S. 206

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow the Secretary of Education to award job training Federal Pell Grants.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 24, 2017

Mr. Kaine (for himself and Mr. Portman) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow the Secretary of Education to award job training Federal Pell Grants.

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 “Jumpstart Our Business-
5 es by Supporting Students Act of 2017” or the
6 “JOBS Act of 2017”.
SEC. 2. JOB TRAINING FEDERAL PELL GRANTS.

Section 401 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(k) JOB TRAINING FEDERAL PELL GRANT PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For the award years beginning on July 1, 2017, the Secretary shall carry out a program through which the Secretary shall award job training Federal Pell Grants to students in job training programs. Each job training Federal Pell Grant awarded under this subsection shall have the same terms and conditions, and be awarded in the same manner, as a Federal Pell Grant awarded under subsection (a), except as follows:

“(A) A student who is eligible to receive a job training Federal Pell Grant under this subsection is a student who—

“(i) has not yet attained a baccalaureate degree or postbaccalaureate degree;

“(ii) attends an institution of higher education as defined in section 102;

“(iii) is enrolled, or accepted for enrollment, in a job training program at such institution of higher education; and

“(B) An amount of Federal Pell Grant funds available for job training programs is determined by the Secretary, based on the number of students in the program.
“(iv) meets all other eligibility re-
quirements for a Federal Pell Grant (ex-
cept with respect to the type of program of
study, as provided in clause (iii)).

“(B) The amount of a job training Federal
Pell Grant for an eligible student shall be deter-
mined under subsection (b)(2)(A), except
that—

“(i) the maximum Federal Pell Grant
awarded under this subsection for an
award year shall be 50 percent of the max-
imum Federal Pell Grant awarded under
subsection (b) applicable to that award
year;

“(ii) no increase shall be calculated
under subsection (b)(7)(B) for a student
receiving a job training Federal Pell Grant
under this subsection; and

“(iii) subsection (b)(4) shall not
apply.

“(2) INCLUSION IN TOTAL ELIGIBILITY PE-
RIOD.—Any period during which a student receives
a job training Federal Pell Grant under this sub-
section shall be included in calculating the student’s
period of eligibility for Federal Pell Grants under
subsection (c), and any regulations under such sub-
section regarding students who are enrolled in an
undergraduate program on less than a full-time
basis shall similarly apply to students who are en-
rolled in a job training program at an eligible insti-
tution on less than a full-time basis.

“(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the fol-
lowing definitions apply:

“(A) ELIGIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS PRO-
gram.—The term ‘eligible career pathway pro-
gram’ means a program that is part of a career
pathway, as defined under section 3(7) of the
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
U.S.C. 3102(7)), that is a combination of rig-
orous and high-quality education, training, and
other services that—

“(i) aligns with the skill needs of in-
dustries in the State or regional economy
involved;

“(ii) prepares an individual to be suc-
cessful in any of a full range of secondary
or postsecondary education options, includ-
ing apprenticeships registered under the
Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known
as the ‘National Apprenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.);

“(iii) includes counseling to support an individual in achieving the individual’s education and career goals;

“(iv) includes, as appropriate, education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster;

“(v) organizes education, training, and other services to meet the particular needs of an individual in a manner that accelerates the educational and career advancement of the individual to the extent practicable;

“(vi) enables an individual to attain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and at least 1 recognized post-secondary credential; and

“(vii) helps an individual enter or advance within a specific occupation or occupational cluster.

“(B) JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.—The term ‘job training program’ means a career and tech-
nical education program at an institution of higher education that—

“(i) provides not less than 150 clock hours of instructional time over a period of not less than 8 weeks;

“(ii) provides training aligned with the requirements of employers in the State or local area, which may include in-demand industry sectors or occupations in the State or local area, as defined under section 3(23) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(23));

“(iii) provides a student, upon completion of the program, with a recognized postsecondary credential, as defined under section 3(52) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(52)), that is recognized by employers in the relevant industry, including credentials recognized by industry or sector partnerships in the State or local area where the industry is located;

“(iv) has been determined, by the institution of higher education, to provide
academic content, an amount of instructional time, and a recognized postsecondary credential that are sufficient to—

“(I) meet the hiring requirements of potential employers; and

“(II) allow the students to apply for any licenses or certifications that may be required to be employed in the field for which the job training is offered;

“(v) may include integrated or basic skills courses; and

“(vi) may be offered as part of an eligible career pathways program.”.

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