

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3839

To address slow economic growth and spur investment and development  
in underserved communities across America.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Mr. POCAN, Mr. EVANS, Ms. LEE, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. MOORE, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. TONKO, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. ESTY of Connecticut) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Agriculture, Financial Services, Small Business, Energy and Commerce, the Judiciary, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To address slow economic growth and spur investment and  
development in underserved communities across America.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the  
3 “Today’s American Dream Act”.

4 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for  
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

**TITLE I—WORKFORCE INVESTMENT**

- Sec. 101. Job skills training for older individuals.
- Sec. 102. Extension of work opportunity tax credit for certain targeted groups.
- Sec. 103. Youth and summer jobs.
- Sec. 104. YouthBuild program.
- Sec. 105. Tax credit for providing programs for students that promote economic and financial literacy.
- Sec. 106. Teacher recruiting.
- Sec. 107. Recidivism reduction working group.
- Sec. 108. Commendable release program.
- Sec. 109. Increase in Work Opportunity Tax Credit for hiring qualified ex-felons.
- Sec. 110. Extension of work opportunity tax credit for certain targeted groups.
- Sec. 111. Entrepreneurship apprenticeships.
- Sec. 112. Expansion of eligible programs.

**TITLE II—COMMUNITY INVESTMENT**

**Subtitle A—Housing**

Sec. 201. Housing and commercial development.

**Subtitle B—Retail Redlining and Food Deserts**

- Sec. 221. Economic growth, retention, and recruitment of commercial investment in economically underserved communities.
- Sec. 222. Producer discretion to plant additional fruits and vegetables on base acres to alleviate food deserts without a resulting reduction in payment acres.

**Subtitle C—Digital Infrastructure**

Sec. 231. GAO report on Federal efforts to expand broadband service.

**Subtitle D—Direct Lending**

Sec. 241. Direct loans to small business concerns.

**TITLE III—NEW ECONOMY AND INNOVATION INVESTMENT**

- Sec. 301. Commission on Innovation.
- Sec. 302. Pilot program to fund local incubators.
- Sec. 303. Extension and improvement of new markets tax credit.
- Sec. 304. Race to the Shop.

## TITLE IV—EXPANDED ACCESS TO CARE

Sec. 401. Study on the uninsured.

Sec. 402. Volunteer dental projects and action for dental health program.

Sec. 403. Critical access hospital improvements.

Sec. 404. Community health center collaborative access expansion.

1                   **TITLE I—WORKFORCE**  
 2                   **INVESTMENT**

3 **SEC. 101. JOB SKILLS TRAINING FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS.**

4           (a) TARGETED PILOT PROGRAM.—The Secretary of  
 5 Labor shall establish a pilot program pursuant to section  
 6 169(b) of the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act  
 7 (29 U.S.C. 3224(b)) to provide grants to entities eligible  
 8 under such section to provide job skills training to and  
 9 specific for older individuals, particularly in the areas of  
 10 computer literacy, advanced computer operations, and re-  
 11 sume writing.

12           (b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of the program es-  
 13 tablished under subsection (a), the term “older individual”  
 14 means an individual who is older than 45 years of age.

15 **SEC. 102. EXTENSION OF WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT**

16                   **FOR CERTAIN TARGETED GROUPS.**

17           (a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section  
 18 51(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended  
 19 by inserting “(December 31, 2024, in the case of any  
 20 member of a targeted group described in subparagraph  
 21 (B), (C), (E), (F), or (G))” before the period at the end.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
2 this section shall apply to individuals who begin work for  
3 the employer after December 31, 2019.

4 **SEC. 103. YOUTH AND SUMMER JOBS.**

5 (a) INTERN WAGE CREDIT.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of  
7 subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue  
8 Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the  
9 following new section:

10 **“SEC. 45S. INTERN WAGE CREDIT.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 38, in  
12 the case of an eligible small business employer, the intern  
13 wage credit for any taxable year is an amount equal to  
14 10 percent of the wages paid by the taxpayer during such  
15 taxable year to qualified interns for whom an election is  
16 in effect under this section.

