

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3365

To require the Secretary of Education to disclose information about career and technical education and funding under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, and require FAFSA applications to include a career and technical education acknowledgment.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 20, 2021

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Education to disclose information about career and technical education and funding under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, and require FAFSA applications to include a career and technical education acknowledgment.

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 “Student Debt Alter-
5 native and CTE Awareness Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

(1) Career and technical education provides individuals with a rigorous academic alternative to a costly 4-year degree, and prepares individuals with employable and occupation-specific skills.

(2) Career and technical education programs—

(A) offer 16 different high-skilled, high-demand career fields of study; and

(B) can take between 6 months and 2 years to complete, compared to a traditional 4-year bachelor's degree.

(3) The average cost for a career and technical education program is \$3,000 to \$6,000 per year, while the average cost for an in-State, public 4-year institution is over \$25,000 per year.

SEC. 3. DISCLOSURE ON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WEBSITE.

The Secretary of Education (acting through the Office of Federal Student Aid) shall—

(1) not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, publish on the public website of the Office of Federal Student Aid of the Department of Education information on—

(A) career and technical education programs, including average completion time, pro-

1 gram cost, and post-graduation employment
2 rate; and

3 (B) opportunities in each State—

4 (i) to pursue such programs; and

5 (ii) for funding to pursue such pro-
6 grams under the Carl D. Perkins Career
7 and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20
8 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.); and

9 (2) continuously update and maintain the infor-
10 mation published under paragraph (1) to ensure
11 that such information continues to be relevant.

12 **SEC. 4. DISCLOSURE ON FAFSA APPLICATION.**

13 Section 494(a)(1)(A) of the Higher Education Act of
14 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1098h(a)(1)(A)) is amended by adding
15 at the end the following:

16 “(iii) career and technical education
17 programs (as defined in section 3 of the
18 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical
19 Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302))
20 are a viable alternative to a 4-year degree,
21 and include, to ensure such individuals are
22 made aware of such programs and related
23 career paths at the beginning of the appli-
24 cation—

1 “(I) a one-page summary of the
2 most recent information provided
3 under section 3(1) of the Student
4 Debt Alternative and CTE Awareness
5 Act; and

6 “(II) an acknowledgment signa-
7 ture box;”.

8 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

9 The terms “career and technical education” and
10 “State” have the meanings given the terms in section 3
11 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education
12 Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

○