

S.1920 Getting Retention and Diplomas Up Among Today's Enrolled Students Act or the GRADUATES Act

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Title: A bill to award competitive grants to eligible partnerships to enable the partnerships to implement innovative strategies at the secondary school level to improve student achievement and prepare at-risk students for postsecondary education and the workforce.

Sponsor: [Sen Reid, Harry](#) [2] [D-NV] (introduced 8/1/2007) Cosponsors (4)

Latest Major Action: 8/1/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. **Highlights:** Funds may be used for activities such as: Creating expanded learning time opportunities, improving student transitions from middle school to high school and ensuring successful entry into high school, Improving student transitions from secondary school to postsecondary education and the workforce, increasing the autonomy and flexibility of secondary schools, and improving teaching and increasing academic rigor at the secondary school level.

Grant eligibility: Grants will be awarded, on a competitive basis, to eligible partnerships to enable the eligible partnerships to pay the Federal share of the costs of implementing innovative strategies to improve the achievement of at-risk students in secondary schools. Partnerships are defined as a state or local education agency partnering with at least one of the following: an institute of higher education, a nonprofit organization, a community-based organization, a business, or a school development organization.

ASPIRA Policy Position

ASPIRA supports efforts to improve student academic achievement. This legislation could be integrated with the House *Success in Middle School Act*

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