

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1760

To amend the Job Corps program of the Job Training Partnership Act to establish a program to provide education and job training services to youths who have been convicted of non-violent criminal offenses.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 1993

Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. FROST, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Job Corps program of the Job Training Partnership Act to establish a program to provide education and job training services to youths who have been convicted of non-violent criminal offenses.

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 “Job Corps Youth Sen-
5 tencing Alternative for Vocational Education and Training
6 Act” or the “YOUTHSAVE Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Over 1,000,000 offenders are incarcerated
2 in the Nation's prisons and jails, and Federal and
3 State correctional systems face severe prison over-
4 crowding.

5 (2) The annual costs of incarceration range as
6 high as \$36,000 per inmate and represent one of the
7 fastest growing expenses facing States.

8 (3) Most juvenile offenders, regardless of the
9 seriousness of their crimes, are released at the age
10 of 21, and are poorly educated, unskilled, and unpre-
11 pared to enter the workforce.

12 (4) Research on crime prevention shows that
13 early intervention directed at first-time offenders is
14 essential to helping them avoid a lifetime of crime.

15 (5) Studies have shown that inmates who re-
16 ceive job training in prison are 3 times less likely to
17 return to jail after being released than their counter-
18 parts who do not receive job training.

19 (6) The current system of juvenile incarceration
20 usually serves to warehouse offenders without pro-
21 viding effective counseling, education, and job train-
22 ing necessary to reorient youth inmates away from
23 crime.

24 (7) Successful efforts to educate and train con-
25 victed youths could result in substantial cost savings

1 in terms of reduced crime, incarceration, public as-
2 sistance, and in higher payroll tax revenues.

3 (8) The Job Corps program, authorized under
4 part B of title IV of the Job Training Partnership
5 Act (29 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.), is the Nation's only
6 residential education and vocational training pro-
7 gram targeted to serve low-income youth who face
8 multiple barriers to becoming economically self-suffi-
9 cient.

10 (9) The Job Corps program has a documented
11 record of success during its 29 years of operation,
12 including a 75 percent placement rate of successfully
13 helping graduates obtain permanent employment, re-
14 turn to school, or enter the armed services, and such
15 program returns \$1.46 on every \$1.00 invested in
16 the program.

17 (10) Eligibility requirements of the Job Corps
18 program limit the participation of youths with cer-
19 tain behavioral problems and youths who are being
20 adjudicated or have been convicted of crimes.

21 (11) Under section 433(a)(3) of the Job Train-
22 ing Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1703(a)(3)), the
23 Secretary of Labor is authorized to undertake one or
24 more pilot projects designed to involve youths who
25 have a history of behavioral problems in order to

1 provide these youths with the education, job train-
2 ing, and counseling services that have proved so suc-
3 cessful among regular Job Corps participants.

4 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

5 (1) to establish separate Job Corps Youthsave
6 centers for youths who have been convicted of non-
7 violent criminal offenses which shall be an alter-
8 native sentencing option for such youths;

9 (2) to provide youth offenders at such centers
10 with intensive counseling, education, and job train-
11 ing in order to help them become self-sufficient
12 members of society; and

13 (3) to provide a disciplined environment at such
14 centers in which youth offenders can receive maxi-
15 mum benefit from regular Job Corps services and
16 other services geared specifically to the needs of
17 such offenders.

18 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF JOB CORPS YOUTHSAVE PRO-**
19 **GRAM.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part B of title IV of the Job
21 Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.) is
22 amended by inserting after section 433A the following new
23 section:

1 **“SEC. 433B. JOB CORPS YOUTHSAVE PROGRAM.**

2 “(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary is authorized
3 to make agreements in accordance with section 427 with
4 entities described in such section for the purpose of estab-
5 lishing and operating up to 10 Job Corps Youthsave cen-
6 ters to provide comprehensive education and training serv-
7 ices to eligible youths described in subsection (b). Such
8 Youthsave centers shall be established and operated sepa-
9 rately from the Job Corps centers established and oper-
10 ated pursuant to section 427.

11 “(b) ELIGIBLE YOUTHS.—A youth shall be eligible
12 to become an enrollee in the Job Corps at a center estab-
13 lished and operated under subsection (a) only if—

14 “(1) the youth meets the eligibility require-
15 ments described in section 423 (except the require-
16 ments described in paragraph (4) of such section);
17 and

18 “(2) the youth has been convicted of a non-vio-
19 lent criminal offense under Federal or State law and
20 the sentence of such offense is active at the time of
21 enrollment.

