

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 737

To authorize a State to transfer or consolidate funds made available to such State under certain transportation, education, and job training programs after the United States experiences economic growth at an annual rate of less than 1 percent for 2 calendar quarters.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 28, 2009

Mr. HOEKSTRA (for himself, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. McCOTTER, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. LINDER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and 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 authorize a State to transfer or consolidate funds made available to such State under certain transportation, education, and job training programs after the United States experiences economic growth at an annual rate of less than 1 percent for 2 calendar quarters.

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 “State Temporary Eco-
5 nomic Priority (STEP) Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 It is the purpose of this Act to authorize a State to
3 transfer or consolidate funds made available to such State
4 under certain transportation, education, and job training
5 programs after the United States experiences economic
6 growth at an annual rate of less than 1 percent for 2 cal-
7 endar quarters.

8 **SEC. 3. AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER OR CONSOLIDATE CER-**
9 **TAIN FUNDS.**

10 (a) **AUTHORITY AVAILABLE.—**

11 (1) **IN GENERAL.—**A State may transfer or
12 consolidate funds under subsections (b), (c), and (d)
13 beginning with the calendar quarter after the United
14 States experiences economic growth at an annual
15 rate of less than 1 percent for 2 calendar quarters
16 and continuing until 18 months after the United
17 States experiences economic growth at an annual
18 rate of 1 percent or more for 2 calendar quarters.

19 (2) **TREATMENT OF TRANSFERRED OR CON-**
20 **SOLIDATED FUNDS.—**Funds transferred or consoli-
21 dated under subsections (b), (c), or (d) shall be used
22 in accordance with the statutory and regulatory re-
23 quirements applicable to the program to which the
24 funds are transferred or consolidated.

25 (b) **TRANSPORTATION FUNDS.—**

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—In applying subsection (a), a
2 State may transfer, in such amounts as the State
3 determines appropriate, any funds apportioned and
4 allocated to such State from amounts made available
5 from the Highway Trust Fund (26 U.S.C. 9503 et
6 seq.), other than the Mass Transit Account, to any
7 of the apportionments and allocations for the fol-
8 lowing programs authorized by title 23, United
9 States Code:

10 (A) The interstate maintenance program
11 under section 119.

12 (B) The National Highway System under
13 section 103(b).

14 (C) The surface transportation program
15 under section 133.

16 (D) The highway bridge replacement and
17 rehabilitation program under section 144.

18 (2) EXEMPT TRANSPORTATION FUNDS.—The
19 funds made available for the highway safety im-
20 provement programs authorized by section 148 and
21 chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code, shall not
22 be subject to transfer or consolidation under sub-
23 section (a).

24 (c) FEDERAL EDUCATION FUNDS.—In applying sub-
25 section (a), a State may, in such amounts as the State

1 determines appropriate from any funds made available to
2 such State under any formula grant programs carried out
3 under any of the following provisions of the Elementary
4 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301
5 et seq.), transfer or consolidate such funds between and
6 among such programs:

7 (1) Part A of title I (Improving Basic Pro-
8 grams Operated by Local Educational Agencies).

9 (2) Subpart 1 of part B of title I (Reading
10 First).

11 (3) Subpart 3 of part B of title I (William F.
12 Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Programs).

13 (4) Subpart 4 of part B of title I (Improving
14 Literacy Through School Libraries).

15 (5) Part C of title I (Education of Migratory
16 Children).

17 (6) Part D of title I (Prevention and Interven-
18 tion Programs for Children and Youth who are Ne-
19 glected, Delinquent, or At-Risk).

20 (7) Part F of title I (Comprehensive School Re-
21 form).

22 (8) Part H of title I (School Dropout Preven-
23 tion).

1 (9) Subpart 1 of part A of title II (Teacher and
2 Principal Training and Recruiting Fund (Grants to
3 States)).

4 (10) Part B of title II (Mathematics and
5 Science Partnerships).

6 (11) Part D of title II (Enhancing Education
7 Through Technology).

8 (12) Part A of title III (English Language Ac-
9 quisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic
10 Achievement).

11 (13) Part A of title IV (Safe and Drug-Free
12 Schools and Communities).

13 (14) Part B of title IV (21st Century Commu-
14 nity Learning Centers).

15 (15) Subpart 2 of part A of title V (Innovative
16 Programs (State Programs)).

17 (16) Subpart 1 of part A of title VI (Improving
18 Academic Achievement (Accountability)).

19 (d) **JOB TRAINING FUNDS.**—In applying subsection
20 (a), a State may, in such amounts as the State determines
21 appropriate from any funds made available to such State
22 under the following job training programs, transfer or con-
23 solidate such funds between and among such programs:

1 (1) Any formula grant program carried out
2 under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29
3 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.).

4 (2) Any funds made available to the State
5 under part II of subchapter B of chapter 2 of title
6 II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2295 et
7 seq.).

8 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act—

9 (1) the phrase “economic growth at an annual
10 rate of less than 1 percent for 2 calendar quarters”
11 means, that for 2 consecutive calendar quarters, real
12 gross domestic product, as announced by Bureau of
13 Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce,
14 has experienced—

15 (A) an annual rate of decrease for such
16 quarters;

17 (B) no change in the annual rate for such
18 quarters; or

19 (C) an increase at an annual rate of less
20 than 1 percent for such quarters; and

21 (2) the phrase “economic growth at an annual
22 rate of 1 percent or more for 2 calendar quarters”
23 means an increase in real gross domestic product at
24 an annual rate of 1 percent or more for 2 consecu-
25 tive calendar quarters, as announced by the Bureau

1 of Economic Analysis of the Department of Com-
2 merce for such quarters.

○