

111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4592

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 24, 2010

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## AN ACT

To provide for the establishment of a pilot program to encourage the employment of veterans in energy-related positions.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be referred to as the “Energy Jobs for  
3 Veterans Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. VETERANS ENERGY-RELATED EMPLOYMENT PRO-**  
5 **GRAM.**

6 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.—To en-  
7 courage the employment of eligible veterans in the energy  
8 industry, the Secretary of Labor, as part of the Veteran’s  
9 Workforce Investment Program, shall carry out a pilot  
10 program to be known as the “Veterans Energy-Related  
11 Employment Program”. Under the pilot program, the Sec-  
12 retary shall award competitive grants to three States for  
13 the establishment and administration of a State program  
14 to make grants to energy employers and labor-manage-  
15 ment organizations that provide covered training, on-job  
16 training, apprenticeships, and certification classes to eligi-  
17 ble veterans. Such a program shall be known as a “State  
18 Energy-Related Employment Program”.

19 (b) ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANTS.—To be eligible to re-  
20 ceive a grant under the pilot program, a State shall submit  
21 to the Secretary an application that includes each of the  
22 following:

23 (1) A proposal for the expenditure of grant  
24 funds to establish and administer a public-private  
25 partnership program designed to provide covered  
26 training, on-job training, apprenticeships, and cer-

1 tification classes to a significant number of eligible  
2 veterans and ensure lasting and sustainable employ-  
3 ment in well-paying jobs in the energy industry.

4 (2) Evidence that the State has—

5 (A) a population of eligible veterans of an  
6 appropriate size to carry out the State program;

7 (B) a robust and diverse energy industry;

8 and

9 (C) the ability to carry out the State pro-  
10 gram described in the proposal under para-  
11 graph (1).

12 (3) Such other information and assurances as  
13 the Secretary may require.

14 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—A State that is the recipient  
15 of a grant under this section shall use the grant for the  
16 following purposes:

17 (1) Making grants to energy employers and  
18 labor-management organizations to reimburse such  
19 employers and organizations for the cost of pro-  
20 viding covered training, on-job training, apprentice-  
21 ships, and certification classes to eligible veterans.

22 (2) Conducting outreach to inform energy em-  
23 ployers, labor-management organizations, and vet-  
24 erans, including veterans in rural areas, of their eli-

1 gibility or potential eligibility for participation in the  
2 State program.

3 (d) CONDITIONS.—Under the pilot program, each  
4 grant to a State shall be subject to the following condi-  
5 tions:

6 (1) The State shall repay to the Secretary, on  
7 such date as shall be determined by the Secretary,  
8 any amount received under the pilot program that is  
9 not used for the purposes described in subsection  
10 (c).

11 (2) The State shall submit to the Secretary, at  
12 such times and containing such information as the  
13 Secretary shall require, reports on the use of grant  
14 funds.

15 (e) EMPLOYER REQUIREMENTS.—In order to receive  
16 a grant made by a State under the pilot program, an en-  
17 ergy employer shall—

18 (1) submit to the administrator of the State  
19 Energy-Related Employment Program an applica-  
20 tion that includes—

21 (A) the rate of pay for each eligible vet-  
22 eran proposed to be trained using grant funds;

23 (B) the average rate of pay for an indi-  
24 vidual employed by the energy employer in a

1 similar position who is not an eligible veteran;  
2 and

3 (C) such other information and assurances  
4 as the administrator may require; and

5 (2) agree to submit to the administrator, for  
6 each quarter, a report containing such information  
7 as the Secretary may specify.

8 (f) LIMITATION.—None of the funds made available  
9 to an energy employer through a grant under the pilot  
10 program may be used to provide training of any kind to  
11 a person who is not an eligible veteran.

12 (g) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Together with the re-  
13 port required to be submitted annually under section  
14 4107(c) of title 38, United States Code, the Secretary  
15 shall submit to Congress a report on the pilot program  
16 for the year covered by such report. The report on the  
17 pilot program shall include a detailed description of activi-  
18 ties carried out under this section and an evaluation of  
19 the program.

20 (h) ADMINISTRATIVE AND REPORTING COSTS.—Of  
21 the amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization  
22 of appropriations under subsection (j), 2 percent shall be  
23 made available to the Secretary for administrative costs  
24 associated with implementing and evaluating the pilot pro-  
25 gram under this section and for preparing and submitting

1 the report required under subsection (f). The Secretary  
2 shall determine the appropriate maximum amount of each  
3 grant awarded under this section that may be used by the  
4 recipient for administrative and reporting costs.

5 (i) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

6 (1) The term “covered training, on-job training,  
7 apprenticeships, and certification classes” means  
8 training, on-job training, apprenticeships, and cer-  
9 tification classes that are—

10 (A) designed to provide the veteran with  
11 skills that are particular to an energy industry  
12 and not directly transferable to employment in  
13 another industry; and

14 (B) approved as provided in paragraph (1)  
15 or (2), as appropriate, of subsection (a) of sec-  
16 tion 3687 of title 38, United States Code.

17 (2) The term “eligible veteran” means a vet-  
18 eran, as that term is defined in section 101(3) of  
19 title 38, United States Code, who is employed by an  
20 energy employer and enrolled or participating in a  
21 covered training, on-job training, apprenticeship, or  
22 certification class.

23 (3) The term “energy employer” means an enti-  
24 ty that employs individuals in a trade or business in  
25 an energy industry.

1           (4) The term “energy industry” means any of  
2 the following industries:

3           (A) The energy-efficient building, construc-  
4 tion, or retrofits industry.

5           (B) The renewable electric power industry,  
6 including the wind and solar energy industries.

7           (C) The biofuels industry.

8           (D) The energy efficiency assessment in-  
9 dustry that serves the residential, commercial,  
10 or industrial sectors.

11           (E) The oil and natural gas industry.

12           (F) The nuclear industry.

13           (j) APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be ap-  
14 propriated to the Secretary \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal  
15 years 2011 through 2015, for the purpose of carrying out  
16 the pilot program.

          Passed the House of Representatives March 23,  
2010.

Attest:

LORRAINE C. MILLER,

*Clerk.*