

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5968

To encourage online workforce training.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 24, 2018

Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself and Mrs. TORRES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To encourage online workforce training.

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 “Online Job Training  
5 Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. ONLINE WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAMS.**

7 Section 169 of the Workforce Investment and Oppor-  
8 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3224) is amended by adding at the  
9 end the following:

10 “(d) ONLINE WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM.—

1           “(1) NATIONAL ONLINE WORKFORCE TRAINING  
2 GRANTS.—

3           “(A) IN GENERAL.—From the amount ap-  
4 propriated under subparagraph (G), the Sec-  
5 retary shall award National Online Workforce  
6 Training Grants on a competitive basis to eligi-  
7 ble entities to enable such entities to carry out  
8 workforce training programs using distance-  
9 learning technologies, such as the Internet. An  
10 entity may leverage such grant with other Fed-  
11 eral, State, local, and private resources, in  
12 order to expand the participation of businesses,  
13 employees, and other individuals in such train-  
14 ing programs.

15           “(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.—For  
16 purposes of this subsection, the term ‘eligible  
17 entity’ means an educational institution, com-  
18 munity-based organization, nonprofit organiza-  
19 tion, State board or local board, or unit of gen-  
20 eral local government, which provides online  
21 workforce training.

22           “(C) PRIORITY.—Priority in awarding  
23 grants under this paragraph shall be given to  
24 eligible entities that—

1           “(i) have demonstrated experience in  
2           implementing and operating online work-  
3           force training and education programs;

4           “(ii) have demonstrated experience co-  
5           ordinating activities, where appropriate,  
6           with the workforce investment system; and

7           “(iii) conduct training for in-demand  
8           industry sectors or occupations.

9           “(D) DATA COLLECTION.—Each eligible  
10          entity receiving a grant under this paragraph  
11          shall collect and report information on—

12           “(i) the number of participants in the  
13           workforce training program funded under  
14           this paragraph;

15           “(ii) the services received by the par-  
16           ticipants;

17           “(iii) program completion rates;

18           “(iv) factors determined as signifi-  
19           cantly interfering with program participa-  
20           tion or completion;

21           “(v) the rate of job placement; and

22           “(vi) other information as determined  
23           as needed by the Secretary.

24           “(E) OUTREACH.—Each eligible entity re-  
25          ceiving a grant under this paragraph shall con-

1           duct outreach activities to disseminate informa-  
2           tion to workforce investment boards, local gov-  
3           ernments, educational institutions, and other  
4           workforce training organizations about—

5                   “(i) the workforce training program  
6                   funded under this paragraph; and

7                   “(ii) the results of such, and the best  
8                   practices with respect to workforce training  
9                   identified as a result of, program.

10           “(F) PERFORMANCE LEVELS.—The Sec-  
11           retary shall establish indicators of performance  
12           that will be used to evaluate the performance of  
13           eligible entities under this paragraph in car-  
14           rying out the activities required under this  
15           paragraph. Prior to awarding a grant under  
16           this paragraph to an eligible entity, the Sec-  
17           retary shall negotiate and reach agreement with  
18           the entity regarding the levels of performance  
19           expected to be achieved by the entity on the in-  
20           dicators of performance.

21           “(G) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-  
22           TIONS.—There are authorized to be appro-  
23           priated to the Secretary to carry out this para-  
24           graph \$50,000,000 for fiscal years 2019  
25           through 2029.

1           “(2) ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAM CLEARING-  
2 HOUSE.—

3           “(A) DESCRIPTION OF GRANT.—From the  
4 amounts appropriated under subparagraph (D),  
5 the Secretary shall award one grant to an eligi-  
6 ble institution of higher education to provide  
7 the services described in this paragraph.

8           “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to re-  
9 ceive a grant under this paragraph, an institu-  
10 tion of higher education shall—

11           “(i) have demonstrated the ability to  
12 disseminate research on best practices for  
13 implementing workforce investment activi-  
14 ties; and

15           “(ii) be a national leader in producing  
16 cutting-edge research on technology related  
17 to workforce development systems under  
18 this title.

19           “(C) SERVICES.—The postsecondary edu-  
20 cational institution that receives a grant under  
21 this paragraph shall use such grant—

22           “(i) to provide technical assistance to  
23 entities that receive grants under para-  
24 graph (1);

1           “(ii) to collect and nationally dissemi-  
2           nate the data gathered by entities that re-  
3           ceive grants under paragraph (1); and

4           “(iii) to disseminate best practices  
5           identified by the Secretary.

6           “(D) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-  
7           TIONS.—There are authorized to be appro-  
8           priated to the Secretary to carry out this sub-  
9           section \$1,000,000 for fiscal years 2019  
10          through 2029.”.

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