

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4965

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to expand career counseling opportunities within student support and academic enrichment grants.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 12, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Ms. BONAMICI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to expand career counseling opportunities within student support and academic enrichment grants.

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 “Counseling for Career
5 Choice Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT.**

7 Section 4107(a)(3)(A) of the Elementary and Sec-
8 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7117(a)(3)(A))
9 is amended to read as follows:

1 “(A) career guidance and school counseling
2 programs, such as—

3 “(i) guidance for school career coun-
4 seling programs, and school counselors and
5 students who may be interested in such
6 programs;

7 “(ii) identifying and assessing school
8 counseling activities and postsecondary op-
9 tions available within the State, and out-
10 side the State as applicable;

11 “(iii) identifying regional workforce
12 trends in collaboration with entities at the
13 State and regional level with expertise in
14 identifying such trends (such as State
15 boards and local boards (as such terms are
16 defined in section 3 of the Workforce Inno-
17 vation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
18 3102)), regional economic development or-
19 ganizations, or State employment agen-
20 cies);

21 “(iv) developing and implementing a
22 process and infrastructure for school coun-
23 selors and school counseling programs to
24 access information regarding the regional
25 workforce trends identified in clause (iii);

1 “(v) information for school counselors
2 on how to effectively provide students with
3 current and relevant workforce informa-
4 tion, financial aid assistance, personal
5 counseling, and academic advising relevant
6 to students’ individual career and postsec-
7 ondary education goals;

8 “(vi) financial literacy and Federal fi-
9 nancial aid awareness activities other than
10 the activities described in clause (v);

11 “(vii) developing and implementing
12 professional development or career develop-
13 ment training certification programs for
14 counselors and other educators involved in
15 preparing students for postsecondary op-
16 portunities, which may include partnering
17 with an industry association that provides
18 a nationally recognized certification in ca-
19 reer development;

20 “(viii) establishing, improving, or co-
21 ordinating postsecondary opportunities for
22 students, which shall include—

23 “(I) individual career planning;

24 “(II) personalized learning plans;

25 “(III) registered apprenticeships;

1 “(IV) internships;

2 “(V) dual enrollment programs;

3 “(VI) programs leading to recog-
4 nized postsecondary credentials (as
5 defined in section 3 of the Workforce
6 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
7 U.S.C. 3102)), including programs at
8 a secondary school;

9 “(VII) 2-year degree programs;

10 or

11 “(VIII) 4-year degree programs;

12 “(ix) encouraging partnerships with
13 one-stop centers as defined in section 3 of
14 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
15 Act (29 U.S.C. 3102), which may include
16 collocating a one-stop center in a high
17 school, transporting students to local one-
18 stop centers, or having one-stop center ca-
19 reer counselors and business liaisons assist
20 school counselors in hosting job fairs, ca-
21 reer days, or other such similar tasks;

22 “(x) leveraging resources and emerg-
23 ing technologies, including artificial intel-
24 ligence, that are being developed to sup-

1 port career development and career coun-
2 seling activities; and
3 “(xi) evaluating secondary and post-
4 secondary outcomes for individuals served
5 by school or other career counseling pro-
6 grams;”.

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