

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 628

To amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to raise the quality of career and technical education programs and to allow local eligible recipients to use funding to establish high-quality career academies.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 14, 2017

Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. YOUNG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to raise the quality of career and technical education programs and to allow local eligible recipients to use funding to establish high-quality career academies.

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 “Educating Tomorrow’s
5 Workforce Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
3 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302) is amend-
4 ed—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through
6 (9), (10) through (23), and (24) through (34), as
7 paragraphs (7) through (10), (12) through (25), and
8 (27) through (37), respectively;

9 (2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(6) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PRO-
12 GRAM OF STUDY.—The term ‘career and technical
13 education program of study’ means a coordinated,
14 non-duplicative sequence of secondary and postsec-
15 ondary academic and technical courses that—

16 “(A) incorporate rigorous, State-identified
17 postsecondary education and workforce readi-
18 ness standards, including State-identified career
19 and technical education standards that address
20 both academic and technical contents;

21 “(B) support attainment of employability
22 and career readiness skills;

23 “(C) progress in content specificity (by be-
24 ginning with all aspects of an industry or career
25 cluster and leading to more occupationally spe-

1 cific instruction or by preparing students for
2 ongoing postsecondary career preparation);

3 “(D) incorporate multiple entry and exit
4 points with portable demonstrations of technical
5 or career competency, which may include credit-
6 transfer agreements or industry-recognized cer-
7 tifications; and

8 “(E) culminate in the attainment of—

9 “(i) an industry-recognized certifi-
10 cation, credential, or license;

11 “(ii) a registered apprenticeship or
12 credit-bearing postsecondary certificate; or

13 “(iii) an associate or baccalaureate de-
14 gree.”;

15 (3) by inserting after paragraph (10), as reded-
16 signed by paragraph (1), the following:

17 “(11) CREDIT-TRANSFER AGREEMENT.—The
18 term ‘credit-transfer agreement’ means an oppor-
19 tunity for secondary students to be awarded
20 transcribed postsecondary credit, supported with a
21 formal agreement between secondary and postsec-
22 ondary education systems, for—

23 “(A) technical credit such as dual enroll-
24 ment, dual credit, or articulated credit, which

1 may include credit by examination or credit by
2 performance on technical assessments; or

3 “(B) academic credit such as dual enroll-
4 ment, dual credit, or articulated credit, which
5 may include credit by examination or credit by
6 performance on academic assessments.”; and

7 (4) by inserting after paragraph (25), as reded-
8 ignated by paragraph (1), the following:

9 “(26) REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PRO-
10 GRAM.—The term ‘registered apprenticeship pro-
11 gram’ means an apprenticeship program—

12 “(A) registered under the Act of August
13 16, 1937 (commonly known as the “National
14 Apprenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664, chapter
15 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.); and

16 “(B) that meets such other criteria as may
17 be established by the Secretary under this sec-
18 tion.”.

19 **SEC. 3. STATE PLAN.**

20 Section 122(c)(1) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and
21 Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2342(c)(1))
22 is amended—

23 (1) by striking subparagraph (A);

1 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (B)
2 through (L) as subparagraphs (A) through (K), re-
3 spectively; and

4 (3) in subparagraph (A), as redesignated by
5 paragraph (2), by striking “the career and technical
6 programs of study described in subparagraph (A)”
7 and inserting “career and technical education pro-
8 grams of study, including a description of how the
9 eligible agency will ensure the quality of any pro-
10 gram of study culminating in an industry-recognized
11 certificate, credential, or license”.

12 **SEC. 4. STATE LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.**

13 Section 124 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
14 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2344) is amend-
15 ed—

16 (1) in subsection (b)(6), by striking “programs
17 of study, as described in section 122(c)(1)(A)” and
18 inserting “education programs of study”; and

19 (2) in subsection (c)—

20 (A) in paragraph (9), by striking “, career
21 academies,”;

22 (B) in paragraph (16)(B), by striking
23 “and” after the semicolon;

24 (C) in paragraph (17), by striking the pe-
25 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

2 “(18) support for career academies, which—

3 “(A) implement a postsecondary education
4 and workforce ready curriculum at the sec-
5 ondary education level that integrates rigorous
6 academic, technical, and employability contents
7 through career and technical education pro-
8 grams of study and high-quality elements, in-
9 cluding those described in section 134(b)(7);

