Agency*
11 *for International Development (referred to in this Act as*
12 *the “USAID Administrator”) shall increase the number of*
13 *scholarships to women under the Merit and Needs-Based*
14 *Scholarship Program (referred to in this Act as the “Pro-*
15 *gram”) during each of the calendar years 2013 through*
16 *2015 over the level awarded to women in calendar year*
17 *2011.*

18 **(b) LIMITATIONS.**—

19 **(1) CRITERIA.**—*The additional scholarships*
20 *available under subsection (a) may only be awarded*
21 *in accordance with other scholarship eligibility cri-*
22 *teria already established by USAID.*

23 **(2) ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES.**—*Additional schol-*
24 *arships authorized under subsection (a) shall be*
25 *awarded for a range of disciplines to improve the em-*

1 *ployability of graduates and to meet the needs of the*
2 *scholarship recipients.*

3 (3) *OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS.*—*The USAID Ad-*
4 *ministrator shall make every effort to award 50 per-*
5 *cent of the scholarships available under the Program*
6 *to Pakistani women.*

7 **SEC. 5. ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING.**

8 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The USAID Administrator shall*
9 *designate appropriate USAID officials to brief the appro-*
10 *priate congressional committees, not later than 1 year after*
11 *the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter*
12 *for the next 3 years, on the implementation of section 4.*

13 (b) *CONTENTS.*—*The briefing described in subsection*
14 *(a) shall include, among other relevant information, for the*
15 *most recently concluded fiscal year—*

16 (1) *the total number of scholarships that were*
17 *awarded through the Program;*

18 (2) *the disciplines of study chosen by the scholar-*
19 *ship recipients;*

20 (3) *the percentage of the scholarships that were*
21 *awarded to students seeking a bachelor's degree or a*
22 *master's degree, respectively; and*

23 (4) *the percentage of scholarship recipients that*
24 *voluntarily dropped out of school or were involun-*

1 *tarily pushed out of the program for failure to meet*
2 *program requirements.*

3 **SEC. 6. FUNDING.**

4 *Of the amounts that have been appropriated for assist-*
5 *ance to Pakistan under the heading “Economic Support*
6 *Fund” pursuant to chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign As-*
7 *sistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.) and remain*
8 *unobligated as of the date of the enactment of this Act, the*
9 *Secretary of State shall make available not less than*
10 *\$3,000,000 for scholarships authorized under section 4(a).*
11 *Amounts made available under this section shall remain*
12 *available until expended.*

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113TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

S. 120

A BILL

A bill to expand the number of scholarships available to Pakistani women under the Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program.

OCTOBER 10, 2013

Reported with an amendment