22 “(c) SCREENING AND SELECTION.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—(A) The Secretary, in con-
24 sultation with the individuals and entities described
25 in subparagraph (B), shall develop regulations for
26 the screening and selection of applicants for the Job

1 Corps at centers established and operated under
2 subsection (a).

3 “(B) The individuals and entities described in
4 this subparagraph include the Attorney General,
5 State attorneys general, and appropriate individuals
6 and entities such as community action agencies,
7 community-based organizations, public employment
8 agencies, individuals and entities administering pro-
9 grams under title II, professional organizations,
10 labor organizations, and agencies and individuals
11 having contact with youths over a substantial period
12 of time and able to offer reliable information as to
13 the needs and problems of such youths.

14 “(2) INTERVIEWING REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
15 retary shall ensure that the regulations described in
16 paragraph (1) provide for the interviewing of each
17 applicant for the purpose of—

18 “(A) ensuring that the applicant under-
19 stands that enrollment in the Job Corps at a
20 center established and operated under sub-
21 section (a) is 1 sentencing option available to
22 such applicant;

23 “(B) ensuring that the applicant chooses
24 such option freely and for the purpose of receiv-
25 ing education and job training services;

1 “(C) ensuring that the applicant under-
2 stands the Job Corps program and what will be
3 expected of the applicant in the event of accept-
4 ance;

5 “(D) obtaining from the applicant perti-
6 nent data relating to background and needs of
7 such applicant; and

8 “(E) determining whether the applicant’s
9 educational and vocational needs can be met
10 through the Job Corps at a center established
11 and operated under subsection (a).

12 “(3) SPECIAL LIMITATION.—The requirements
13 described in section 425(a) shall apply with respect
14 to the screening and selection of applicants for the
15 Job Corps at centers established and operated under
16 subsection (a).

17 “(4) DISSEMINATION.—The Secretary shall dis-
18 seminate the regulations developed under paragraph
19 (1) to appropriate individuals and organizations, in-
20 cluding Federal and State courts, probation officers,
21 parole officers, appropriate social service entities
22 providing services to juvenile offenders, and other
23 law enforcement authorities and personnel.

24 “(d) EDUCATION AND TRAINING SERVICES.—The
25 Secretary may not enter into an agreement with an entity

1 described in section 427 for the purpose of establishing
2 and operating a center under subsection (a) unless the en-
3 tity agrees that it will provide enrollees with a comprehen-
4 sive program of education, vocational training, work expe-
5 rience, planned vocational activities, physical rehabilita-
6 tion and development, and counseling.

7 “(e) PROJECT AGREEMENT.—Each center estab-
8 lished and operated under subsection (a) shall provide
9 services and facilities under a project agreement with 1
10 or more State or local agencies that—

11 “(1) requires such State and local agencies to
12 provide, in the aggregate, not less than 30 percent
13 of the cost attributable to operating such center; and

14 “(2) contains or is accompanied by such other
15 information and assurances as the Secretary may
16 require.

17 “(f) INSTRUCTOR TRAINING.—The Secretary shall
18 ensure that each center established and operated under
19 subsection (a) is staffed with instructors who have re-
20 ceived appropriate training in techniques in dealing with
21 youth offenders.

22 “(g) MAINTENANCE OF INFORMATION.—The Sec-
23 retary shall maintain information, separate from regular
24 Job Corps statistics, on the performance of the centers
25 established and operated under subsection (a) and the en-

1 rollees served by such centers, including placement statis-
2 tics and other related tracking information on the per-
3 formance of such enrollees.

4 “(h) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall disseminate
5 information regarding the centers established and oper-
6 ated under subsection (a) to appropriate Federal and
7 State judges, juvenile delinquency prevention personnel,
8 attorneys, community-based organizations, and other in-
9 terested individuals and organizations for the purpose of
10 increasing awareness of and referrals to such centers.

11 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to amounts au-
13 thorized to be appropriated under section 3(d) for a
14 fiscal year, there are authorized to be appropriated
15 to carry out subsection (a) \$60,000,000 for fiscal
16 year 1994 and such sums as may be necessary for
17 each of the fiscal years 1995 through 2004.

18 “(2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated
19 under paragraph (1) shall remain available until
20 expended.”.

21 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
22 tents of the Job Training Partnership Act is amended by
23 inserting after the item relating to section 433A the fol-
24 lowing new item:

“Sec. 433B. Job Corps Youthsave Program.”.

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