

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3697

To increase access to adult education to provide for economic growth.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2013

Mr. HINOJOSA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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 increase access to adult education to provide for economic growth.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Adult Education and Economic Growth Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is the following:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—ADULT EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE INVESTMENT
SYSTEMS

- Sec. 101. Definitions.
- Sec. 102. Purpose.
- Sec. 103. State workforce investment boards.
- Sec. 104. State plan.
- Sec. 105. Local workforce investment boards.
- Sec. 106. Local plan.
- Sec. 107. Use of funds for youth activities.
- Sec. 108. Use of funds for employment and training activities.
- Sec. 109. Performance accountability system.
- Sec. 110. National programs.
- Sec. 111. Administration.
- Sec. 112. Transition provisions.
- Sec. 113. Table of contents.

TITLE II—ADULT EDUCATION, LITERACY, AND WORKPLACE SKILLS

- Sec. 201. Purpose.
- Sec. 202. Definitions.
- Sec. 203. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 204. Reservation of funds; grants to eligible agencies; allotments.
- Sec. 205. Performance accountability system.
- Sec. 206. State distribution of funds; matching requirement.
- Sec. 207. State leadership activities.
- Sec. 208. State plan.
- Sec. 209. Programs for corrections education and other institutionalized individuals.
- Sec. 210. Grants and contracts for eligible providers.
- Sec. 211. Local application.
- Sec. 212. Administrative provisions.
- Sec. 213. National Center For Adult Education, Literacy, and Workplace Skills.
- Sec. 214. National leadership activities.
- Sec. 215. Integrated English literacy and civics education programs.

TITLE III—21ST CENTURY TECHNOLOGY AND SKILLS FOR ADULT LEARNERS

- Sec. 301. Purposes.
- Sec. 302. Definitions.
- Sec. 303. Reservation of funds and allotments.
- Sec. 304. Grants to eligible agencies.
- Sec. 305. Subgrants and contracts to eligible providers.
- Sec. 306. National Adult Learning and Technology Clearinghouse.
- Sec. 307. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE IV—RESEARCH IN ADULT EDUCATION

- Sec. 401. Research in adult education.

TITLE V—EMPLOYER INCENTIVES

- Sec. 501. Credit for employer educational assistance programs.

1 **TITLE I—ADULT EDUCATION**
2 **AND WORKFORCE INVEST-**
3 **MENT SYSTEMS**

4 **SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.**

5 (a) TITLE HEADER.—The title header for title I of
6 the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801
7 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

8 **“TITLE I—ADULT EDUCATION**
9 **AND WORKFORCE INVEST-**
10 **MENT SYSTEMS”.**

11 (b) TERMS.—Section 101 of the Workforce Invest-
12 ment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801) is amended by adding
13 at the end the following:

14 “(54) CAREER PATHWAY.—The term ‘career
15 pathway’ means a system of educational and social
16 services connecting education, training, and support
17 services, including adult basic skills, English lan-
18 guage instruction, General Educational Development
19 test preparation, and noncredit and for-credit indus-
20 try-recognized credential and degree programs, to
21 enable youth and adults to advance over time to suc-
22 cessively higher levels of education and employment
23 in a given industry, industry sector, or occupational
24 cluster, that—

1 “(A) aligns adult education, postsecondary
2 education, and occupational skills training to
3 create a pathway to attaining a recognized post-
4 secondary credential that will qualify an indi-
5 vidual for career advancement in projected em-
6 ployment opportunities identified in the State
7 plan under section 112(b)(4)(A);

8 “(B) includes advising and career naviga-
9 tion to support the development of individual
10 education and career plans; and

11 “(C) leads to a secondary school diploma
12 or its recognized equivalent (for individuals who
13 have not completed secondary school) or to a
14 recognized postsecondary credential.

15 “(55) INTEGRATED EDUCATION AND TRAIN-
16 ING.—The term ‘integrated education and training’
17 means education that, at the same time, combines
18 adult education services and occupational skills
19 training for a specific occupation or occupational
20 cluster leading to a recognized postsecondary creden-
21 tial.

22 “(56) RECOGNIZED POSTSECONDARY CREDEN-
23 TIAL.—The term ‘recognized postsecondary creden-
24 tial’ means a postsecondary degree from an institu-
25 tion of higher education described in section 101 of

1 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
2 1001), a credential for completion of a registered ap-
3 prenticeship program, or another industry-recog-
4 nized credential (such as an industry certificate, or
5 a license in an in-demand industry), if the recipient
6 of the grant or contract involved determines that the
7 program leading to the credential is of high quality.

8 “(57) REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PRO-
9 GRAM.—The term ‘registered apprenticeship pro-
10 gram’ means an industry occupational skills training
11 program at the postsecondary level that combines
12 technical and theoretical training through structured
13 on-the-job learning with related instruction (in class-
14 rooms or through distance learning) while an indi-
15 vidual is employed, working under the direction of
16 qualified personnel or a mentor, and earning incre-
17 mental wage increases aligned to enhanced job pro-
18 ficiency, resulting in the acquisition of a nationally
19 recognized and portable certificate, under a plan ap-
20 proved by the Office of Apprenticeship or a State
21 agency recognized by the Department of Labor.

22 “(58) SEQUENTIAL EDUCATION AND TRAIN-
23 ING.—The term ‘sequential education and training’
24 means adult education services that may occur prior
25 to occupational skills training or postsecondary edu-

1 cation and are appropriate for adults who need serv-
 2 ices offered, one after another, in a progressive fash-
 3 ion.

4 “(59) WORKPLACE SKILLS.—The term ‘work-
 5 place skills’ means the combination of basic skills,
 6 critical thinking skills, and self management skills
 7 with competency in utilizing resources, using infor-
 8 mation, working with others, understanding systems,
 9 and working with technology, and other skills nec-
 10 essary for success in the workplace.”.

11 **SEC. 102. PURPOSE.**

12 (a) SUBTITLE HEADER.—The subtitle header for
 13 subtitle B of title I of the Workforce Investment Act of
 14 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2811 et seq.) is amended to read as fol-
 15 lows:

16 **“Subtitle B—State and Local Adult**
 17 **Education and Workforce In-**
 18 **vestment Systems”.**

19 (b) PURPOSE.—Section 106 of the Workforce Invest-
 20 ment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2811) is amended by strik-
 21 ing “workforce investment systems” and inserting “adult
 22 education and workforce investment systems”.

23 **SEC. 103. STATE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS.**

24 Section 111 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998
 25 (29 U.S.C. 2821) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(C)(vi)(I), by inserting
 2 “(particularly the lead State agency officials with re-
 3 sponsibility for the programs and activities that are
 4 described in section 121(b)(1)(B)(iii))” after
 5 “121(b)”; and

6 (2) in subsection (d)(2), by striking “workforce
 7 investment system” and inserting “adult education
 8 and workforce investment system”.

