

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2733

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to States to establish a comprehensive school career counseling framework.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2021

Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to States to establish a comprehensive school career counseling framework.

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 “Counseling for Career
5 Choice Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT.**

7 Title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education
8 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.) is amended by add-
9 ing at the end the following:

1 “PART G—COUNSELING FOR CAREER CHOICE

2 **“SEC. 4701. DEFINITIONS.**

3 “In this part:

4 “(1) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term ‘com-
5 munity college’ means—

6 “(A) a junior or community college (as de-
7 fined in section 312(f) of the Higher Education
8 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058(f)));

9 “(B) a 4-year public institution of higher
10 education (as defined in section 101 of the
11 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
12 1001)) that awards a significant number of de-
13 grees and certificates, as determined by the
14 Secretary, that are not—

15 “(i) baccalaureate degrees (or an
16 equivalent); or

17 “(ii) master’s, professional, or other
18 advanced degrees; or

19 “(C) an area career and technical edu-
20 cation school (as defined in section 3 of the
21 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Edu-
22 cation Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302)).

23 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
24 tity’ means—

1 “(A) an eligible agency, as defined in sec-
2 tion 3(18) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and
3 Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C.
4 2302(18));

5 “(B) a local educational agency, including
6 an educational service agency; or

7 “(C) a consortium that consists of one
8 local educational agency in combination with
9 one or more local educational agencies, edu-
10 cational service agencies, nonprofit organiza-
11 tions with demonstrated expertise in counseling
12 or career and technical education, postsec-
13 ondary institutions, or tribal organizations.

14 “(3) LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
15 BOARD.—The term ‘local workforce development
16 board’ means a local workforce development board
17 established under section 107 of the Workforce In-
18 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3122).

19 “(4) ONE-STOP CENTER.—The term ‘one-stop
20 center’ means a site described in section 121(e)(2)
21 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
22 (29 U.S.C. 3151).

23 “(5) SCHOOL COUNSELOR.—The term ‘school
24 counselor’ means an individual who holds a valid

1 school counseling license or certification from a
2 State educational agency.

3 “(6) STAKEHOLDERS.—The term ‘stakeholders’
4 includes local educational agencies, school coun-
5 selors, secondary schools, institutions of higher edu-
6 cation (including community colleges), eligible agen-
7 cies (as defined under section 203 of the Adult Edu-
8 cation and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9202)),
9 the State workforce development board, the State
10 agency responsible for labor market information,
11 other applicable State agencies as determined by the
12 Secretary, local workforce development boards, area
13 career and technical education schools (as defined in
14 section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
15 nical Education Act of 2006), local businesses and
16 industries, organizations offering apprenticeship pro-
17 grams, tribal organizations, labor organizations, pro-
18 grams leading to post-secondary credentials, includ-
19 ing industry-recognized credentials, other programs
20 for career and technical education (as defined in sec-
21 tion 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical
22 Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302)), industry
23 associations, and any other organizations, individ-
24 uals or persons that the Secretary determines appro-
25 priate to carry out the purposes of this part.

1 “(7) STATEWIDE CAREER COUNSELING FRAME-
2 WORK.—The term ‘statewide career counseling
3 framework’ means a framework that encompasses
4 the middle grades through grade 12 and postsec-
5 ondary education and that includes information on
6 career awareness, skills assessment, skills training,
7 student interest surveys, postsecondary education
8 entrance requirements, secondary school graduation
9 requirements, high school equivalency, adult edu-
10 cation programs and services, financial aid, institu-
11 tions of higher education, community colleges, pro-
12 grams leading to industry-recognized credentials, ca-
13 reer and technical education programs, internships,
14 dual enrollment programs, apprenticeships, and pro-
15 fessional development opportunities or career devel-
16 opment training for school counselors.

17 “(8) STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
18 BOARD.—The term ‘State workforce development
19 board’ means a State workforce development board
20 established under section 101 of the Workforce In-
21 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111).

22 “(9) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘tribal
23 organization’ has the meaning given the term in sec-
24 tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
25 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

1 “(10) INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL.—

2 The term ‘industry-recognized,’ used with respect to
3 a credential, means a credential that—

4 “(A) is sought or accepted by employers
5 within the industry or sector involved as a rec-
6 ognized, preferred, or required credential for re-
7 cruitment, screening, hiring, retention, or ad-
8 vancement purposes; and

9 “(B) where appropriate, is endorsed by a
10 nationally recognized trade association or orga-
11 nization representing a significant part of the
12 industry or sector.

13 **“SEC. 4702. GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**

14 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts ap-
15 propriated to carry out this part, the Secretary shall
16 award grants, on a competitive basis, to State educational
17 agencies to enable the State educational agencies to carry
18 out the activities described in section 4704.

19 “(b) DURATION; AMOUNT; EXTENSION.—

20 “(1) DURATION.—Each grant under this sec-
21 tion shall be for a period of not more than 2 years.

22 “(2) AMOUNT.—Each grant shall be of an
23 amount not less than \$2,000,000 and not more than
24 \$5,000,000.

1 “(3) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may extend a
2 grant awarded under this section for additional 3-
3 year periods if the State educational agency—

4 “(A) is achieving the intended outcomes of
5 the grant; and

6 “(B) shows continued engagement with
7 stakeholders.

