



# Congressman **JARED POLIS**

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## **The TALENT Act - To Aid Gifted and High-Ability Learners by Empowering the Nation's Teachers Act**

Representatives Jared Polis (D-CO) and Tom Latham (R-IA) introduced the To Aid Gifted and High-Ability Learners by Empowering the Nation's Teachers (TALENT) Act. Success in the 21st century requires a commitment to identifying and developing our nation's talent. Far too many students, especially low-income students, are not achieving their highest potential because they are not provided the support they need in order to develop their skills. The TALENT Act provides common sense, no-cost strategies to improve America's talent trajectory and economic competitiveness by identifying outstanding students, and addressing the persistent challenges that impede school districts from providing appropriate services to talented students.

### **The TALENT Act:**

- Supports professional development programs so that teachers, principals and support personnel have the training to identify and provide services for gifted students, including those who have not been formally identified.
- Requires states and districts to include in their Title I plans what steps they will take to assist local school districts in supporting gifted students, including those who have not been formally identified as gifted.
- Directs states to provide greater transparency of achievement data to families and the public by including information about students who perform at the advanced level on their state tests, disaggregated by subgroup, on state report cards.
- Increases the number of students from low-income families and other groups underrepresented in STEM fields by selecting students to participate in the federal STEM education programs as part of the America COMPETES law. The bill would also encourage school districts to provide AP/IB coursework when for students who are academically able.
- Directs the Institute for Education Sciences to continue research and development activities on gifted students and disseminate evidence-based best practices to improve the identification and instruction of gifted students.

### **This bill is supported by:**

- National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC)
- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- Colorado Association for the Gifted & Talented
- Iowa Association for the Gifted & Talented

**The TALENT Act was introduced in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress in the U.S. Senate as S. 512 by Senator Grassley (R-IA), Senator Murkowski (D-MD), and Senator Casey (D-PA).**