9 **SEC. 104. STATE PLAN.**

10 Section 112 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998
 11 (29 U.S.C. 2822) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) by striking “workforce investment sys-
 14 tem” and inserting “adult education and work-
 15 force investment system”; and

16 (B) by inserting “and aligns with the State
 17 plan described in section 224” before the period
 18 at the end;

19 (2) in subsection (b)—

20 (A) in paragraphs (2) and (3), by striking
 21 “workforce investment system” and inserting
 22 “adult education and workforce investment sys-
 23 tem”;

24 (B) in paragraph (4)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
2 “academic levels and” before “job skills”;

3 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
4 “and” after the semicolon;

5 (iii) in subparagraph (D), by striking
6 “State;” and inserting “State, including
7 education, training, and registered appren-
8 ticeship programs and their relationship to
9 the employment opportunities, academic
10 levels, skills, and economic development
11 needs described in this paragraph; and”;
12 and

13 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
14 lowing:

15 “(E) the integrated education and training
16 and sequential education and training activities
17 that will be integrated and aligned with work-
18 force investment activities and services under
19 this title, and the State’s efforts to promote
20 greater integration and alignment of adult edu-
21 cation and workforce investment activities and
22 services under this title;”;

23 (C) in paragraph (8)—

24 (i) in subparagraph (A)(x), by striking
25 “and” after the semicolon;

1 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
2 the semicolon and inserting “, including
3 processes for data collection and reporting
4 regarding performance on the core indica-
5 tors described in section 212; and”;

6 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(C) a description of any integrated data
9 systems used to track performance outcomes
10 over time for the participants in the programs
11 and activities described in subparagraph (A);”;

12 (D) in paragraph (9), by striking “busi-
13 nesses and representatives of labor organiza-
14 tions” and inserting “businesses, representa-
15 tives of labor organizations, and representatives
16 of education and training providers (including
17 adult education providers, institutions of higher
18 education (as defined in section 101 of the
19 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
20 1001)), and training providers)”;

21 (E) in paragraph (10), by striking “work-
22 force investment system” and inserting “adult
23 education and workforce investment system”;

24 (F) in paragraph (17)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (A)(iv), by adding

2 “, and including individuals receiving serv-

3 ices under title II” after “disabilities”; and

4 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking

5 “and” after the semicolon;

6 (G) in paragraph (18)(D), by striking the

7 period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

8 and

9 (H) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(19) a strategy for coordinating services, in-

11 cluding guidance, counseling, mentoring, and other

12 supports, to populations in need of such services,

13 through public and private partnerships, and for cre-

14 ating transition strategies with such elements as

15 dual enrollment, curricular articulation, and high in-

16 tensity instruction; and

17 “(20) an assurance that every region, as des-

18 ignated by the State under section 116(c), in the

19 State has at least 1 adult education program that

20 offers more than 1 option for earning a credential

21 with value in the local market to students who do

22 not yet have a secondary school diploma or its recog-

23 nized equivalent and who are unlikely to earn such

24 a diploma or equivalent in the short-term, which op-

25 tion may include earning the credential through a

1 partnership that includes a community college or oc-
2 cupational skills training provider and may include
3 getting that equivalent in the process.”; and

4 (3) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(e) PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PERIOD.—Notwith-
6 standing any other provision of this section, a State may
7 be eligible to receive an allotment under section 127 or
8 132, or to receive financial assistance under the Wagner-
9 Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.), before the State sub-
10 mits a single State plan under this section (as amended
11 under section 104 of the Adult Education and Economic
12 Growth Act of 2013) if the State is in a 1-year program
13 development period.”.

14 **SEC. 105. LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS.**

15 Section 117 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998
16 (29 U.S.C. 2832) is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “workforce in-
18 vestment system” each place it appears and insert-
19 ing “adult education and workforce investment sys-
20 tem”;

21 (2) in subsection (d)(8), by striking “workforce
22 investment system” and inserting “adult education
23 and workforce investment system”; and

24 (3) in subsection (h)(2)(A)—

1 (A) in clause (v), by striking “and” after
2 the semicolon; and

3 (B) by inserting after clause (vi), the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(vii) representatives of adult edu-
6 cation programs; and”.

7 **SEC. 106. LOCAL PLAN.**

8 Section 118(b)(1) of the Workforce Investment Act
9 of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2833(b)(1)) is amended—

10 (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and”
11 after the semicolon;

12 (2) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “aca-
13 demic levels and” before “job skills”; and

14 (3) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(D) the type and availability of workforce
16 investment activities in the local area, including
17 education, training, and registered apprentice-
18 ship programs and their relationship to such
19 business, jobseeker, and worker needs, employ-
20 ment opportunities, and academic levels and job
21 skills, and economic development needs; and

22 “(E) the integrated education and training
23 and sequential education and training activities
24 that will be carried out under this title or title
25 II and the integration and alignment of activi-

1 ties described in this subparagraph with work-
2 force investment activities and services under
3 this title.”.

4 **SEC. 107. USE OF FUNDS FOR YOUTH ACTIVITIES.**

5 Section 129 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998
6 (29 U.S.C. 2854) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)—

8 (A) in paragraph (5), by striking “and”
9 after the semicolon;

10 (B) in paragraph (6), by striking the pe-
11 riod and inserting “; and”; and

12 (C) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(7) to provide opportunities for multiple path-
14 ways for eligible youth.”; and

15 (2) in subsection (c)(1)(C)—

16 (A) in clause (iii), by striking “and” after
17 the semicolon;

18 (B) in clause (iv)(II), by striking the pe-
19 riod and inserting a semicolon; and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(v) opportunities for career path-
22 ways; and

23 “(vi) opportunities for the completion
24 of secondary school, in appropriate cases.”.

1 **SEC. 108. USE OF FUNDS FOR EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**
2 **ACTIVITIES.**

3 Section 134 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998
4 (29 U.S.C. 2864) is amended—

5 (1) in subsections (a)(3)(A)(vii) and
6 (c)(2)(B)(ii)(II), by striking “workforce investment
7 system” and inserting “adult education and work-
8 force investment system”; and

9 (2) in subsection (d)—

10 (A) in paragraph (3)(A)(i)(I), by striking
11 “and are unable to obtain employment through
12 core services provided under paragraph (2)”;
13 and

14 (B) in paragraph (4)—

15 (i) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking
16 “and who are unable to obtain or retain
17 employment through such services”;

18 (ii) in subparagraph (D)—

19 (I) in clause (viii), by striking
20 “and” after the semicolon;

21 (II) in clause (ix), by striking the
22 period and inserting a semicolon; and

23 (III) by adding at the end the
24 following:

25 “(x) integrated education and train-
26 ing; and

1 “(xi) career pathway services.”;

2 (iii) in subparagraph (G)—

3 (I) in clause (i), by striking

4 “clause (ii)” and inserting “clause (ii)

5 or subparagraph (H)”; and

6 (II) in clause (ii)—

7 (aa) in subclause (II), by

8 striking “or” after the semicolon;

9 (bb) in subclause (III), by

10 striking the period and inserting

11 “; or”; and

12 (cc) by adding at the end

13 the following:

14 “(IV) the local board determines

15 that such provision of training serv-

16 ices would facilitate the provision of

17 integrated education and training and

18 sequential education and training pro-

19 grams.”; and

20 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-

21 lowing:

22 “(H) AUTHORIZATION OF CONTRACTS TO

23 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The

24 local board may award a contract to an institu-

25 tion of higher education or other eligible pro-

vider of training services, including an adult education provider eligible under section 122, if the local board determines that provision of services through the contract would facilitate the training of multiple individuals in in-demand occupations.”.

SEC. 109. PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.

Section 136 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2871) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2)(A)—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “and (for participants who are eligible youth age 19 through 21) for youth activities authorized under section 129”;

(ii) in subclause (III), by striking “and” at the end;

(iii) in subclause (IV), by striking “, or by participants who are eligible youth age 19 through 21 who enter postsecondary education, advanced training, or unsubsidized employment.” and inserting “; and”; and

1 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(V) performance on the core in-
4 dicators described in section 212, as
5 appropriate.”; and

6 (B) in clause (ii)—

7 (i) in the matter preceding subclause
8 (I), by striking “(for participants who are
9 eligible youth age 14 through 18)”;

10 (ii) in subclause (I), by striking “and,
11 as appropriate, work readiness or occupa-
12 tional skills” and inserting “, workplace
13 skills, or occupational skills, as appro-
14 priate”;

15 (iii) in subclause (II), by striking
16 “and” after the semicolon;

17 (iv) in subclause (III), by striking the
18 period and inserting “; and”; and

19 (v) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(IV) the measures described in
21 subclauses (I), (II), and (III) of
22 clause (i), for eligible youth age 18
23 and older.”; and

24 (2) in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of sub-
25 section (e), by striking “workforce investment sys-

1 tem” and inserting “adult education and workforce
2 investment system”.

