

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7376

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a work-based learning opportunities pilot grant program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 20, 2018

Mr. KILMER (for himself and Ms. BONAMICI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a work-based learning opportunities pilot grant program.

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 “The Earning Experi-
5 ence Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. PILOT GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 Part C of title IV of the Higher Education Act of
8 1965 (42 U.S.C. 1087–51 et seq.) is amended by adding
9 at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 449. WORK-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PILOT**
2 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

3 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
5 lish a program to provide grants to eligible institu-
6 tions participating under this part to establish or ex-
7 pand a program to develop work-based learning posi-
8 tions.

9 “(2) LIMITATIONS.—

10 “(A) DURATION.—A grant awarded under
11 this section shall be for a period of not more
12 than 4 years, but may be renewed by the Sec-
13 retary for a period of 2 years.

14 “(B) AMOUNT.—A grant under this sec-
15 tion may not be in an amount greater than
16 \$1,000,000.

17 “(b) APPLICATION.—To be selected to receive a grant
18 under this section an eligible institution participating
19 under this part shall submit an application to the Sec-
20 retary at such time, in such manner, and containing such
21 information as the Secretary may require, including a plan
22 that describes how the eligible institution will establish or
23 expand a program to develop work-based learning posi-
24 tions that will—

25 “(1) benefit students who demonstrate excep-
26 tional need (as defined in section 413C(c)(2));

1 “(2) identify in-demand industry sectors or oc-
2 cupations (as determined by the Bureau of Labor
3 and Statistics, State departments of labor, and local
4 workforce development boards) and develop partner-
5 ships with employers (including nonprofit organiza-
6 tions, for-profit firms, or public agencies) in such
7 sectors or occupations;

8 “(3) involve participating employers in evalu-
9 ating and improving such program;

10 “(4) track and report academic and employ-
11 ment outcomes for participating students; and

12 “(5) be able to continue after the end of the
13 grant term.

14 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds awarded under
15 this program shall be used to pay wages for students par-
16 ticipating under this program and develop work-based
17 learning positions that—

18 “(1) are for a period of at least 12 weeks;

19 “(2) serve students who demonstrate excep-
20 tional need (as defined in section 413C(c)(2));

21 “(3) limit administrative work to no more than
22 25 percent of such position;

23 “(4) provide a minimum of 15 hours of work
24 per week during periods of enrollment and 30 hours
25 per week during periods of nonenrollment, except

1 such requirement may be waived by the institution
2 in consultation with a student;

3 “(5) include career coaching from participating
4 employers (including, mock interviews, résumé writ-
5 ing assistance, and counseling on applying for and
6 attaining employment); and

7 “(6) provide participating students with oppor-
8 tunities to meet with employers in fields or indus-
9 tries related to those of participating employers.

10 “(d) REPORT.—On a date that is before the date on
11 which the period of the grant received by an eligible insti-
12 tution under this section terminates, such institution shall
13 submit a report to the Secretary including—

14 “(1) the graduation rate or completion rate (as
15 described under section 485(a)(3)) with respect to
16 students participating in work-based learning posi-
17 tions under the pilot program; and

18 “(2) the results of the work-based learning op-
19 portunities program for which such institution re-
20 ceived such grant, including—

21 “(A) participating students’ satisfaction
22 with the program;

23 “(B) the types of jobs in which partici-
24 pating students were employed and the types of
25 duties performed in such jobs;

1 “(C) the academic programs of the partici-
2 pating students;

3 “(D) the share of participating students
4 who worked at another job, in addition to the
5 one under the pilot program;

6 “(E) the percentage of participating stu-
7 dents who, during the second quarter after
8 completing their academic program, are in edu-
9 cation or training activities or unsubsidized em-
10 ployment;

11 “(F) the percentage of participating stu-
12 dents employed in the in-demand industry sec-
13 tors or occupations identified under subsection
14 (b)(2) within 2 quarters of completing their
15 academic programs; and

16 “(G) other items as determined by the Sec-
17 retary.

18 “(e) RESERVATION OF FUNDING FOR SUCH PRO-
19 GRAM.—From the amount appropriated under section
20 441(b) for a fiscal year and remaining after the Secretary
21 allocates funds under section 442, the Secretary shall re-
22 serve \$30,000,000 to carry out grants under this sec-
23 tion.”.

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