8 **“SEC. 4703. APPLICATION.**

9 “A State educational agency desiring a grant under
10 this part shall submit an application at such time, in such
11 manner, and containing such information as the Secretary
12 may require. The application shall include—

13 “(1) a description of the statewide career coun-
14 seling framework and implementation plan sup-
15 ported by not less than 5 stakeholders, of which at
16 least 1 stakeholder shall be a local business or indus-
17 try or statewide industry organization and 1 shall be
18 a local educational agency or secondary school; and

19 “(2) a description of how the State educational
20 agency will award subgrants and ensure that the ac-
21 tivities described in section 4704 are carried out.

22 **“SEC. 4704. ACTIVITIES.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A State educational agency re-
24 ceiving a grant under section 4702 shall use grant funds
25 to—

1 “(1) implement comprehensive school career
2 counseling programs that align with the statewide
3 counseling framework described in the State edu-
4 cational agency’s application;

5 “(2) identify and assess school counseling ac-
6 tivities and postsecondary options available within
7 the State, and outside the State as applicable;

8 “(3) identify regional workforce trends in col-
9 laboration with entities at the State and regional
10 level with expertise in identifying such trends, such
11 as State workforce development boards, local work-
12 force development boards, regional economic develop-
13 ment organizations, or State employment agencies;

14 “(4) train school counselors effectively to pro-
15 vide students with current and relevant workforce
16 information, financial aid assistance, personal coun-
17 seling, and academic advising relevant to students’
18 individual career and postsecondary education goals;

19 “(5) develop and implement a process and in-
20 frastructure for school counselors and school coun-
21 selor programs to access the statewide career coun-
22 seling framework and information regarding the re-
23 gional workforce trends identified in paragraph (4);

24 “(6) develop and implement professional devel-
25 opment or career development training certification

1 programs for counselors and other educators in-
2 volved in preparing students for postsecondary op-
3 portunities, which may include partnering with an
4 industry association that provides a nationally recog-
5 nized certification in career development;

6 “(7) develop a searchable method by which
7 counseling professional development opportunities
8 from around the State are collected, maintained, and
9 disseminated to school counselors;

10 “(8) establish, improve, or coordinate postsec-
11 ondary opportunities, which may include individual
12 career planning, personalized learning plans, reg-
13 istered apprenticeships, internships, dual enrollment
14 programs, programs leading to industry-recognized
15 credentials (including programs at a secondary
16 school), 2-year degree programs, 4-year degree pro-
17 grams, and other applicable postsecondary opportu-
18 nities;

19 “(9) provide recommendations and improve a
20 local educational agency’s and other education serv-
21 ice program providers to out of school youth and
22 adults curricula to better align with workforce
23 trends and available postsecondary opportunities;

24 “(10) conduct other activities pertaining to the
25 administration of the statewide framework;

1 “(11) establish partnerships with one-stop cen-
2 ters, which may include co-locating a one-stop center
3 in a high school, transporting students to local one-
4 stop centers, or having one-stop center career coun-
5 selors and business liaisons assist school counselors
6 in hosting job fairs, career days, or other such simi-
7 lar tasks;

8 “(12) leverage resources and emerging tech-
9 nologies that are being developed by stakeholders to
10 support the counseling framework; and

11 “(13) evaluate secondary and postsecondary
12 outcomes for individuals served by the career coun-
13 seling programs, disaggregated by the subgroups of
14 students described in section 1111(c)(2)(B).

15 “(b) SUBGRANTS.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State educational agency
17 that receives a grant may carry out the activities de-
18 scribed in subsection (a) directly or through award-
19 ing subgrants, on a competitive basis, to eligible en-
20 tities to enable the eligible entities to carry out any
21 of the activities.

22 “(2) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that de-
23 sires a subgrant under this subsection shall submit
24 an application to the State educational agency at
25 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-

1 formation as the State educational agency may rea-
2 sonably require, including a description of the com-
3 prehensive school career counseling program for par-
4 ticipating schools and students that the eligible enti-
5 ty proposes to develop and implement using sub-
6 grant funds.

7 “(c) **HIRING OF PERSONNEL.**—An eligible entity that
8 receives a grant under section 4702 may use the grant
9 funds to hire additional personnel to carry out the activi-
10 ties described in subsection (a).

11 **“SEC. 4705. SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.**

12 “Funds made available under this part shall be used
13 to supplement, and not supplant, other Federal, State,
14 and local funds available to carry out the activities sup-
15 ported under this part.

16 **“SEC. 4706. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

17 “(a) **SEA REPORTS.**—Not later than 2 years after
18 receiving a grant under this part, a State educational
19 agency shall submit a report to the Secretary that in-
20 cludes, at a minimum—

21 “(1) a description of the use of funds received
22 under this part; and

23 “(2) the results of the evaluation conducted
24 under section 4704(a)(13).

1 “(b) SECRETARY’S REPORTS.—Not later than 3
2 years after the date of enactment of the Counseling for
3 Career Choice Act, and every 3 years thereafter, the Sec-
4 retary shall prepare and submit to the appropriate com-
5 mittees of Congress a report on the progress made by the
6 eligible entities receiving grants under this part in imple-
7 menting grant activities, including the contents of the re-
8 ports under subsection (a).

9 **“SEC. 4707. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10 “‘There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
11 this part \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2022 and
12 \$40,000,000 for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.’”.

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