17 “(b) LIMITATIONS.—

18 “(1) CREDIT.—The credit allowed under sub-  
19 section (a) with respect to any taxpayer for any tax-  
20 able year shall not exceed an amount equal to the  
21 excess (if any) of—

22 “(A) \$3,000, over

23 “(B) the credit allowed under subsection  
24 (a) with respect to such taxpayer for all pre-  
25 ceding taxable years.

1           “(2) INTERNS.—An election may not be made  
2           under this section with respect to more than 5 quali-  
3           fied interns for any taxable year.

4           “(c) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For pur-  
5           poses of this section—

6           “(1) ELIGIBLE SMALL EMPLOYER.—The term  
7           ‘eligible small employer’ means any person which  
8           employed not more than 500 employees during the  
9           preceding taxable year. Rules similar to the rules of  
10          section 448(c)(3) shall apply.

11          “(2) ELIGIBLE WAGES.—The term ‘eligible  
12          wages’ means any remuneration paid by the tax-  
13          payer to an individual for services rendered as an  
14          employee.

15          “(3) QUALIFIED INTERN.—The term ‘qualified  
16          intern’ means any individual who, during the period  
17          for which wages are taken into account under sub-  
18          section (a), is—

19                 “(A) enrolled at an eligible educational in-  
20                 stitution (as defined in section 25A(f)(2)),

21                 “(B) seeking a degree at such institution  
22                 in a field of study closely related to the work  
23                 performed for the taxpayer, and

24                 “(C) supervised and evaluated by the tax-  
25                 payer.

1           “(4) CONTROLLED GROUP.—All persons treated  
2 as a single employer under subsection (a) or (b) of  
3 section 52 shall be treated as a single employer for  
4 purposes of this section.

5           “(5) RELATED INDIVIDUALS INELIGIBLE.—  
6 Rules similar to the rules of section 51(i)(1) shall  
7 apply for purposes of this section.”.

8           (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

9           (A) Section 38(b) of such Code is amended  
10 by striking “plus” at the end of paragraph  
11 (35), by striking the period at the end of para-  
12 graph (36) and inserting “, plus”, and by add-  
13 ing at the end the following new paragraph:

14           “(37) the intern wage credit under section  
15 45S(a).”.

16           (B) The table of sections for subpart D of  
17 part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of such  
18 Code is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
19 lowing new item:

“Sec. 45S. Intern wage credit.”.

20           (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made  
21 by this subsection shall apply to taxable years begin-  
22 ning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 104. YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM.**

2 Section 171 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
3 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3226) is amended by adding at the  
4 end the following:

5 “(j) CARRY-OVER AUTHORITY.—Any amounts grant-  
6 ed to an entity under this section for a fiscal year may,  
7 at the discretion of the entity, remain available for expend-  
8 iture during the succeeding fiscal year to carry out pro-  
9 grams under this section.”.

10 **SEC. 105. TAX CREDIT FOR PROVIDING PROGRAMS FOR**  
11 **STUDENTS THAT PROMOTE ECONOMIC AND**  
12 **FINANCIAL LITERACY.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of sub-  
14 chapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of  
15 1986 (relating to business-related credits), as amended by  
16 this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following  
17 new section:

18 **“SEC. 45T. EXCELLENCE IN ECONOMIC EDUCATION.**

19 “(a) GENERAL RULE.—In the case of an eligible for  
20 profit organization, for purposes of section 38, the excel-  
21 lence in economic education credit determined under this  
22 section for a taxable year is 50 percent of the amount paid  
23 or incurred during the taxable year to carry out the pur-  
24 poses specified in section 5533(b) of the Elementary and  
25 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7267b(b))  
26 (as such section was in effect on the day before the date

1 of enactment of the Every Student Succeeds Act) pursu-  
2 ant to a qualified program.

3 “(b) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF CREDIT RECIPI-  
4 ENTS.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The excellence in economic  
6 education credit determined under this section for a  
7 taxable year may be allowed to not more than 20 for  
8 profit organizations in accordance with paragraph  
9 (2).