3 **SEC. 110. NATIONAL PROGRAMS.**

4 Section 171 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998
5 (29 U.S.C. 2916) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)(1)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (G), by striking
8 “and” after the semicolon;

9 (B) in subparagraph (H), by striking the
10 period and inserting a semicolon; and

11 (C) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(I) projects that assist low-skill and lim-
13 ited English proficient workers to acquire basic,
14 English, work readiness, and applied technical
15 or occupational skills through integrated edu-
16 cation and training and sequential education
17 and training programs to successfully transition
18 to postsecondary education, workforce develop-
19 ment, and employment in career pathways; and

20 “(J) projects that test effective ways to de-
21 velop comprehensive career pathway learning
22 approaches that—

23 “(i) fully align adult education with—

24 “(I) secondary education, post-
25 secondary education, workforce devel-

1 opment programs including registered
 2 apprenticeship programs, and sup-
 3 portive service activities; and

4 “(II) regional economic develop-
 5 ment strategies to meet the skill needs
 6 of existing and emerging regional em-
 7 ployers as well as the needs of low-
 8 skilled adults; and

9 “(ii) are designed to help adults, espe-
 10 cially those who are low-skilled, to advance
 11 through progressive levels of education and
 12 training as quickly as possible and gain
 13 education and workplace skills of dem-
 14 onstrated value to the labor market at each
 15 level.”; and

16 (2) in subparagraphs (D)(iii)(I) and (E)(ii)(III)
 17 of subsection (e)(2), by striking “workforce invest-
 18 ment system” and inserting “adult education and
 19 workforce investment system”.

20 **SEC. 111. ADMINISTRATION.**

21 (a) **REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS.**—Section
 22 181(b)(1) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29
 23 U.S.C. 2931(b)(1)) is amended by striking “workforce in-
 24 vestment system” and inserting “adult education and
 25 workforce investment system”.

1 (b) WAIVERS AND SPECIAL RULES.—Section
2 189(i)(4)(B) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29
3 U.S.C. 2939(i)(4)(B)) is amended by striking “workforce
4 investment system” and inserting “adult education and
5 workforce investment system”.

6 **SEC. 112. TRANSITION PROVISIONS.**

7 Section 506(a) of the Workforce Investment Act of
8 1998 (20 U.S.C. 9276(a)) is amended—

9 (1) in the subsection heading, by striking
10 “WORKFORCE INVESTMENT SYSTEMS” and inserting
11 “ADULT EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE INVEST-
12 MENT SYSTEMS”; and

13 (2) by striking “workforce investment systems”
14 and inserting “adult education and workforce invest-
15 ment systems”.

16 **SEC. 113. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

17 The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Workforce
18 Investment Act of 1998 is amended—

19 (1) by striking the item relating to the title
20 header for title I and inserting the following:

“TITLE I—ADULT EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE INVESTMENT
SYSTEMS”;

21 and

22

1 (2) by striking the item relating to the subtitle
2 header for subtitle B of title I and inserting the fol-
3 lowing:

“Subtitle B—State and Local Adult Education and Workforce Investment
Systems”.

4 **TITLE II—ADULT EDUCATION,**
5 **LITERACY, AND WORKPLACE**
6 **SKILLS**

7 **SEC. 201. PURPOSE.**

8 Section 202 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-
9 eracy Act (20 U.S.C. 9201) is amended—

10 (1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the
11 following:

12 “(1) assist adults to become literate and numer-
13 ate and to obtain the knowledge and skills necessary
14 to transition to and succeed in postsecondary edu-
15 cation, job training, and employment in family-sus-
16 taining jobs, and to be self sufficient;”;

17 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” after
18 the semicolon;

19 (3) in paragraph (3), by striking “education.”
20 and inserting “education and transition to postsec-
21 ondary education and career pathways; and”; and

22 (4) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(4) assist adults with limited English pro-
24 ficiency in—

1 “(A) improving their reading, writing,
2 speaking, listening, and comprehension skills in
3 English and their mathematical skills;

4 “(B) acquiring an understanding of the
5 American system of Government, individual
6 freedom, and the responsibilities of citizenship;
7 and

8 “(C) where necessary, obtaining the knowl-
9 edge and skills to transition to and succeed in
10 postsecondary education, job training, and em-
11 ployment in family-sustaining jobs.”.

12 **SEC. 202. DEFINITIONS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 203 of the Adult Edu-
14 cation and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9202) is
15 amended—

16 (1) by striking paragraph (14);

17 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (1) (2), (3)
18 through (11), (12), (13), and (15) through (18) as
19 paragraphs (2), (3), (5) through (13), (15), (16),
20 and (17) through (20), respectively;

21 (3) by inserting before paragraph (2), as redes-
22 ignated by paragraph (2), the following:

23 “(1) WIA TERMS.—The terms ‘career pathway’,
24 ‘integrated education and training’, ‘local board’,
25 ‘outlying area’, ‘sequential education and training’,

1 ‘State board’, and ‘workplace skills’ have the mean-
2 ings given the terms in section 101.”;

3 (4) by inserting after paragraph (3), as redesign-
4 nated by paragraph (2), the following:

5 “(4) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.—The term
6 ‘digital literacy skills’ has the meaning given the
7 term in section 202 of the Museum and Library
8 Services Act (20 U.S.C. 9101).”;

9 (5) in paragraph (7), as redesignated by para-
10 graph (2)—

11 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
12 (A), by inserting “an organization that has
13 demonstrated effectiveness in providing adult
14 education and literacy activities and workplace
15 skills activities, and that may include” after
16 “means”;

17 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “of
18 demonstrated effectiveness”;

19 (C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “of
20 demonstrated effectiveness”;

21 (D) in subparagraph (H), by striking
22 “and” after the semicolon;

23 (E) in subparagraph (I), by striking the
24 period and inserting “; and”; and

25 (F) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(J) a partnership between an entity de-
2 scribed in any of subparagraphs (A) through (I)
3 and an employer.”;

4 (6) in paragraph (9), as redesignated by para-
5 graph (2)—

6 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
7 (A), by striking “a family” and inserting “the
8 economic prospects for a family that better en-
9 able parents to support their children’s learning
10 needs”;

11 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
12 through (D) as subparagraphs (B) through (E),
13 respectively; and

14 (C) by inserting before subparagraph (B),
15 as redesignated by subparagraph (B), the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(A) Parent adult education and literacy
18 activities and workplace skills activities that
19 lead to readiness for postsecondary education or
20 training, career advancement, and economic
21 self-sufficiency.”; and

22 (7) by inserting after paragraph (13), as red-
23 igned by paragraph (2), the following:

24 “(14) INTEGRATED ENGLISH LITERACY AND
25 CIVICS EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The term ‘integrated

1 English literacy and civics education program’
2 means programs of instruction designed to help an
3 individual of limited English proficiency achieve
4 competence in English through contextualized in-
5 struction on the rights and responsibilities of citizen-
6 ship, naturalization procedures, civic participation,
7 and United States history and Government to help
8 such an individual acquire the skills and knowledge
9 to become an active and informed parent, worker,
10 and community member.”.

11 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 173A(b)(8)
12 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.
13 2918a(b)(8)) is amended by striking “section 203(10) of
14 the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C.
15 9202(10))” and inserting “section 203(12) of the Adult
16 Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C.
17 9202(12))”.

18 **SEC. 203. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 Section 205 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-
20 eracy Act (20 U.S.C. 9204) is amended to read as follows:

21 **“SEC. 205. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
23 this title \$850,000,000 for fiscal year 2015 and such sums
24 as may be necessary for each succeeding fiscal year.”.

1 **SEC. 204. RESERVATION OF FUNDS; GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE**
2 **AGENCIES; ALLOTMENTS.**

3 Section 211(a) of the Adult Education and Family
4 Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9211(a)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$8,000,000”
6 and inserting “\$15,000,000”;

7 (2) in paragraph (2)—

8 (A) by striking “1.5 percent” and inserting
9 “1.25 percent”; and

10 (B) by striking “\$8,000,000;” and insert-
11 ing “\$12,000,000; and”;

12 (3) in paragraph (3), by striking the period and
13 inserting “; and”; and

14 (4) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(4) shall reserve 12 percent to carry out sec-
16 tion 244.”.

