

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 267

To provide funding for summer and year-round youth jobs and training programs.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 15, 2009

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. STABENOW) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To provide funding for summer and year-round youth jobs and training programs.

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 “Summer and Year-  
5 Round Jobs for Youth Stimulus Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. SUMMER AND YEAR-ROUND YOUTH JOBS.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

8 (1) a \$1,000,000,000 investment in summer  
9 and year-round employment for youth, through the  
10 program supported under this section, can create up

1 to 1,000,000 jobs for economically disadvantaged  
2 youth and stimulate local economies;

3 (2) there is a serious and growing need for em-  
4 ployment opportunities for economically disadvan-  
5 taged youth (including young adults), as dem-  
6 onstrated by statistics from the Bureau of Labor  
7 Statistics stating that, in December 2008—

8 (A) the unemployment rate increased to  
9 7.2 percent, as compared to 4.9 percent in De-  
10 cember 2007;

11 (B) the unemployment rate for 16- to 19-  
12 year-olds rose to 20.8 percent, as compared to  
13 16.9 percent in December 2007; and

14 (C) the unemployment rate for African-  
15 American 16- to 19-year-olds increased to 33.7  
16 percent, as compared to 28 percent in Decem-  
17 ber 2007;

18 (3) research from Northwestern University has  
19 shown that every \$1 a youth earns has an accel-  
20 erator effect of \$3 on the local economy;

21 (4) summer and year-round jobs for youth help  
22 supplement the income of families living in poverty;

23 (5) summer and year-round jobs for youth pro-  
24 vide valuable work experience for economically dis-  
25 advantaged youth;

1           (6) often, a summer job provided under the  
2 Workforce Investment Act of 1998 is an economi-  
3 cally disadvantaged youth's introduction to the world  
4 of work;

5           (7) according to the Center for Labor Market  
6 Studies at Northeastern University, early work expe-  
7 rience is a very powerful predictor of success and  
8 earnings in the labor market, and early work experi-  
9 ence raises earnings over a lifetime by 10 to 20 per-  
10 cent;

11           (8) participation in a youth jobs program can  
12 contribute to a reduction in criminal and high-risk  
13 behavior for youth; and

14           (9)(A) youth jobs programs benefit both youth  
15 and communities when designed around principles  
16 that promote mutually beneficial programs;

17           (B) youth benefit from jobs that provide them  
18 with work readiness skills and that help them make  
19 the connection between responsibility on the job and  
20 success in adulthood; and

21           (C) communities benefit when youth are en-  
22 gaged productively, providing much-needed services  
23 that meet real community needs.

1 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “green-  
2 collar industries” means industries throughout the econ-  
3 omy of the United States—

4 (1) that promote energy efficiency, energy con-  
5 servation, and environmental protection, including  
6 promoting renewable energy and clean technology;

7 (2) that offer jobs with substantial pay and  
8 benefits; and

9 (3) that are industries in which there is likely  
10 to be continued demand for workers.

11 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
12 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Labor  
13 for youth activities under the Workforce Investment Act  
14 of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.), \$1,000,000,000, which  
15 shall be available for the period of January 1, 2009  
16 through December 31, 2010, under the conditions de-  
17 scribed in subsection (d).

18 (d) CONDITIONS.—

19 (1) USE OF FUNDS.—The funds appropriated  
20 under subsection (c) shall be used for youth jobs and  
21 training programs, to provide opportunities referred  
22 to in subparagraphs (C), (D), (E), and (F) of sec-  
23 tion 129(c)(2) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 2854(c)(2))  
24 and, as appropriate, opportunities referred to in sub-  
25 paragraphs (A) and (G) of such section, except that

1 no such funds shall be spent on unpaid work experi-  
2 ences.

3 (2) LIMITATION.—Such funds shall be distrib-  
4 uted in accordance with sections 127 and 128 of  
5 such Act (29 U.S.C. 2852, 2853), except that no  
6 portion of such funds shall be reserved to carry out  
7 128(a) or 169 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 2853(a),  
8 2914).

9 (3) PRIORITY.—In using funds made available  
10 under this section, a local area (as defined in section  
11 101 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 2801)) shall give pri-  
12 ority to providing—

13 (A) work experiences in public and non-  
14 profit sector green-collar industries;

15 (B) work experiences in other viable indus-  
16 tries, including health care; and

17 (C) job referral services for youth to work  
18 experiences in green-collar industries in the pri-  
19 vate sector or work experiences in other viable  
20 industries in the private sector, for which the  
21 employer involved agrees to pay the wages and  
22 benefits, consistent with Federal and State  
23 child labor laws.

24 (4) MEASURE OF EFFECTIVENESS.—The effec-  
25 tiveness of the activities carried out with such funds

1 shall be measured, under section 136 of such Act  
2 (29 U.S.C. 2871), only with performance measures  
3 based on the core indicators of performance de-  
4 scribed in section 136(b)(2)(A)(ii)(I) of such Act (29  
5 U.S.C. 2871(b)(2)(A)(ii)(I)), applied to all youth  
6 served through the activities.

7 (e) AGE-RELATED.—As used in this Act, and in the  
8 provisions referred to in subsections (c) and (d) for pur-  
9 poses of this Act—

10 (1) a reference to a youth refers to an indi-  
11 vidual who is not younger than age 14 and not older  
12 than age 24, and meets any other requirements for  
13 that type of youth; and

14 (2) a reference to a youth activity refers to an  
15 activity covered in subsection (d)(1) that is carried  
16 out for a youth described in paragraph (1).

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