10 “(2) CREDIT AWARD BY SECRETARY.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary (in con-  
12 sultation with the Secretary of Education) shall  
13 determine which for profit organizations are al-  
14 lowed the credit under this section for a taxable  
15 year in such manner as the Secretary deter-  
16 mines appropriate.

17 “(B) MAJORITY OF RECIPIENTS MUST BE  
18 MWOSBS, OWNED BY VETERANS, OR MEET  
19 ASSET TEST.—In carrying out subparagraph  
20 (A), the majority of the taxpayers allowed a  
21 credit under paragraph (1) for a taxable year  
22 shall be entities that are—

23 “(i) either—

24 “(I) a socially and economically  
25 disadvantaged small business concern



1 (as defined in section 8(a)(4)(A) of  
2 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.  
3 637(a)(4)(A))),

4 “(II) a small business concern  
5 owned and controlled by women (as  
6 defined under section 3(n) of such Act  
7 (15 U.S.C. 632(n))), or

8 “(III) a small business concern  
9 (as used in section 3 of such Act (15  
10 U.S.C. 632)) that is at least 51 per-  
11 cent owned by veterans (as defined in  
12 section 101(2) of title 38, United  
13 States Code), or

14 “(ii) on the first day of the taxable  
15 year do not have more than  
16 \$60,000,000,000 in assets.

17 “(C) PRIORITY.—In making determina-  
18 tions under this paragraph, the Secretary shall  
19 give priority to taxpayers that have qualified  
20 programs which serve either urban or rural un-  
21 derserved areas (determined on the basis of the  
22 most recent United States census data avail-  
23 able).

24 “(c) LIMITATIONS RELATING TO EXPENDITURES.—

1           “(1) DIRECT ACTIVITY.—Twenty-five percent of  
2 the amount allowed as a credit under subsection (a)  
3 shall be for amounts paid or incurred for direct ac-  
4 tivities as defined in section 5533(b)(1) of the Ele-  
5 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
6 U.S.C. 7267b(b)(1))(as in effect on the day before  
7 the date of enactment of the Every Student Suc-  
8 ceeds Act).

9           “(2) SUBGRANTS.—Seventy-five percent of the  
10 amount allowed as a credit under subsection (a)  
11 shall be for amounts paid or incurred for subgrants  
12 (as defined in section 5533(b)(2) of the Elementary  
13 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
14 7267b(b)(1)), as in effect on the day before the date  
15 of enactment of the Every Student Succeeds Act),  
16 determined by treating amounts so paid or incurred  
17 as funds made available through a grant.

18           “(d) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For pur-  
19 poses of this section—

20           “(1) QUALIFIED PROGRAM.—The term ‘quali-  
21 fied program’ means a program in writing under  
22 which an eligible for profit organization awards one  
23 or more grants for the purpose of carrying out the  
24 objectives of promoting economic and financial lit-  
25 eracy, as specified in section 5532 of the Elementary

1 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
2 7267a), that meet the requirements of section 5533  
3 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
4 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7267b), as such sections are in ef-  
5 fect on the day before the date of enactment of the  
6 Every Student Succeeds Act.

7 “(2) ELIGIBLE FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION.—  
8 The term ‘eligible for profit organization’ means  
9 with respect to a taxable year, an organization  
10 that—

11 “(A) has a qualified program in effect for  
12 the taxable year, and

13 “(B) has been determined by the Secretary  
14 under subsection (b)(2) to be an organization to  
15 whom the credit is allowed for the taxable year.

16 “(3) DETERMINATION OF ASSETS.—For pur-  
17 poses of paragraph (2)(B), in determining assets,  
18 the Secretary shall use the same method used by the  
19 Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System  
20 to determine a bank holding company’s consolidated  
21 assets under section 165 of the Financial Stability  
22 Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5365).

