

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3366

To amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs or programs of study for small business development centers and women’s business centers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 20, 2021

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself and Ms. NEWMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs or programs of study for small business development centers and women’s business centers, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Small
3 Business and Career and Technical Education Act of
4 2021”.

5 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

6 It is the sense Congress that—

7 (1) career and technical education provides in-
8 dividuals with coherent and rigorous content aligned
9 with challenging academic standards and relevant
10 technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for
11 further education and careers in current or emerging
12 professions;

13 (2) career and technical education provides
14 technical skill proficiency, an industry-recognized
15 credential, a certificate, or an associate degree;

16 (3) career and technical education includes
17 competency-based applied learning which contributes
18 to the academic knowledge, higher-order reasoning
19 and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general
20 employability skills, technical skills, occupation-spe-
21 cific skills, and knowledge of all aspects of an indus-
22 try, including entrepreneurship, of an individual;

23 (4) employment opportunities provided through
24 recognized postsecondary credentials (as defined in
25 section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
26 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102)) are as important to

1 the advancement of the economy of the United
2 States as any other domestic business sector;

3 (5) career and technical professions are desir-
4 able and often high-skill, high-wage occupations; and

5 (6) career and technical education provides in-
6 dividuals with just as competitive and practical of a
7 career path as attending a traditional four-year col-
8 lege or university.

9 **SEC. 3. INCLUSION OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDU-**
10 **CATION.**

11 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 3 of the Small Business
12 Act is amended by adding at the end the following new
13 subsection:

14 “(gg) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—The
15 term ‘career and technical education’ has the meaning
16 given the term in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career
17 and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).”.

18 (b) SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—
19 Section 21(c)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
20 648(c)(1)) is amended—

21 (1) in subparagraph (T), by striking “and” at
22 the end;

23 (2) in clause (v) of the first subparagraph (U)
24 (relating to succession planning), by striking the pe-
25 riod at the end and inserting a semicolon;

1 (3) in second subparagraph (U) (relating to
2 training on domestic and international intellectual
3 property protections)—

4 (A) in clause (ii)(II), by striking the period
5 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

6 (B) by redesignating such subparagraph as
7 subparagraph (V); and

8 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-
9 paragraphs:

10 “(W) assisting small businesses in hiring
11 graduates from career and technical education
12 programs or programs of study; and

13 “(X) assisting graduates of career and
14 technical education programs or programs of
15 study in starting up a small business concern.”.

16 (c) WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTERS.—Section 29(b) of
17 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(b)) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the
19 end;

20 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at
21 the end and inserting a semicolon; and

22 (3) by adding at the end the following new
23 paragraphs:

1 “(4) assistance for small business concerns to
2 hire graduates from career and technical education
3 programs or programs of study; and

4 “(5) assistance for graduates of career and
5 technical education programs or programs of study
6 to start up a small business concern.”.

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