

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2099

To amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to authorize a study to review specific outcomes of entrepreneurial skills development programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 14, 2025

Mr. ALLEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to authorize a study to review specific outcomes of entrepreneurial skills development programs, 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. STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD.**

4 Section 101(d)(3)(D) of the Workforce Innovation
5 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111(d)(3)(D)) is
6 amended—

7 (1) by striking “and jobseekers” and inserting
8 “jobseekers, and entrepreneurs”; and

1 (2) by inserting “and entrepreneurial skills de-
 2 velopment and microenterprise services” after “occu-
 3 pations”.

4 **SEC. 2. IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS OF**
 5 **TRAINING SERVICES.**

6 Section 122(a)(2)(C) of the Workforce Innovation
 7 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3152(a)(2)(C)) is amend-
 8 ed by inserting “and providers of entrepreneurial skills de-
 9 velopment programs” after “organizations”.

10 **SEC. 3. REQUIRED LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AC-**
 11 **TIVITIES.**

12 Section 134(c)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation
 13 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(c)(2)(A)) is amend-
 14 ed—

15 (1) in clause (iv)—

16 (A) in subclause (I)—

17 (i) in item (aa), by striking “; and”

18 and inserting a semicolon; and

19 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
 20 lowing:

21 “(cc) provision of informa-
 22 tion on entrepreneurship, as ap-
 23 propriate; and”;

24 (B) in subclause (II), by adding “and”
 25 after the semicolon; and

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

2 “(III) referral to microenterprise
3 services, as appropriate;”;

4 (2) in clause (vi)—

5 (A) in subclause (I), by inserting “, which
6 may include resources to support entrepreneur-
7 ship,” after “listings”; and

8 (B) in subclause (III), by inserting “,
9 which may include entrepreneurship opportuni-
10 ties,” after “demand”; and

11 (3) in clause (xiii), by inserting “or entrepre-
12 neurial opportunities” after “workplace”.

13 **SEC. 4. EVALUATIONS AND RESEARCH.**

14 Section 169 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
15 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3224) is amended—

16 (1) in subsection (b)—

17 (A) in paragraph (4)—

18 (i) by redesignating subparagraph (K)
19 as subparagraph (L); and

20 (ii) by inserting after subparagraph
21 (J) the following:

22 “(K) STUDY ON ENTREPRENEURIAL
23 SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.—The Sec-
24 retary shall, through a grant or contract, con-
25 duct a three-year multistate study on entrepre-

1 neurial skills development programs, which
2 shall include the following:

3 “(i) A review of—

4 “(I) successful practices for de-
5 veloping entrepreneurial skills of indi-
6 viduals;

7 “(II) evidence-based and other
8 best practices for mentoring potential
9 entrepreneurs;

10 “(III) the qualifications needed
11 for skills development providers to
12 successfully develop the entrepre-
13 neurial skills of individuals;

14 “(IV) strategies for engaging em-
15 ployers and other private sector part-
16 ners;

17 “(V) such program outcomes that
18 correlate with entrepreneurial success;

19 “(VI) how such programs suc-
20 cessfully measure the progress of par-
21 ticipants in such programs;

22 “(VII) the extent to which such
23 programs lead to industry recognized
24 credentials;

1 “(VIII) the impact, including the
2 economic impact, of such programs on
3 States and local communities;

4 “(IX) the extent to which such
5 programs affect business development
6 and job creation in States and local
7 communities;

8 “(X) how such programs identify
9 potential program participants’ readi-
10 ness for the program; and

11 “(XI) the average earnings of
12 participants who complete such a pro-
13 gram three years after the date of
14 completion of such program.

15 “(ii) Recommendations for States and
16 local communities to expand access to such
17 programs.”; and

18 (B) in paragraph (5)(A), by inserting
19 “which shall include individuals pursuing entre-
20 preneurship,” after “particular service popu-
21 lations,”; and

22 (2) in subsection (c), by striking the third sen-
23 tence and inserting the following: “Such projects
24 may include demonstration and pilot projects relat-
25 ing to promoting self-employment, promoting entre-

1 preneurship, promoting job creation (especially for
2 in-demand industry sectors or occupations), averting
3 dislocations, assisting dislocated farmers, assisting
4 dislocated fishermen, developing career pathways
5 and encouraging advancements, and promoting pub-
6 lic works.”.

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