23 “(4) ELECTION NOT TO CLAIM CREDIT.—This  
24 section shall not apply to a taxpayer for any taxable

1 year if such taxpayer elects to have this section not  
2 apply for such taxable year.

3 “(5) COORDINATION WITH OTHER DEDUCTIONS  
4 OR CREDITS.—The amount of any deduction or cred-  
5 it otherwise allowable under this chapter for any  
6 amount taken into account for purposes of sub-  
7 section (a) shall be reduced by the credit allowed by  
8 this section.

9 “(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue such  
10 regulations or other guidance as may be necessary or ap-  
11 propriate to carry out this section.”.

12 (b) CREDIT MADE PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS  
13 CREDIT.—Subsection (b) of section 38 of such Code, as  
14 amended by this Act, is amended by striking “plus” at  
15 the end of paragraph (36), by striking the period at the  
16 end of paragraph (37) and inserting “, plus”, and by add-  
17 ing at the end the following new paragraph:

18 “(38) the excellence in economic education cred-  
19 it determined under section 45T(a).”.

20 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
21 for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1  
22 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
23 lowing new item:

“Sec. 45T. Excellence in economic education.”.

24 (d) REPORT.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treas-  
2           ury (or the Secretary’s delegate) shall submit a re-  
3           port on—

4                   (A) whether the credit for excellence in  
5           economic education (as enacted by subsection  
6           (a) of this section) has resulted in increased in-  
7           vestment in financial literacy programs; and

8                   (B) recommendations (if any) for improv-  
9           ing such credit to make it more effective.

10           (2) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than  
11           5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
12           the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary’s  
13           delegate) shall submit the report required by para-  
14           graph (1) to the Secretary of Education, the Com-  
15           mittee on Education and Workforce, the Committee  
16           on Financial Services, and the Committee on Ways  
17           and Means of the House of Representatives and the  
18           Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-  
19           sions, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
20           Urban Affairs, and the Committee on Finance of the  
21           Senate.

22           (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
23           this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after  
24           the date of the enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 106. TEACHER RECRUITING.**

2 (a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section to  
3 encourage individuals educated in science, technology, en-  
4 gineering, and mathematics to enter and continue in the  
5 teaching profession, with the goal of attracting 10,000 of  
6 America’s brightest students to the teaching profession  
7 over the next 5 years.

8 (b) SCHOLARSHIPS.—Title II of the Higher Edu-  
9 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1021 et seq.) is amended—

10 (1) by redesignating part C as part E;

11 (2) by redesignating section 261 as section 281;

12 and

13 (3) by inserting after part B the following new  
14 part:

15 **“PART C—STEM TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS**

16 **“SEC. 261. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.**

17 “The Secretary shall award scholarships, on a com-  
18 petitive basis and in accordance with this part, to students  
19 who are enrolled in studies leading to bachelor’s degrees,  
20 with concurrent certification as kindergarten, elementary,  
21 and secondary school teachers, in science, technology, en-  
22 gineering, and mathematics, and who have agreed to per-  
23 form qualified service.

24 **“SEC. 262. SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS.**

25 “(a) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall de-  
26 velop selection criteria that the Secretary will use to award

1 scholarships, and to renew those awards, based on estab-  
2 lished measurements of merit available to secondary stu-  
3 dents who wish to pursue degrees in science, technology,  
4 engineering, and mathematics.

5 “(b) APPLICATIONS.—Any student desiring to receive  
6 a scholarship under this part shall submit an application  
7 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and con-  
8 taining such information as the Secretary may require.

9 “(c) DURATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS; RENEWAL.—  
10 Scholarships shall be awarded for only one academic year  
11 of study at a time, and shall be renewable on an annual  
12 basis for the established length of the recipient’s academic  
13 program, not to exceed 6 academic years. The Secretary  
14 shall condition the renewal of scholarships on measures  
15 of academic progress and achievement.

