

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 177

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand eligibility for participation in the Federal Pell Grant program to certain trade schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2021

Mr. WITTMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand eligibility for participation in the Federal Pell Grant program to certain trade 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 “Professional Pell Edu-
5 cation Learning Act” or the “PROPEL Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL PELL GRANTS.**

7 (a) CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS.—

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

1 “(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act,
2 for purposes of this section, the terms ‘eligible institution’,
3 ‘institution of higher education’, ‘eligible program’, and
4 ‘institution’ include a program of education that—

5 “(A) consists of vocational or technical training,
6 flight training, or apprenticeship or other on-job
7 training;

8 “(B) an individual may pursue using edu-
9 cational assistance pursuant to section 3313(g) of
10 title 38, United States Code;

11 “(C) is less than 600 clock hours of instruction,
12 16 semester hours, or 24 quarter hours, offered dur-
13 ing a period of less than 15 weeks;

14 “(D) is not required to be accredited by a na-
15 tionally recognized accrediting agency or association
16 recognized by the Secretary pursuant to part H;

17 “(E) is not required to lead to a recognized
18 educational credential;

19 “(F) for purposes of the reporting requirements
20 under section 132(i), reports on all enrolled students
21 without regard to whether a student is a first-time,
22 full-time, degree- or certificate-seeking student; and

23 “(G) except as otherwise provided in subpara-
24 graphs (A) through (F) of this paragraph, meets the

1 requirements of this title for an institution to par-
2 ticipate in the program under this section.”.

3 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 484(a)(1)
4 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
5 1091(a)(1)) is amended by inserting “or, for purposes of
6 the Federal Pell Grant program under section 401, a pro-
7 gram of education described in section 401(a)(4)” after
8 “section 487”.

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