17 **SEC. 205. PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.**

18 Section 212(b) of the Adult Education and Family
19 Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9212(b)) is amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (1)(A)—

21 (A) in clause (i), by inserting “and the em-
22 ployment performance indicator described in
23 paragraph (2)(B)” after “paragraph (2)(A)”;
24 and

25 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “paragraph
26 (2)(B)” and inserting “paragraph (2)(C)”;

1 (2) in paragraph (2)—

2 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

3 (i) in clause (ii), by striking “in, re-
4 tention in” and all that follows through the
5 period at the end and inserting “in post-
6 secondary education, including registered
7 apprenticeships, or other skill training pro-
8 grams.”; and

9 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(iv) Attainment of work readiness,
12 workplace skills, and certificates that are
13 industry-recognized credentials described
14 in section 101(56) or approved by the
15 State board or local board, as appro-
16 priate.”;

17 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as
18 subparagraph (D);

19 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (A)
20 the following:

21 “(B) EMPLOYMENT PERFORMANCE INDIC-
22 CATOR.—Consistent with applicable Federal
23 and State privacy laws—

24 “(i) an eligible agency shall identify in
25 the State plan an individual participant

1 employment performance indicator, which
2 shall be based on entry into employment,
3 retention, and earnings; and

4 “(ii) the State agency responsible for
5 maintaining and analyzing the data de-
6 scribed in clause (i) shall assist the eligible
7 agency in obtaining and using quarterly
8 wage records to collect such data.

9 “(C) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS INDI-
10 CATOR.—Beginning in 2015, an eligible agency
11 shall include a digital literacy skills indicator in
12 its State plan.”; and

13 (D) by striking subparagraph (D), as re-
14 designated by subparagraph (B), and inserting
15 the following:

16 “(D) ADDITIONAL INDICATORS.—An eligi-
17 ble agency may identify in the State plan addi-
18 tional indicators, including customer feedback,
19 for adult education and literacy activities and
20 workplace skills activities authorized under this
21 subtitle.”; and

22 (3) in paragraph (3)(B)—

23 (A) in the heading, by inserting “AND EM-
24 PLOYMENT PERFORMANCE INDICATOR” after
25 “INDICATORS”; and

1 (B) by striking “paragraph (2)(B)” and
2 inserting “paragraph (2)(D), the employment
3 performance indicator described in paragraph
4 (2)(B), and beginning in 2015, the digital lit-
5 eracy indicator described in paragraph (2)(C)”.

6 **SEC. 206. STATE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS; MATCHING RE-**
7 **QUIREMENT.**

8 Section 222(a) of the Adult Education and Family
9 Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9222(a)) is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (1)—

11 (A) by striking “not more than 10” and
12 inserting “not less than 10”; and

13 (B) by striking “82.5 percent” both places
14 the term appears and inserting “80 percent”;
15 and

16 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “12.5 per-
17 cent” and inserting “15 percent”.

18 **SEC. 207. STATE LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.**

19 Section 223(a) of the Adult Education and Family
20 Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9223(a)) is amended to read as
21 follows:

22 “(a) ACTIVITIES.—

23 “(1) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—Each eligible
24 agency shall use funds made available under section

1 222(a)(2) for the following adult education and lit-
2 eracy activities and workplace skills activities:

3 “(A) The establishment or operation of
4 professional development programs to improve
5 the quality of instruction provided pursuant to
6 local activities required under section 231(b).

7 “(B) The provision of technical assistance
8 to eligible providers of adult education and lit-
9 eracy activities and workplace skills activities to
10 enable them to fulfill the purpose of this title,
11 as described in section 202.

12 “(C) The monitoring and evaluation of
13 adult education and literacy activities and re-
14 lated activities to determine what works and
15 broadly disseminate information about models
16 and best practices and tools within the State.

17 “(D) The provision of technology assist-
18 ance, including staff training, to eligible pro-
19 viders of adult education and literacy activities
20 and workplace skills activities to enable the eli-
21 gible providers to improve the quality of such
22 activities.

23 “(E) Coordination with the workforce in-
24 vestment systems supported under title I.

1 “(2) PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Each eligible
2 agency may use funds made available under section
3 222(a)(2) for one or more of the following adult
4 education and literacy activities and workplace skills
5 activities:

6 “(A) Support for State or regional net-
7 works of literacy resource centers.

8 “(B) Incentives for program coordination
9 and integration, and performance awards.

10 “(C) Developing and disseminating cur-
11 ricula for postsecondary and job training readi-
12 ness, including curricula for using technology
13 for distance learning and for instructional and
14 teacher training purposes.

15 “(D) Coordination with existing support
16 services, such as transportation, child care, and
17 other assistance designed to increase rates of
18 enrollment in, and successful completion of,
19 adult education and literacy activities and work-
20 place skills activities, to adults enrolled in such
21 adult education and literacy activities and work-
22 place skills activities.

23 “(E) Developing innovative content and
24 models for integrated education and training

1 and sequential education and training pro-
2 grams.

3 “(F) Developing innovative content and
4 models to foster the transition to and success in
5 postsecondary education and career pathways.

6 “(G) Linkages with postsecondary edu-
7 cational institutions.

8 “(H) Linkages with community-based or-
9 ganizations.

10 “(I) Support for recruitment and outreach
11 for instructors, students, and employers.

12 “(J) Linkages with public libraries.

13 “(K) Other activities that address issues of
14 statewide significance”.

15 **SEC. 208. STATE PLAN.**

16 Section 224 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-
17 eracy Act (20 U.S.C. 9224) is amended—

18 (1) in subsection (a)—

19 (A) by redesignating paragraph (2) as
20 paragraph (4); and

21 (B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
22 following:

23 “(2) PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PERIOD.—Not-
24 withstanding any other provision of this section, an
25 eligible agency may be eligible to receive a grant

1 under this title before submission of a 5-year State
2 plan under this section if the eligible agency is in a
3 1-year program development period.

4 “(3) STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT.—The 5-
5 year State plan shall be comprehensive in nature
6 and developed and monitored by a planning group of
7 all stakeholders in the State’s adult education and
8 workforce development system. The stakeholders
9 shall include—

10 “(A) the State agencies responsible for—

11 “(i) the State’s programs under this
12 title and title I;

13 “(ii) the State program funded under
14 part A of title IV of the Social Security
15 Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);

16 “(iii) overseeing community colleges;

17 “(iv) elementary and secondary edu-
18 cation;

19 “(v) corrections;

20 “(vi) economic development;

21 “(vii) family literacy; and

22 “(viii) special services to immigrants;

23 and

24 “(B) representatives of business and
25 labor.”;

1 (2) in subsection (b)—

2 (A) by striking paragraph (10) and insert-
3 ing the following:

4 “(10) a description and strategy of how the eli-
5 gible agency will develop program strategies and co-
6 ordinate services, including guidance, counseling,
7 mentoring, and other supports through public and
8 private partnerships and creating transition strate-
9 gies with such elements as dual enrollment, cur-
10 ricular articulation, and high intensity instruction,
11 for populations that include, at a minimum—

12 “(A) low-income students;

13 “(B) individuals with disabilities;

14 “(C) single parents and displaced home-
15 makers; and

16 “(D) individuals with multiple barriers to
17 educational enhancement, including individuals
18 with limited English proficiency;”;

19 (B) in paragraph (11), by striking “and”
20 after the semicolon;

21 (C) in paragraph (12), by striking the pe-
22 riod at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

23 (D) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(13) a description of the knowledge and skills
2 necessary for acceptance in postsecondary education
3 and training;

4 “(14) an assurance that every local program
5 area, as defined by the eligible agency, served by the
6 eligible agency has at least 1 adult education pro-
7 gram that offers more than 1 option for earning a
8 credential with value in the local employment market
9 to students who do not yet have a secondary school
10 diploma or its recognized equivalent and who are un-
11 likely to earn such diploma or equivalent in the short
12 term, which option may include earning the creden-
13 tial through a partnership that includes a commu-
14 nity college or job training provider and may include
15 earning the recognized equivalent of a secondary
16 school degree in the process;