16 **“SEC. 263. QUALIFIED SERVICE REQUIREMENT.**

17 “(a) QUALIFIED SERVICE AGREEMENT.—Any stu-  
18 dent who receives a scholarship under this part shall enter  
19 into an agreement with the Secretary to complete no less  
20 than 5 academic years of qualified service during a 7-year  
21 period, to begin no later than 12 months following the  
22 completion of a bachelor’s degree in science, technology,  
23 engineering, or mathematics.

24 “(b) REQUIREMENT ENFORCED.—The Secretary  
25 shall establish such requirements as the Secretary finds

1 necessary to ensure that recipients of scholarships under  
2 this subsection who complete bachelor's degrees in science,  
3 technology, engineering, and mathematics, with teacher  
4 certification, subsequently perform 5 academic years of  
5 qualified service during a 7-year period, or repay the por-  
6 tion of the scholarship received for which the recipient did  
7 not perform the required qualified service, as determined  
8 by the Secretary. The Secretary shall use any such repay-  
9 ments to carry out additional activities under this part.

10       “(c) DEFINITION.—For the purpose of this section,  
11 the term ‘qualified service’ means full-time employment at  
12 a public or private kindergarten, elementary school, or sec-  
13 ondary school as a teacher of a course in a science, tech-  
14 nology, engineering, or mathematics field.

15 **“SEC. 264. AWARDS.**

16       “(a) SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.—The Secretary shall  
17 provide each recipient with a scholarship in the amount  
18 of up to \$20,000 to pay for the cost of attendance of the  
19 student for each academic year the student is eligible to  
20 receive the scholarship. The Secretary shall transfer such  
21 funds to the institution of higher education at which the  
22 recipient is enrolled.

23       “(b) BONUS AWARD.—

24               “(1) OPTION FOR BONUS AWARD.—Any student  
25 who receives a scholarship under this part may elect



1 to enter into a bonus agreement with the Secretary,  
2 in accordance with this subsection, for any academic  
3 year during which the student receives a scholarship  
4 under this part.

5 “(2) BONUS AGREEMENT.—A bonus agreement  
6 under paragraph (1) shall provide that—

7 “(A) the student shall perform one aca-  
8 demic year of the qualified service agreed to  
9 under section 263(a) in a high-need local edu-  
10 cational agency, as defined in section 200; and

11 “(B) the Secretary shall provide \$10,000,  
12 in addition to the amount the student receives  
13 under subsection (a), for each academic year in  
14 which the student enters into such bonus agree-  
15 ment.

16 “(3) SERVICE REQUIREMENT ENFORCED.—The  
17 Secretary shall establish such requirements as the  
18 Secretary finds necessary to ensure that recipients  
19 of bonuses under this subsection fulfill the qualified  
20 service requirement in a high-need local educational  
21 agency, as defined in section 200, for a period of  
22 time equivalent to the period for which the recipient  
23 receives the bonus, or repays the portion of the  
24 bonus received for which the recipient did not per-  
25 form the required qualified service in a high-need

1 local educational agency, as determined by the Sec-  
2 retary. The Secretary shall use any such repayments  
3 to carry out additional activities under this sub-  
4 section.

5 “(c) MAXIMUM AWARD.—The maximum award any  
6 student may receive under this section for an academic  
7 year shall be the student’s cost of attendance minus any  
8 grant aid such student receives from sources other than  
9 this section.

10 **“SEC. 265. REGULATIONS.**

11 “The Secretary is authorized to issue such regula-  
12 tions as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of  
13 this part.”.

14 (c) INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS FOR INTEGRATED DE-  
15 GREE PROGRAMS.—Title II of the Higher Education Act  
16 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1021 et seq.) is further amended by  
17 inserting after part C, as added by subsection (b) of this  
18 section, the following new part:

19 **“PART D—INTEGRATED DEGREE PROGRAMS**

20 **“SEC. 271. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

21 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to  
22 award grants to institutions of higher education, on a  
23 competitive basis, in order to pay for the Federal share  
24 of the cost of projects to establish, strengthen, and operate

1 4-year undergraduate degree programs through which stu-  
2 dents may concurrently—

3 “(1) earn a bachelor’s degree in science, tech-  
4 nology, engineering, or mathematics; and

5 “(2) be certified to teach kindergarten, elemen-  
6 tary, or secondary school.