10 “(B) include experiential or work-based
11 learning for secondary school students, in col-
12 laboration with local and regional employers;

13 “(C) include opportunities for secondary
14 school students to earn postsecondary credit
15 while in secondary school, such as through cred-
16 it transfer agreements including dual enroll-
17 ment; and

18 “(D) establish and maintain ongoing part-
19 nerships—

20 “(i) between the local educational
21 agency, business and industry, and institu-
22 tions of higher education or postsecondary
23 vocational institutions (as defined in sec-
24 tion 102(c) of the Higher Education Act of
25 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(c)); and

1 “(ii) which may also include local gov-
2 ernment, such as workforce and economic
3 development entities.”.

4 **SEC. 5. LOCAL PLAN FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDU-**
5 **CATION PROGRAMS.**

6 Section 134(b) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and
7 Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2354(b)) is
8 amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking “programs
10 of study described in section 122(c)(1)(A)” and in-
11 serting “education programs of study”; and

12 (2) by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the
13 following:

14 “(7) describe how the eligible recipient will con-
15 duct an assessment of local needs related to career
16 and technical education as part of the local plan de-
17 velopment process and how such needs assessment
18 will be updated annually in subsequent years of the
19 local plan, including how the needs assessment in-
20 cludes an evaluation of progress toward specific ele-
21 ments leading to high-quality implementation of ca-
22 reer and technical education programs of study, in-
23 cluding—

24 “(A) sustained, intensive, and focused pro-
25 fessional development for teachers, principals,

1 administrators, and school counselors on both
2 content and pedagogy that—

3 “(i) supports high-quality academic
4 and career and technical education instruc-
5 tion; and

6 “(ii) ensures local, regional, and State
7 labor market information as applicable is
8 utilized to make informed decisions about
9 program offerings and to advise students
10 of career opportunities and benefits;

11 “(B) a curriculum aligned with the re-
12 quirements for a career and technical education
13 program of study;

14 “(C) teaching and learning strategies fo-
15 cused on the integration of academic and career
16 and technical education content, including sup-
17 ports necessary to implement such strategies;

18 “(D) ongoing relationships between edu-
19 cation, business and industry, and other com-
20 munity stakeholders;

21 “(E) opportunities for secondary students
22 to earn postsecondary credit while in secondary
23 school, such as through credit transfer agree-
24 ments including dual enrollment;

1 “(F) career and technical student organi-
2 zations or other activities that promote the de-
3 velopment of leadership and employability skills;

4 “(G) appropriate equipment and tech-
5 nology aligned with business and industry
6 needs;

7 “(H) a continuum of work-based learning
8 opportunities, such as job shadowing,
9 mentorships, internships, apprenticeships, clin-
10 ical experiences, service learning experiences,
11 and cooperative education;

12 “(I) valid and reliable technical skills as-
13 sessments to measure student achievement,
14 which may include industry-recognized certifi-
15 cations or may lead to other credentials;

16 “(J) support services to ensure equitable
17 participation for all students; and

18 “(K) recruitment and retention efforts to
19 ensure highly effective educators, principals,
20 and administrators.”.

21 **SEC. 6. LOCAL USES OF FUNDS.**

22 Section 135 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
23 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2355) is amend-
24 ed—

25 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “pro-
2 grams of study described in section
3 122(c)(1)(A)” and inserting “education pro-
4 grams of study”; and

5 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “career
6 and technical program of study described in
7 section 122(c)(1)(A)” and inserting “career and
8 technical education program of study”; and
9 (2) in subsection (c)—

10 (A) in paragraph (19)—

11 (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking
12 “programs of study described in section
13 122(c)(1)(A)” and inserting “education
14 programs of study”; and

15 (ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking
16 “and” after the semicolon;

17 (B) in paragraph (20), by striking the pe-
18 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

20 “(21) to provide support for career academies,
21 as described in section 124(c)(18).”.

22 **SEC. 7. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

23 Section 113 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
24 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2323) is amend-
25 ed—

- 1 (1) in subsection (b)(4)(C)(ii)(I), by striking
2 “section 3(29)” and inserting “section 3(32)”; and
3 (2) in subsection (c)(2)(A), by striking “section
4 3(29)” and inserting “section 3(32)”.

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