17 “(15) a description of any certification or other
18 requirements for instructors in eligible adult edu-
19 cation, literacy, and workplace skills program pro-
20 viders in the State;

21 “(16) a description of the professional develop-
22 ment needs of adult education, literacy, and work-
23 place skills providers in the State;

24 “(17) a description of how the State will—

1 “(A) use technology to improve the quality
2 of adult education, literacy, and workplace skills
3 services; and

4 “(B) expand access to such services for
5 workers and students;

6 “(18) a description of how the State will carry
7 out programs described in section 244, if the State
8 is receiving a grant under such section;

9 “(19) a description of the data system that the
10 State will use to track over time student outcomes
11 on the performance measures described in section
12 212;

13 “(20) a description of the State’s program to
14 invest in the skills of workers, including plans for in-
15 volving business as an active partner in the effort;
16 and

17 “(21) a description of how the adult education
18 programs will be integrated with occupational skills
19 programs and aligned with postsecondary education,
20 career, and technical education, workforce develop-
21 ment programs, and other Federal funds available
22 under title I and other relevant Federal programs.”;

23 (3) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the
24 following:

1 “(e) PEER REVIEW AND PLAN APPROVAL.—The Sec-
2 retary shall—

3 “(1) establish a peer-review process to assist in
4 the review and approval of State plans;

5 “(2) in consultation with the National Center
6 for Adult Education, Literacy, and Workplace Skills,
7 appoint individuals, representing the range of stake-
8 holders, to the peer-review process, including—

9 “(A) representatives of adult learners,
10 adult education, literacy, and workplace skills
11 providers, eligible agencies, State educational
12 agencies, institutions of higher education, and
13 representatives of State boards or local boards;
14 and

15 “(B) experts in the fields of adult edu-
16 cation, literacy, and workplace skills;

17 “(3) approve a State plan not later than 120
18 days after receiving the plan, unless the Secretary
19 makes a written determination, not later than 30
20 days after receiving the plan, that the plan does not
21 meet the requirements of this section or is incon-
22 sistent with specific provisions of this subtitle; and

23 “(4) not finally disapprove of a State plan be-
24 fore offering the eligible agency the opportunity,
25 prior to the expiration of the 30-day period begin-

ning on the date on which the eligible agency received the written determination described in paragraph (3), to revise the plan, and providing technical assistance in order to assist the eligible agency in meeting the requirements of this subtitle.”; and

(4) by striking subsections (f) and (g).

**SEC. 209. PROGRAMS FOR CORRECTIONS EDUCATION AND
OTHER INSTITUTIONALIZED INDIVIDUALS.**

Section 225 of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9225) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) integrated education and training and sequential education and training programs;

“(6) career pathways programs;

“(7) dual enrollment programs; and

“(8) preparation for postsecondary education and training.”;

(2) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

1 (3) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(d) REPORT.—In addition to any report required
4 under section 212(c), each eligible agency receiving a
5 grant under section 211(b) shall annually prepare and
6 submit to the Secretary a report on the progress, as de-
7 scribed in section 212(c)(1), of the eligible agency with
8 respect to the programs and activities of the eligible entity
9 receiving assistance under this section.”.

10 **SEC. 210. GRANTS AND CONTRACTS FOR ELIGIBLE PRO-**
11 **VIDERS.**

12 Section 231(b)(1) of the Adult Education and Family
13 Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9241(b)(1)) is amended to read
14 as follows:

15 “(1) Adult education, literacy, and workplace
16 skills services, which may include workplace literacy
17 services, integrated education and training and se-
18 quential education and training services, and serv-
19 ices assisting with the transition to postsecondary
20 education, training, career pathways, or employ-
21 ment.”.

22 **SEC. 211. LOCAL APPLICATION.**

23 Section 232 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-
24 eracy Act (20 U.S.C. 9242) is amended—

1 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
2 inserting “the measurable goals to be accomplished
3 as a result of the grant or contract and” after “in-
4 cluding”;

5 (2) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” after
6 the semicolon;

7 (3) in paragraph (2), by striking the period and
8 inserting “; and”; and

9 (4) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(3) a description of how the eligible provider
11 will collect data for purposes of reporting perform-
12 ance measures to assess and evaluate the progress of
13 adult education students and activities.”.

14 **SEC. 212. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

15 Section 241 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-
16 eracy Act (20 U.S.C. 9251) is amended by adding at the
17 end the following:

18 “(c) RULEMAKING.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall issue
20 such regulations as are necessary to reasonably en-
21 sure compliance with this title.

22 “(2) CONSULTATION.—Before publishing in the
23 Federal Register proposed regulations to carry out
24 this title, the Secretary shall consult with the Sec-

1 retary of Labor and obtain the advice and rec-
2 ommendations of representatives of—

3 “(A) adult learners;

4 “(B) adult education, literacy, and work-
5 place skills providers;

6 “(C) eligible agencies;

7 “(D) State educational agencies;

8 “(E) institutions of higher education, in-
9 cluding community colleges;

10 “(F) representatives of State boards and
11 local boards;

12 “(G) other organizations involved with the
13 implementation and operation of programs
14 under this title; and

15 “(H) community-based organizations in-
16 volved with the implementation and operation of
17 programs under this title.

18 “(3) MEETINGS AND ELECTRONIC EX-
19 CHANGE.—The advice and recommendations de-
20 scribed in paragraph (2) may be obtained through
21 such mechanisms as regional meetings and electronic
22 exchanges of information.”.

1 **SEC. 213. NATIONAL CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION, LIT-**
2 **ERACY, AND WORKPLACE SKILLS.**

3 Section 242 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-
4 eracy Act (20 U.S.C. 9252) is amended—

5 (1) by striking the section heading and insert-
6 ing the following: “**NATIONAL CENTER FOR**
7 **ADULT EDUCATION, LITERACY, AND WORK-**
8 **PLACE SKILLS**”;

9 (2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
10 following:

11 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the National Center
12 for Adult Education, Literacy, and Workplace Skills es-
13 tablished under subsection (b) is to—

14 “(1) provide national leadership regarding adult
15 education and family literacy;

16 “(2) coordinate adult education, literacy, and
17 workplace skills services and policy;

18 “(3) serve as a national resource for adult edu-
19 cation, literacy, and workplace skills programs by—

20 “(A) providing the best and most accurate
21 information available;

22 “(B) providing national leadership on the
23 use of technology for adult education;

24 “(C) supporting the creation of new ways
25 to offer adult education, literacy, and workplace
26 skills services of proven effectiveness;

1 “(D) providing effective practices for inte-
2 grated English literacy and civics education
3 programs; and

4 “(E) providing effective practices for cor-
5 rections education;

6 “(4) collect and disseminate information on
7 methods of advancing education and literacy that
8 show great promise for adults eligible for services
9 under this title;

10 “(5) provide policy and technical assistance to
11 Federal, State, and local organizations for the im-
12 provement of adult education, literacy, and work-
13 place skills services; and

14 “(6) not later than 4 years after the date of en-
15 actment of the Adult Education and Economic
16 Growth Act of 2013, conduct an evaluation and sub-
17 mit a report to the Interagency Group, the Com-
18 mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
19 of the Senate, and the Committee on Education and
20 the Workforce of the House of Representatives, on
21 the effectiveness of programs funded under this title
22 in achieving the purpose described in section 202,
23 which evaluation and report shall include—

1 “(A) a longitudinal study of outcomes for
2 adult learners served under programs under
3 this title;

4 “(B) an analysis of the adequacy of the
5 performance measures described in section 212;
6 and

7 “(C) recommendations for improved per-
8 formance measures and on how to improve pro-
9 gram effectiveness.”;
10 (3) in subsection (b)—

11 (A) in paragraph (1)—

12 (i) in the first sentence, by striking
13 “National Institute for Literacy (in this
14 section referred to as the ‘Institute’)” and
15 inserting “National Center for Adult Edu-
16 cation, Literacy, and Workplace Skills (in
17 this section referred to as the ‘Center’)”;