7 “(b) GRANT AMOUNT; AWARD PERIOD.—The Sec-  
8 retary may award grants to no more than 50 institutions  
9 of higher education each fiscal year, and a grant to an  
10 institution for a fiscal year shall not exceed \$1,000,000.  
11 Grants shall be awarded for only one fiscal year at a time,  
12 and shall be renewable on an annual basis for up to 5  
13 years.

14 **“SEC. 272. SELECTION OF GRANT RECIPIENTS.**

15 “(a) CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall set criteria to  
16 evaluate the applications for grants under this part and  
17 the projects proposed to establish, strengthen, and operate  
18 4-year integrated undergraduate degree programs.

19 “(b) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS.—To  
20 the extent practicable and consistent with the criteria  
21 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make grants  
22 under this part in such manner as to achieve an equitable  
23 distribution of the grant funds throughout the United  
24 States, considering geographic distribution, rural and  
25 urban areas, and range and type of institutions.

1 **“SEC. 273. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.**

2 “In order to receive a grant under this part, an insti-  
3 tution of higher education shall submit an application to  
4 the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and con-  
5 taining such information as the Secretary may require.  
6 Such application shall include the following:

7 “(1) A description of the proposed project.

8 “(2) A demonstration of—

9 “(A) the commitment, including the finan-  
10 cial commitment, of the institution for the pro-  
11 posed project; and

12 “(B) the active support of the leadership of  
13 the institution for the proposed project.

14 “(3) A description of how the proposed project  
15 will be continued after Federal funds are no longer  
16 awarded under this part for the project.

17 “(4) A plan for the evaluation of the project,  
18 which shall include benchmarks to monitor progress  
19 toward specific project objectives.

20 **“SEC. 274. MATCHING REQUIREMENT.**

21 “Each institution of higher education receiving a  
22 grant under this part shall provide, from non-Federal  
23 sources, an amount equal to the amount of the grant (in  
24 cash or in-kind) to carry out the project supported by the  
25 grant.

1 **“SEC. 275. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
3 this part \$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2018  
4 through 2023.”.

5 **SEC. 107. RECIDIVISM REDUCTION WORKING GROUP.**

6 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a work-  
7 ing group, which shall consist of representatives of the  
8 heads of the Department of Justice, the Department of  
9 Labor, the Department of Housing and Urban Develop-  
10 ment, and the Department of Education. The working  
11 group shall identify and analyze practices to reduce recidi-  
12 vism. The Attorney General shall chair the group, which  
13 shall meet once each month for the first 3 months after  
14 the date of its establishment, and once every 3 months  
15 thereafter.

16 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
17 of the enactment of this Act, and 5 years thereafter, the  
18 working group established under subsection (a) shall sub-  
19 mit to Congress and to the President a report which de-  
20 scribes the recommendations of the working group for re-  
21 ducing recidivism.

22 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
23 authorized to be appropriated \$1,000,000 to the working  
24 group for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022 to carry  
25 out this subsection.

1 **SEC. 108. COMMENDABLE RELEASE PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General,  
4 in consultation with the heads of the appropriate agencies,  
5 shall establish a program under which an individual who  
6 was convicted of a Federal offense which is classified as  
7 a felony, and who has successfully completed his or her  
8 sentence, may apply to receive benefits under the pro-  
9 grams described in subsection (b). Any individual who has  
10 been convicted of a felony for which the maximum sen-  
11 tence is ten or more years of imprisonment, any crime of  
12 violence (as such term is defined in section 16 of title 18,  
13 United States Code), or any crime of reckless driving or  
14 of driving while intoxicated or under the influence of alco-  
15 hol or of prohibited substances if such crime involves per-  
16 sonal injury to another.

17 (b) PROGRAMS DESCRIBED.—The programs de-  
18 scribed in this subsection are the following:

19 (1) TANF.—Assistance under a State program  
20 funded under part A of title IV of the Social Secu-  
21 rity Act.

