

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4072

To require that certain Federal job training and career education programs give priority to programs that provide a national industry-recognized and portable credential.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 16, 2009

Mr. MINNICK (for himself, Mr. KRATOVIL, Mr. BRIGHT, and Mrs. HALVORSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require that certain Federal job training and career education programs give priority to programs that provide a national industry-recognized and portable credential.

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 “American Manufac-
5 turing Efficiency and Retraining Investment Collaboration
6 Act” or the “AMERICA Works Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED AND PORTABLE CRE-**
2 **DENTIALS FOR JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) **WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT.**—

4 (1) **GENERAL EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AC-**
5 **TIVITIES.**—Section 134 of the Workforce Investment
6 Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864) is amended by adding
7 at the end the following:

8 “(f) **PRIORITY FOR PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE A NA-**
9 **TIONAL INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL.**—In select-
10 ing and approving training programs or services under
11 this section, a State, a local board, and a one-stop delivery
12 system shall give priority approval to programs that pro-
13 vide a national industry-recognized and portable creden-
14 tial, certificate, or degree.”.

15 (2) **YOUTH ACTIVITIES.**—Section 129(c)(1)(C)
16 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.
17 2854(c)(1)(C)) is amended by redesignating clauses
18 (ii) through (iv) as clauses (iii) through (v), respec-
19 tively, and inserting after clause (i) the following:

20 “(ii) to the extent available and ap-
21 propriate, a national industry-recognized
22 credential, certificate, or degree;”.

23 (b) **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.**—Section
24 3(5)(A)(ii) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical
25 Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302) is amended by
26 inserting “that is nationally recognized and portable and

1 which may provide a basis for additional credentials, cer-
2 tificates, or degrees” after “an industry-recognized cre-
3 dential”.

4 (c) TRAINING PROGRAMS UNDER TAA.—Section
5 236(a)(5) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C.
6 2296(a)(5)) is amended by inserting after the sentence
7 that follows subparagraph (H)(ii) the following: “In ap-
8 proving training programs under paragraph (1), the Sec-
9 retary shall seek to approve programs that provide a na-
10 tional industry-recognized and portable credential, certifi-
11 cate, or degree.”.

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