18 (ii) in the second sentence, by striking
19 “‘Institute’” and inserting “‘Center’”; and

20 (iii) in the third sentence, by striking
21 “the Institute” and inserting “the Center”;

22 (B) in paragraph (2)—

23 (i) by striking “Institute” and insert-
24 ing “Center”; and

1 (ii) by striking “separate” and insert-
2 ing “independent”;

3 (C) in paragraph (3)—

4 (i) by striking “National Institute for
5 Literacy Advisory Board” and inserting
6 “National Center for Adult Education, Lit-
7 eracy, and Workplace Skills Advisory
8 Board”; and

9 (ii) by striking “the Institute” and in-
10 serting “the Center”; and

11 (D) in paragraph (4), by striking “Insti-
12 tute” each place the term appears and inserting
13 “Center”;

14 (4) in subsection (c)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1)—

16 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
17 graph (A), by striking “Institute” and in-
18 serting “Center”;

19 (ii) in subparagraph (A)—

20 (I) in clause (iii), by striking
21 “and” after the semicolon;

22 (II) in clause (iv), by inserting
23 “and” after the semicolon; and

24 (III) by adding at the end the
25 following:

1 “(v) effective practices for integrated
2 English literacy and civics education pro-
3 grams;”;

4 (iii) by striking subparagraph (D) and
5 inserting the following:

6 “(D) to collect and disseminate informa-
7 tion on methods of advancing education and lit-
8 eracy that show great promise for adults eligi-
9 ble for services under this title;”;

10 (iv) by striking subparagraph (E) and
11 inserting the following:

12 “(E) to provide policy and technical assist-
13 ance to Federal, State, and local organizations
14 for the improvement of adult education, lit-
15 eracy, and workplace skills services;”;

16 (v) in subparagraph (F)(iii), by strik-
17 ing “Institute” and inserting “Center”;

18 (vi) in subparagraph (G), by inserting
19 “and integrated English literacy and civics
20 education programs” after “workforce in-
21 vestment activities”;

22 (vii) in subparagraph (H), by striking
23 “and” after the semicolon;

24 (viii) in subparagraph (I), by striking
25 the period and inserting a semicolon; and

1 (ix) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(J) to carry out section 306 of the Adult
4 Education and Economic Growth Act of 2013;
5 and

6 “(K) not later than 4 years after the date
7 of enactment of the Adult Education and Eco-
8 nomic Growth Act of 2013, to conduct an eval-
9 uation and submit a report to the Interagency
10 Group, the Committee on Health, Education,
11 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and the
12 Committee on Education and the Workforce of
13 the House of Representatives on the effective-
14 ness of programs funded under this title in
15 achieving the purpose described in section 202,
16 which evaluation and report shall include—

17 “(i) a longitudinal study of outcomes
18 for adult learners served under programs
19 under this title;

20 “(ii) an analysis of the adequacy of
21 the performance measures identified in sec-
22 tion 212; and

23 “(iii) recommendations for improved
24 performance measures and on how to im-
25 prove program effectiveness.”; and

1 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “Insti-
 2 tute” each place the term appears and inserting
 3 “Center”;

4 (5) in subsection (d), by striking “Institute”
 5 each place the term appears and inserting “Center”;
 6 (6) in subsection (e)—

7 (A) in the heading, by striking “NATIONAL
 8 INSTITUTE FOR LITERACY ADVISORY BOARD”
 9 and inserting “NATIONAL CENTER FOR ADULT
 10 EDUCATION, LITERACY, AND WORKPLACE
 11 SKILLS ADVISORY BOARD”;

12 (B) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “Na-
 13 tional Institute for Literacy Advisory Board”
 14 and inserting “National Center for Adult Edu-
 15 cation, Literacy, and Workplace Skills Advisory
 16 Board”; and

17 (C) in paragraph (2), by striking “Insti-
 18 tute” each place the term appears and inserting
 19 “Center”;
 20 (7) in subsection (f)—

21 (A) by striking “Institute” each place the
 22 term appears and inserting “Center”; and

23 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “Insti-
 24 tute’s” and inserting “Center’s”;

1 (8) in each of subsections (g), (i), and (j), by
2 striking “Institute” and inserting “Center”;

3 (9) in subsection (k)—

4 (A) by striking “Institute” each place the
5 term appears and inserting “Center”; and

6 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking “Insti-
7 tute’s” and inserting “Center’s”; and

8 (10) in subsection (l), by striking “Institute”
9 each place the term appears and inserting “Center”.

10 **SEC. 214. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.**

11 Section 243 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-
12 eracy Act (20 U.S.C. 9253) is amended to read as follows:

13 **“SEC. 243. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.**

14 “The Secretary shall establish and carry out a pro-
15 gram of national leadership activities to improve the qual-
16 ity and outcomes of adult education, literacy, and work-
17 place skills programs nationwide. Such activities—

18 “(1) shall include—

19 “(A) technical assistance, which may in-
20 clude—

21 “(i) assistance to eligible providers in
22 developing and using certification systems,
23 performance measures, and data systems
24 for the improvement of adult education
25 and literacy activities and workplace skills

1 activities, including family literacy services,
2 transition to postsecondary education or
3 career pathways, corrections education,
4 and integrated English literacy and civics
5 education programs;

6 “(ii) assistance related to professional
7 development activities and assistance for
8 the purpose of developing, improving, iden-
9 tifying, and disseminating the most suc-
10 cessful methods and techniques for pro-
11 viding adult education and literacy activi-
12 ties and workplace skills activities, includ-
13 ing family literacy services, transition to
14 postsecondary education or career path-
15 ways, and integrated English literacy and
16 civics education programs, based on sci-
17 entific evidence where available; or

18 “(iii) assistance in distance learning
19 and promoting and improving the use of
20 technology in the classroom; and

21 “(B) program evaluation and data collec-
22 tion and reporting; and

23 “(2) may include—

24 “(A) national demonstration projects for
25 improving adult education, literacy, and work-

1 place skills services, which may include projects
2 that—

3 “(i) accelerate learning outcomes for
4 adult learners with the lowest literacy lev-
5 els;

6 “(ii) promote career pathways;

7 “(iii) allow dual enrollment in adult
8 secondary education and credit bearing
9 postsecondary coursework;

10 “(iv) provide integrated education and
11 training and sequential education and
12 training services;

13 “(v) build capacity to enhance the in-
14 tensity of adult education, literacy, and
15 workplace skills services;

16 “(vi) establish partnerships to improve
17 the quality of and expand adult education,
18 literacy, and workplace skills services to
19 more adults;

20 “(vii) provide professional develop-
21 ment opportunities to adult education, lit-
22 eracy, and workplace skills service pro-
23 viders;

24 “(viii) develop new curricula and
25 methods of instruction that improve learn-

1 ing outcomes in adult education, literacy,
2 and workplace skills programs;

3 “(ix) provide integrated English lit-
4 eracy and civics education program in-
5 struction; and

6 “(x) provide corrections education;
7 and

8 “(B) dissemination of the results and best
9 practices identified in the national demonstra-
10 tion projects described in subparagraph (A).”.

11 **SEC. 215. INTEGRATED ENGLISH LITERACY AND CIVICS**
12 **EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of subtitle A of the
14 Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C.
15 9251 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
16 lowing:

17 **“SEC. 244. INTEGRATED ENGLISH LITERACY AND CIVICS**
18 **EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

19 “(a) IN GENERAL.—From funds reserved under sec-
20 tion 211(a)(4) for each fiscal year, the Secretary shall
21 award grants to States, in accordance with the allocations
22 under subsection (b), for integrated English literacy and
23 civics education programs.

