

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4391

To amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to recognize digital skills and digital literacy as critical adult education and literacy objectives, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 22, 2024

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

A BILL

To amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to recognize digital skills and digital literacy as critical adult education and literacy objectives, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Investing in Digital
5 Skills Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 Section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
8 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through
 2 (71) as paragraphs (16) through (72), respectively;
 3 and

4 (2) by inserting after paragraph (14) the fol-
 5 lowing:

6 “(15) **DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.**—The term
 7 ‘digital literacy skills’ has the meaning given the
 8 term in section 202 of the Museum and Library
 9 Services Act (20 U.S.C. 9101).”.

10 **SEC. 3. ADULT DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.**

11 (a) **PURPOSE.**—Section 202 of the Workforce Innova-
 12 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3271) is amended—

13 (1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-
 14 lows:

15 “(1) assist adults to become literate and obtain
 16 the knowledge and skills (including digital literacy
 17 skills and information literacy) necessary for employ-
 18 ment, economic self-sufficiency, and full participa-
 19 tion in all aspects of adult life;” and

20 (2) in paragraph (4)(A)—

21 (A) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the
 22 end; and

23 (B) by inserting after clause (ii) the fol-
 24 lowing:

1 “(iii) digital literacy skills and infor-
 2 mation literacy; and”.

3 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 203 of the Workforce In-
 4 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3272) is amend-
 5 ed—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (10) through
 7 (17) as paragraphs (11) through (18), respectively;
 8 (2) in paragraph (1)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking
 10 “and” at the end;

11 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as
 12 subparagraph (D); and

13 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
 14 the following:

15 “(C) develop and use digital technology
 16 skills; and”;

17 (3) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, digital
 18 skills activities offered in conjunction with other
 19 adult education and literacy activities” after “family
 20 literacy activities”;

21 (4) in paragraph (9), by adding at the end the
 22 following:

23 “(E) Digital literacy and information lit-
 24 eracy activities to enable parents or family
 25 members to develop and use digital literacy

1 skills and information literacy to support their
 2 children’s learning.”; and

3 (5) by inserting after paragraph (9) the fol-
 4 lowing:

5 “(10) INFORMATION LITERACY.—The term ‘in-
 6 formation literacy’ means the set of skills needed to
 7 find, retrieve, understand, evaluate, analyze, and ef-
 8 fectively use information (which encompasses spoken
 9 and broadcast words and videos, printed materials,
 10 and digital content, data, and images).”.

11 (6) in paragraph (14), as redesignated by para-
 12 graph (1), by striking “and solve problems,” and all
 13 that follows through the period at the end and in-
 14 serting “solve problems, and use digital technology
 15 at levels of proficiency necessary to function effec-
 16 tively as an employee, a parent or a family member,
 17 and a member of society.”.

18 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PRO-**
 19 **GRAMS THAT INVOLVE POLITICAL ACTIVI-**
 20 **TIES.**

21 Section 194(6) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
 22 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3254(6)) is amended by striking
 23 “title” and inserting “Act”.

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