

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2060

To provide grants to community colleges to improve the accessibility of computer labs and to provide information technology training for both students and members of the public seeking to improve their computer literacy and information technology skills.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2009

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (for himself, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. HARE, Mr. WU, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HIMES, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. SESTAK, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. SABLAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, Mr. ROSS, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. SMITH of Washington) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To provide grants to community colleges to improve the accessibility of computer labs and to provide information technology training for both students and members of the public seeking to improve their computer literacy and information technology skills.

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 “Community College
5 Technology Access Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

3 (1) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term “commu-
4 nity college” means an educational institution in any
5 State that—

6 (A) admits as regular students only per-
7 sons having a certificate of graduation from a
8 school providing secondary education, or the
9 recognized equivalent of such a certificate, or
10 persons having completed a secondary school
11 education in a home school setting that is treat-
12 ed as a home school or private school under
13 State law;

14 (B) is legally authorized within such State
15 to provide a program of education beyond sec-
16 ondary education;

17 (C) provides not less than a 2-year pro-
18 gram that is acceptable for full credit toward
19 such a degree;

20 (D) is a public or other nonprofit institu-
21 tion; and

22 (E) is accredited by a nationally recognized
23 accrediting agency or association, or if not so
24 accredited, is an institution that has been
25 granted preaccreditation status by such an
26 agency or association that has been recognized

1 by the Secretary for the granting of
2 preaccreditation status, and the Secretary has
3 determined that there is satisfactory assurance
4 that the institution will meet the accreditation
5 standards of such an agency or association
6 within a reasonable time.

7 (2) COMPUTER LAB.—The term “computer lab”
8 means a dedicated community college facility that
9 provides onsite computer software, hardware, and
10 technical support for students, faculty, and staff.

11 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
12 the Secretary of Education.

13 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF GRANT PROGRAM.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, to the
15 extent funds are available, award grants to commu-
16 nity colleges eligible under subsection (d) to improve
17 the accessibility of computer labs and to provide in-
18 formation technology training for both students and
19 members of the public seeking to improve their com-
20 puter literacy and information technology skills.

21 (2) USE OF FUNDS.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—A community college
23 receiving a grant award under this Act shall use
24 funds for the maintenance, administration, and

1 improvement of computer labs, which in-
2 cludes—

3 (i) staffing facilities;

4 (ii) purchasing computer equipment,
5 which includes hardware and software;

6 (iii) maintaining, repairing, and re-
7 placing technology equipment;

8 (iv) maintaining and securing facili-
9 ties; and

10 (v) providing utilities for the facilities
11 and computer equipment.

12 (B) ADDITIONAL USES WITH AUTHORIZA-
13 TION.—A community college receiving a grant
14 award under this Act may use funds to expand
15 or build a computer lab facility by submitting
16 an application to and receiving authorization
17 from the Secretary.

18 (c) APPLICATION.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—A community college seeking
20 a grant award under this Act shall submit an appli-
21 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such man-
22 ner, and containing such information and assurances
23 as the Secretary may require.

1 (2) PROPOSED USE.—A community college shall
2 include in the application its proposed use of funds
3 from the grant award.

4 (d) ELIGIBILITY.—A community college is eligible for
5 a grant award under this Act if its application dem-
6 onstrates that it will—

7 (1) keep a computer lab open not less than 10
8 hours on weekends to members of the public;

9 (2) keep a computer lab open not less than 20
10 hours on weekday evenings to members of the pub-
11 lic, but if any computer lab is open more than 10
12 hours on weekends as required under paragraph (1),
13 each additional hour above 10 shall reduce the re-
14 quired hours under this paragraph;

15 (3) provide lab instruction (by an employee of
16 a community college who is capable of providing
17 basic computer instruction) to members of the public
18 for hours that the computer lab is open under para-
19 graphs (1) and (2); and

20 (4) offer computer-related training at no charge
21 to members of the public for hours that the com-
22 puter lab is open under paragraphs (1) and (2).

23 (e) GRANT AMOUNTS.—The Secretary shall deter-
24 mine the amount of the grant award based on the applica-
25 tions received.

1 **SEC. 3. REPORTS.**

2 (a) ANNUAL REPORT BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—

3 For each fiscal year that a community college receives a
4 grant award under this Act, the community college shall
5 submit to the Secretary, by a date determined by the Sec-
6 retary, a report that contains a review and evaluation of
7 the computer lab, including its costs, hours of operation,
8 and amount of users.

9 (b) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall
10 submit annually to Congress a report on the grant pro-
11 gram, including the number of grant awards allocated and
12 the approximate number of persons served by each com-
13 puter lab receiving funds under this Act.

14 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

15 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
16 this Act \$125,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2009
17 to 2013.

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