24 “(b) ALLOCATIONS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
2 of the funds described in subsection (a), the Sec-
3 retary shall allocate—

4 “(A) 65 percent to States on the basis of
5 a State’s need for integrated English and civics
6 education programs, as determined by calcu-
7 lating each State’s share of a 10-year average
8 of the data compiled by the Office of Immigra-
9 tion Statistics of the Department of Homeland
10 Security, for immigrants admitted for lawful
11 permanent residence for the 10 most recent
12 years; and

13 “(B) 35 percent to States on the basis of
14 whether the State experienced growth, as meas-
15 ured by the average of the 3 most recent years
16 for which data compiled by the Office of Immi-
17 gration Statistics of the Department of Home-
18 land Security are available, for immigrants ad-
19 mitted for lawful permanent residence.

20 “(2) MINIMUM.—No State shall receive an allo-
21 cation under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year in an
22 amount that is less than \$60,000.”.

23 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in
24 section 1(b) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 is

1 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
2 243 the following:

“Sec. 244. Integrated English literacy and civics education programs.”.

3 **TITLE III—21ST CENTURY TECH-**
4 **NOLOGY AND SKILLS FOR**
5 **ADULT LEARNERS**

6 **SEC. 301. PURPOSES.**

7 The purposes of this title are the following:

8 (1) To expand access to adult education serv-
9 ices and bring about cost efficiencies through in-
10 creased use of technology and the development of a
11 national web portal.

12 (2) To provide professional development for
13 providers of adult education, literacy, and workplace
14 skills services so that the providers are able to—

15 (A) effectively use technology in the deliv-
16 ery of adult education, literacy, and workplace
17 skills services; and

18 (B) improve the quality of instruction and
19 accelerate the—

20 (i) achievement of basic educational
21 skills, English language literacy, and sec-
22 ondary school equivalency or postsecondary
23 education for adult learners; and

24 (ii) training readiness for adult learn-
25 ers.

1 (3) To assist States in developing a 21st cen-
2 tury delivery system for adult education, literacy,
3 and workplace skills services.

4 (4) To assist adults in developing digital lit-
5 eracy skills.

6 **SEC. 302. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this title:

8 (1) ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY
9 ACT TERMS.—The terms “adult education”, “eligible
10 agency”, “eligible provider”, “literacy”, “Secretary”,
11 “State”, and “workplace skills” have the meanings
12 given the terms in section 203 of the Adult Edu-
13 cation and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9202).

14 (2) CENTER.—The term “Center” means the
15 National Center for Adult Education, Literacy, and
16 Workplace Skills established under section 242 of
17 the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20
18 U.S.C. 9252).

19 (3) DISTANCE EDUCATION.—The term “dis-
20 tance education” has the meaning given the term in
21 section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965
22 (20 U.S.C. 1003).

23 (4) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.—The term
24 “digital literacy skills” has the meaning given the

1 term in section 202 of the Museum and Library
2 Services Act (20 U.S.C. 9101).

3 **SEC. 303. RESERVATION OF FUNDS AND ALLOTMENTS.**

4 (a) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—From the amounts
5 appropriated under section 307 for a fiscal year, the Sec-
6 retary shall reserve 3 percent or \$7,500,000, whichever
7 amount is less, to carry out section 306.

8 (b) ALLOTMENT OF REMAINDER.—From the sums
9 remaining for a fiscal year after making the reservation
10 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall allot—

11 (1) 75 percent to carry out section 305;

12 (2) 20 percent to carry out section 304; and

13 (3) 5 percent for administrative costs in car-
14 rying out section 304.

15 (c) ALLOTMENTS TO ELIGIBLE AGENCIES.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts available
17 to carry out section 304 for a fiscal year, the Sec-
18 retary shall allot to each eligible agency with an ap-
19 proved application an amount that bears the same
20 relationship to such sums as the amount received
21 under section 211(c)(2) of the Adult Education and
22 Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9211(c)(2)) by such
23 eligible agency bears to the amount received under
24 such section for such fiscal year by all eligible agen-
25 cies.

1 (2) MINIMUM ALLOTMENT; RATABLE REDUC-
2 TION.—No eligible agency shall receive an allotment
3 under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year in an amount
4 that is less than \$100,000. If the amount appro-
5 priated to carry out section 304 for a fiscal year is
6 not sufficient to pay such minimum allotment to all
7 States, the amount of such minimum allotments
8 shall be ratably reduced.

9 **SEC. 304. GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE AGENCIES.**

10 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF GRANTS.—The Secretary
11 shall award grants to eligible agencies from allotments
12 under section 303(b) to enable the eligible agencies to
13 carry out subsection (c) and award subgrants or contracts
14 under section 305.

15 (b) APPLICATION.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible agency that de-
17 sires to receive a grant under this title shall submit
18 an application to the Secretary at such time, in such
19 manner, and accompanied by such information as
20 the Secretary may require.

21 (2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted
22 under paragraph (1) shall contain the following:

23 (A) A description of the eligible agency's
24 technology plan for the adult education system,
25 including measurable goals to be achieved.

1 (B) A description of how the eligible agen-
2 cy will provide technical assistance and support
3 to local programs.

4 (C) A description of how the eligible agen-
5 cy will use technology to expand adult edu-
6 cation, literacy, and workplace skills services to
7 more adults, including adults in rural areas.

8 (D) A description of the long-term goals
9 and strategies for improved outcomes for adult
10 learners.

11 (E) A description of the professional devel-
12 opment activities to be undertaken in accord-
13 ance with subsection (c)(2).

14 (F) A description of the performance
15 benchmarks to be used to evaluate the activities
16 supported under the grant, and how data will
17 be collected.

18 (G) A description of how the eligible agen-
19 cy will ensure that grants or contracts to eligi-
20 ble providers are of sufficient size and scope to
21 achieve the purposes of this title.

22 (c) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible agency that receives a
23 grant under this title shall carry out the following:

24 (1) Implementing a statewide technology plan
25 for the adult education system, including—

1 (A) providing professional development for
2 adult education, literacy, and workplace skills
3 service providers;

4 (B) providing access to curricula, instruc-
5 tion, and assessment for adult learners and eli-
6 gible providers;

7 (C) supporting the development of cur-
8 ricula and assessment tools for adult education,
9 literacy, and workplace skills service providers;
10 and

11 (D) providing guidance and technical as-
12 sistance to eligible providers.

13 (2) Supporting innovative pilot projects such as
14 the use of assistive technology to deliver content to
15 adult learners.

16 **SEC. 305. SUBGRANTS AND CONTRACTS TO ELIGIBLE PRO-**
17 **VIDERS.**

18 (a) **AUTHORIZATION OF SUBGRANTS AND CON-**
19 **TRACTS.**—An eligible agency that receives a grant under
20 this title shall award subgrants or contracts to eligible pro-
21 viders to carry out activities described in this section.

22 (b) **ELIGIBLE PROVIDER APPLICATION.**—An eligible
23 provider that desires to receive a subgrant or contract
24 under this section shall submit an application to an eligible
25 agency, which shall include—

1 (1) a description of how the eligible provider
2 will integrate technology into the eligible provider's
3 delivery of adult education, literacy, and workplace
4 skills services;

5 (2) a description of professional development
6 activities to be undertaken; and

7 (3) a description of plans to regularly replace
8 computers and servers that lack the functional capa-
9 bilities to process new online applications and serv-
10 ices, including video conferencing, video streaming,
11 virtual simulations, and distance education courses.

12 (c) ELIGIBLE PROVIDER ACTIVITIES.—An eligible
13 provider that receives a subgrant or contract under this
14 section shall carry out one or more of the following:

15 (1) Acquiring and effectively implementing
16 technology tools, applications, and other resources in
17 conjunction with enhancing or redesigning adult
18 education, literacy, and workplace skills curricula to
19 increase adult learning outcomes and improve adult
20 digital literacy skills.

21 (2) Acquiring and effectively implementing
22 technology tools, applications, and other resources
23 to—

24 (A) conduct on going assessments and use
25 other timely data systems to more effectively

1 identify individual learning needs and guide
2 personalized instruction, learning, and appro-
3 priate interventions that address those person-
4 alized student learning needs; and

5 (B) support individualized learning, includ-
6 ing through instructional software and digital
7 content that support the learning needs of each
8 student or through providing access to high-
9 quality courses and instructors, especially in
10 rural areas.

