

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6587

To amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to enhance technical assistance and support for communities impacted by substance use disorders.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 5, 2023

Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to enhance technical assistance and support for communities impacted by substance use disorders.

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 “Opioid Crisis Work-
5 force Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

7 Section 168 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
8 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3223) is amended by adding at the
9 end the following:

1 “(d) COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY OPIOID ADDIC-
2 TION AND OTHER SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS.—The
3 Secretary shall, as a part of the activities described in sub-
4 section (c)(2), evaluate and disseminate to States and
5 local areas information regarding promising and proven
6 practices for addressing the economic and workforce im-
7 pacts associated with high-rates of opioid addiction and
8 other substance use disorders. Such information shall be
9 updated annually to reflect the most recent and available
10 research, include information shared by States and local
11 areas regarding effective practices, and include informa-
12 tion on how States and local areas experiencing high rates
13 of opioid addiction can apply for funding available under
14 section 170(b) to enhance their ability to implement such
15 practices.”.

16 **SEC. 3. OPIOID CRISIS NATIONAL DISLOCATED WORKER**
17 **GRANTS.**

18 Section 170 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
19 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3225) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (b)(1)—

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

23 (B) in subparagraph (D)(ii), by striking
24 the period at the end and inserting “; and”;
25 and

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

2 “(E) to an entity described in subsection
3 (c)(1)(B) to provide employment and training
4 activities related to the prevention and treat-
5 ment of opioid use disorders, including addic-
6 tion treatment, mental health treatment, and
7 pain management, in an area that, as a result
8 of widespread opioid use, addiction, and
9 overdoses, has higher-than-average demand for
10 such activities that exceeds the availability of
11 State and local resources to provide such activi-
12 ties.”; and

13 (2) in subsection (c)(2)—

14 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

15 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (C)
16 and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respec-
17 tively; and

18 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
19 the following:

20 “(C) OPIOID-RELATED GRANTS.—In order
21 to be eligible to receive employment and train-
22 ing assistance under a national dislocated work-
23 er grant awarded pursuant to subsection
24 (b)(1)(E), an individual shall be—

25 “(i) a dislocated worker;

1 “(ii) a long-term unemployed indi-
2 vidual;

3 “(iii) an individual who is unemployed
4 or significantly underemployed as a result
5 of widespread opioid use in the area; or

6 “(iv) an individual who is employed or
7 seeking employment in a health care pro-
8 fession involved in the prevention and
9 treatment of opioid use disorders, includ-
10 ing such professions that provide addiction
11 treatment, mental health treatment, or
12 pain management.”.

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