

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2347

To provide grants to partnerships to establish and carry out information technology training programs and to provide incentives for educators to obtain information technology certification, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 4, 2000

Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To provide grants to partnerships to establish and carry out information technology training programs and to provide incentives for educators to obtain information technology certification, and for other purposes.

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 “Information Tech-
5 nology Act of 2000”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) CERTIFIED COMMERCIAL INFORMATION
2 TECHNOLOGY TRAINING PROVIDER.—The term “cer-
3 tified commercial information technology training
4 provider” means a private sector provider of edu-
5 cational products and services utilized for training in
6 information technology that is certified with respect
7 to—

8 (A) the curriculum that is used for the
9 training; or

10 (B) the technical knowledge of the instruc-
11 tors of such provider,

12 by 1 or more software publishers or hardware manu-
13 facturers the products of which are a subject of the
14 training.

15 (2) DISLOCATED WORKER.—The term “dis-
16 located worker” has the meaning given the term in
17 section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act of
18 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801).

19 (3) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CERTIFI-
20 CATION.—The term “information technology certifi-
21 cation” means certification in information tech-
22 nology, in accordance with such standards as—

23 (A)(i) the Computing Technology Industry
24 Association, the Information Technology Train-
25 ing Association, the International Society for

1 Technology in Education, or another informa-
2 tion technology professional association may
3 issue, after consultation with chief education of-
4 ficers of States, State boards and entities that
5 certify or license teachers, and other entities
6 impacted by the standards; or

7 (ii) a State board or entity that certifies or
8 licenses teachers may issue, after consultation
9 with chief education officers of States, and
10 other entities impacted by the standards; and

11 (B) the Secretaries may approve.

12 (4) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING PRO-
13 GRAM.—The term “information technology training
14 program” means a program for the training of—

15 (A) computer programmers, systems ana-
16 lysts, and computer scientists or engineers (as
17 such occupations are defined by the Bureau of
18 Labor Statistics); and

19 (B) persons for such other occupations as
20 are determined to be appropriate by the Secre-
21 taries, after consultation with a working group
22 broadly solicited by the Secretaries and open to
23 all interested information technology entities
24 and trade and professional associations.

1 (5) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
2 term “institution of higher education” has the
3 meaning given the term in section 102 of the Higher
4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

5 (6) NATIVE AMERICAN.—The term “Native
6 American” means an Indian or a Native Hawaiian,
7 as defined in section 166(a) of the Workforce Invest-
8 ment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2911(a)).

9 (7) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”
10 means the Secretary of Education and the Secretary
11 of Labor, acting jointly.

12 (8) VETERAN.—The term “veteran” has the
13 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Work-
14 force Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801).

15 **SEC. 3. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM**
16 **GRANTS.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries may make grants
18 to eligible partnerships to pay for the Federal share of
19 the cost of establishing and carrying out information tech-
20 nology training programs for minorities, women, older in-
21 dividuals, veterans, Native Americans, dislocated workers,
22 and former participants in information technology training
23 programs who have not received information technology
24 certification.

1 (b) PARTNERSHIPS.—To be eligible to receive a grant
2 under subsection (a), a partnership shall consist of—

3 (1) an institution of higher education; and

4 (2) a private organization, such as a certified
5 commercial information technology training provider
6 or an information technology trade or professional
7 association.

8 (c) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
9 under subsection (a), a partnership shall submit an appli-
10 cation to the Secretaries at such time, in such manner,
11 and containing such information as the Secretaries may
12 require.

13 (d) FEDERAL SHARE.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the
15 cost described in subsection (a) shall be 50 percent.

16 (2) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal
17 share of the cost shall be provided in cash or in
18 kind, fairly evaluated, including plant, equipment, or
19 services.

20 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
21 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
22 \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2001 and such sums as may
23 be necessary for each subsequent fiscal year.

1 **SEC. 4. BONUS GRANTS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

2 **CERTIFICATION.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Education may
4 make grants to appropriate organizations, to assist the or-
5 ganizations in awarding bonuses to teachers who achieve
6 information technology certification.

7 (b) **AMOUNT.**—Subject to the availability of appro-
8 priations under subsection (d), the Secretary of Education
9 shall award a grant to an organization under subsection
10 (a) in an amount not greater than the product of \$5,000
11 and the number of teachers described in subsection (c)(2).

12 (c) **APPLICATION.**—

13 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—To be eligible to receive a
14 grant under this section, a local educational agency
15 shall submit an application to the Secretary of Edu-
16 cation at such time, in such manner, and containing
17 such information as the Secretary may require.

18 (2) **CONTENTS.**—At a minimum, the applica-
19 tion shall contain information describing the number
20 of teachers that—

21 (A) have achieved information technology
22 certification, including such certification for in-
23 tegrating information technology into the class-
24 room and a curriculum;

25 (B) have not previously received awards
26 under this section; and

1 (C) have entered into agreements with the
2 agency to continue to teach for the agency for
3 periods of not less than 3 years, after receiving
4 bonuses under this section.

5 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
6 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
7 \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2005.

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