11 (3) Providing professional development activi-
12 ties for providers of adult education, literacy, and
13 workplace skills services that include—

14 (A) training that is on-going, sustainable,
15 timely, and directly related to delivering adult
16 education, literacy, and workplace skills serv-
17 ices;

18 (B) training in strategies and pedagogy in
19 the delivery of adult education, literacy, and
20 workplace skills services that involves the use of
21 technology and curriculum redesign as key com-
22 ponents of changing teaching and learning and
23 improving outcomes for adult learners;

24 (C) training in the use of technology to en-
25 sure that providers of adult education, literacy,

1 and workplace skills services are able to use
2 technology for data analysis to enable individ-
3 ualized instruction and to use technology to im-
4 prove digital literacy skills for adult learners;
5 and

6 (D) training that includes on-going com-
7 munication and follow-up with instructors,
8 facilitators, and peers.

9 (4) Acquisition and implementation of tech-
10 nology tools, applications, and other resources to be
11 employed in professional development activities.

12 **SEC. 306. NATIONAL ADULT LEARNING AND TECHNOLOGY**
13 **CLEARINGHOUSE.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall establish and
15 maintain the National Adult Learning and Technology
16 Resource Clearinghouse (referred to in this section as the
17 “Clearinghouse”).

18 (b) DUTIES OF THE CLEARINGHOUSE.—The Clear-
19 inghouse shall—

20 (1) develop and disseminate frameworks for
21 technology-based learning and professional develop-
22 ment materials for adult education, literacy, and
23 workplace skills;

24 (2) develop and disseminate frameworks for
25 performance measures for digital literacy skills;

1 (3) provide technical assistance to eligible enti-
2 ties and eligible providers of adult education, lit-
3 eracy, and workplace skills;

4 (4) support distance education for professional
5 development for eligible entities and eligible pro-
6 viders of adult education, literacy, and workplace
7 skills services;

8 (5) support the innovative uses of technology,
9 such as the use of assistive technology, to deliver
10 content to adult learners; and

11 (6) be accessible to the public through the
12 website of the Center.

13 **SEC. 307. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
15 this title, \$250,000,000 for fiscal year 2015 and such
16 sums as may be necessary for each succeeding fiscal year.

17 **TITLE IV—RESEARCH IN ADULT**
18 **EDUCATION**

19 **SEC. 401. RESEARCH IN ADULT EDUCATION.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section
21 133(c)(2) of the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002
22 (20 U.S.C. 9533(c)(2)(A)) is amended to read as follows:

23 “(A) Adult education, literacy, and work-
24 place skills.”.

1 (b) NATIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CEN-
2 TER.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Education
4 shall direct the Commissioner for Education Re-
5 search of the National Center for Education Re-
6 search established pursuant to section 131 of the
7 Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C.
8 9531) to establish a national research and develop-
9 ment center for adult education, literacy, and work-
10 place skills as described in section 133(c)(2)(A) of
11 such Act (20 U.S.C. 9533(c)(2)(A)).

12 (2) PROVISION FOR EXPANSION OF RE-
13 SEARCH.—If, as of the date of the enactment of this
14 Act, the Commissioner for Education Research of
15 the National Center for Education Research has es-
16 tablished a center for adult literacy in accordance
17 with section 133(c)(2)(A) of the Education Sciences
18 Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9533(c)(2)(A)), the
19 Commissioner shall expand the topic of research of
20 such center to include adult education and workplace
21 skills, in accordance with the amendment made by
22 subsection (a).

TITLE V—EMPLOYER INCENTIVES

SEC. 501. CREDIT FOR EMPLOYER EDUCATIONAL ASSIST- ANCE PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 45S. CREDIT FOR EMPLOYER EDUCATIONAL ASSIST- ANCE PROGRAMS.

“(a) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of section 38, in the case of an employer, the employer educational assistance program credit determined under this section for the taxable year is an amount equal to 50 percent of the qualified educational assistance expenses paid or incurred by the taxpayer to or on behalf of any employee of the taxpayer during the taxable year.

“(b) LIMITATIONS.—

“(1) PER EMPLOYEE LIMITATION.—The amount of the qualified educational assistance expenses taken into account under subsection (a) with respect to any employee for the taxable year shall not exceed \$5,250.

“(2) TOTAL LIMITATION.—The aggregate amount of the qualified educational assistance ex-

1 penses taken into account under subsection (a) with
2 respect to all employees of the taxpayer for the tax-
3 able year shall not exceed the average of the aggre-
4 gate qualified educational assistance expenses with
5 respect to all employees of the taxpayer taken into
6 account under subsection (a) in the 3 taxable years
7 preceding such taxable year.

8 “(3) TRANSITION RULE.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a tax-
10 able year in which qualified educational assist-
11 ance expenses of the taxpayer have not been
12 taken into account under subsection (a) for
13 each of the 3 taxable years preceding such tax-
14 able year, the aggregate amount of the qualified
15 educational assistance expenses taken into ac-
16 count under subsection (a) with respect to all
17 employees of the taxpayer for such taxable year
18 shall not exceed the average of the sum of—

19 “(i) the aggregate qualified edu-
20 cational assistance expenses with respect to
21 all employees of the taxpayer taken into
22 account under subsection (a) in any of the
23 3 taxable years preceding such taxable
24 year, plus

1 “(ii) the aggregate amount of
 2 amounts paid or expenses incurred by the
 3 employer, for which an exclusion was al-
 4 lowable to any employee of the employer
 5 under section 127, in any of such 3 taxable
 6 years in which no expenses were taken into
 7 account under subsection (a), plus

8 “(iii) in the case of a taxable year in
 9 which expenses have not been taken into
 10 account under subsection (a) or section
 11 127 for each of the 3 taxable years pre-
 12 ceding such taxable year, an amount equal
 13 to—

14 “(I) \$5,250, multiplied by

15 “(II) the number of employees of
 16 the taxpayer with respect to which the
 17 taxpayer has qualified educational as-
 18 sistance expenses in such taxable year.

19 “(c) QUALIFIED EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE EX-
 20 PENSES.—For purposes of this section—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified edu-
 22 cational assistance expenses’ means expenses paid
 23 for educational assistance pursuant to an edu-
 24 cational assistance program (within the meaning of
 25 section 127(b)).

1 “(2) EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—The term
2 ‘educational assistance’ has the meaning given such
3 term by section 127(c)(1), applied without regard to
4 subparagraph (B) thereof, except that such term in-
5 cludes a payment only if such payment is made with
6 respect to an employee enrolled in a program pro-
7 vided at the workplace or outside of the workplace—

8 “(A) leading to a sub-baccalaureate degree
9 or career technical certificate awarded by an ac-
10 credited postsecondary institution; or

11 “(B) in basic education or English lan-
12 guage training leading to a nationally recog-
13 nized certificate of proficiency, or in workplace
14 skills leading to an industry-recognized creden-
15 tial described in section 101(56) of the Work-
16 force Investment Act of 1998 that is nationally
17 recognized.

18 “(d) OTHER DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—
19 Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (2) through (5)
20 of section 127(c) shall apply for purposes of this section.

21 “(e) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—No deduction
22 or other credit shall be allowed under this chapter to an
23 employer for any amount taken into account in deter-
24 mining the credit under this section.”.

1 (b) CREDIT INCLUDED IN GENERAL BUSINESS

2 CREDIT.—Section 38(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of
3 1986 is amended by striking “plus” at the end of para-
4 graph (35), by striking the period at the end of paragraph
5 (36) and inserting “, plus”, and by adding at the end the
6 following new paragraph:

7 “(37) the employer educational assistance pro-
8 gram credit determined under section 45S(a).”.

9 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
10 for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1
11 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by add-
12 ing at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 45S. Credit for employer educational assistance programs.”.

13 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
14 this section shall apply to expenses relating to courses of
15 instruction beginning after December 31, 2013.

○