

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8535

To amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to direct the Secretary of Education to award grants for new agricultural education programs in secondary schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 6, 2020

Ms. FINKENAUER (for herself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, and Mr. BRINDISI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to direct the Secretary of Education to award grants for new agricultural education programs in secondary schools.

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 “Growing Opportunities
5 in Agriculture Act” or the “GO Ag Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR NEW AGRICULTURAL EDU-**
2 **CATION PROGRAMS.**

3 Section 114 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
4 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2324) is amend-
5 ed—

6 (1) in subsection (f), in the matter preceding
7 paragraph (1), by inserting “(other than subsection
8 (g))” after “section”; and

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

10 “(g) GRANT PROGRAM FOR NEW AGRICULTURAL
11 EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—

12 “(1) GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
14 award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible
15 entities to support the creation of new agricul-
16 tural education programs in secondary schools.

17 “(B) GRANT DURATION.—A grant awarded
18 under this subsection may not exceed a 5-year
19 grant period.

20 “(2) APPLICATION.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant
22 under this subsection, an eligible entity shall
23 submit an application to the Secretary at such
24 time, in such manner, and containing such in-
25 formation as the Secretary may require, includ-
26 ing—

1 “(i) an identification and the role with
2 respect to each program to be funded
3 under the grant of any eligible partners of
4 the eligible entity, including an assurance
5 the grant under this subsection will not be
6 used to prepare students for employment
7 with solely one or more of such eligible
8 partners;

9 “(ii) an assurance that each program
10 that will receive assistance under the grant
11 is not yet in operation and such grant will
12 be used to start such program;

13 “(iii) a description of the grant budg-
14 et, how each program will fund necessary
15 expenses for the program not covered by
16 the grant (such as any funds to be pro-
17 vided by State, local, or private entities),
18 and how the eligible entity will continue
19 each such program after the grant is ex-
20 hausted;

21 “(iv) a description of how grant will
22 directly benefit students, including special
23 populations, served by the eligible entity;

24 “(v) a description of how each such
25 program will be coordinated with the ac-

1 activities carried out under section 124 or
2 135;

3 “(vi) a description of how each such
4 program reflects the needs of regional,
5 State, or local employers, as demonstrated
6 by the comprehensive needs assessment
7 under section 134(c) carried out by the eli-
8 gible entity; and

9 “(vii) an assurance that the eligible
10 entity will—

11 “(I) provide information to the
12 Secretary, as requested, for the eval-
13 uation under paragraph (4) and any
14 evaluations that the Secretary may
15 carry out; and

16 “(II) make data available to
17 third parties for validation, in accord-
18 ance with applicable data privacy
19 laws, including section 444 of the
20 General Education Provisions Act (20
21 U.S.C. 1232g, commonly known as
22 the ‘Family Educational Rights and
23 Privacy Act of 1974’).

24 “(B) PROCESS.—The Secretary shall cre-
25 ate a process for evaluating applications sub-

1 mitted under subparagraph (A) and deter-
2 mining the amount of each grant for successful
3 applications, except that in no case may an eli-
4 gible entity receive a grant exceeding \$100,000.

5 “(3) USES OF FUNDS.—Each eligible entity re-
6 ceiving a grant under this subsection shall use such
7 grant for the creation of new agricultural education
8 programs in secondary schools, which may include—

9 “(A) curriculum development and delivery,
10 including classroom or laboratory instruction,
11 work-based learning, and leadership education
12 delivered through career and technical student
13 organizations;

14 “(B) the purchase of equipment, tech-
15 nology, and course materials; and

16 “(C) other costs the Secretary may deter-
17 mine to be eligible.

18 “(4) EVALUATION AND ANNUAL REPORT.—
19 Each eligible entity receiving a grant under this sub-
20 section shall provide for an independent evaluation
21 of the activities carried out using such grant and
22 submit to the Secretary an annual report that in-
23 cludes—

24 “(A) a description of how the grant was
25 used;

1 “(B) the performance of each program as-
2 sistance with such grant with respect to, at a
3 minimum, the performance indicators described
4 under section 113, as applicable, and disaggre-
5 gated—

6 “(i) by subgroups of students de-
7 scribed in section 1111(c)(2)(B) of the El-
8 ementary and Secondary Education Act of
9 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(c)(2)(B)); and

10 “(ii) by each special population; and

11 “(C) a quantitative analysis of the effec-
12 tiveness of each such program.

13 “(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

14 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
15 this subsection \$5,000,000, to remain available
16 through fiscal year 2025.

17 “(6) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

18 “(A) AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.—The
19 term ‘agricultural education’ means career and
20 technical education that is focused on agri-
21 culture, including classroom or laboratory in-
22 struction, work-based learning, and leadership
23 education delivered through career and tech-
24 nical student organizations.

1 “(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eli-
2 ble entity’ has the meaning given the term ‘eli-
3 gible recipient’ in section 3(21)(A) of the Carl
4 D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act
5 of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302(21)(A)).

6 “(C) ELIGIBLE PARTNER.—The term ‘eli-
7 gible partner’ means—

8 “(i) an institution of higher education
9 or a consortium of such institutions; or

10 “(ii) a community stakeholder rel-
11 evant to a program to be funded under
12 this subsection, including a labor organiza-
13 tion, a local or regional business or indus-
14 try, or a local workforce development
15 board.”.

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