22 (2) SNAP.—The supplemental nutrition assist-  
23 ance program under the Food and Nutrition Act of  
24 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.).

25 (3) HOUSING.—Any program of the Depart-  
26 ment of Housing and Urban Development or the De-

1       partment of Agriculture providing housing or assist-  
2       ance for housing, including any program for dwelling  
3       units, rental assistance, grants, loans, subsidies,  
4       mortgage insurance, guarantees, or other financial  
5       assistance.

6       **SEC. 109. INCREASE IN WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT**  
7                               **FOR HIRING QUALIFIED EX-FELONS.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 51(b)(3) of the Internal  
9       Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “or any  
10      individual who is a qualified ex-felon” after “subsection  
11      (d)(3)(A)(ii)(I)”.

12      (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
13      subsection (a) shall apply to individuals who begin work  
14      for the employer after the date of the enactment of this  
15      Act, in taxable years ending after such date.

16      **SEC. 110. EXTENSION OF WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT**  
17                               **FOR CERTAIN TARGETED GROUPS.**

18      (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 51(c)(4) of the Internal  
19      Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “(Decem-  
20      ber 31, 2024, in the case of any member of a targeted  
21      group described in subparagraph (C), (E), (F), or (G) of  
22      subsection (d)(1))” before the period at the end.

23      (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
24      this section shall apply to individuals who begin work for  
25      the employer after December 31, 2019.

1 **SEC. 111. ENTREPRENEURSHIP APPRENTICESHIPS.**

2 The Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as  
3 the “National Apprenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664, chapter  
4 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), is amended by adding the end  
5 the following:

6 **“SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 “There are authorized to be appropriated \$90,000 for  
8 each of fiscal years 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021.”

9 **SEC. 112. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS.**

10 The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001  
11 et seq.) is amended—

12 (1) in section 481(b), by adding at the end the  
13 following:

14 “(5)(A) For purposes of parts D and E, the term  
15 ‘eligible program’ includes a program of not less than 250  
16 clock hours of instruction, offered during a minimum of  
17 5 weeks of instruction that leads an industry-recognized  
18 credential.

19 “(B) In this paragraph, the term ‘industry-recognized  
20 credential’ means an industry-recognized credential that—

21 “(i) is demonstrated to be of high quality by the  
22 institution offering the program in the program par-  
23 ticipation agreement under section 487;

24 “(ii) meets the current, as of the date of the de-  
25 termination, or projected needs of a local or regional



1 workforce for recruitment, screening, hiring, reten-  
2 tion, or advancement purposes—

3 “(I) as determined by the State in which  
4 the program is located, in consultation with  
5 business entities; or

6 “(II) as demonstrated by the institution of-  
7 fering the program leading to the credential;  
8 and

9 “(iii) is, where applicable, endorsed by a nation-  
10 ally recognized trade association or organization rep-  
11 resenting a significant part of the industry or sec-  
12 tor.”; and

13 (2) in section 487(a), by adding at the end the  
14 following:

15 “(30) In the case of an institution that offers  
16 a program of not less than 250 clock hours of in-  
17 struction, offered during a minimum of 5 weeks of  
18 instruction that leads an industry-recognized creden-  
19 tial, as provided under section 481(b)(5), the institu-  
20 tion will demonstrate to the Secretary that the in-  
21 dustry-recognized credential is of high quality.”.

1                   **TITLE II—COMMUNITY**  
 2                   **INVESTMENT**  
 3                   **Subtitle A—Housing**

4   **SEC. 201. HOUSING AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT.**

5           (a) **FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER TAX CREDIT FOR ECO-**  
 6 **NOMICALLY DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES.—**

7           (1) **IN GENERAL.—**Section 36 of the Internal  
 8           Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as fol-  
 9           lows:

10 **“SEC. 36. FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER TAX CREDIT FOR ECO-**  
 11 **NOMICALLY DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES.**

12           “(a) **IN GENERAL.—**In the case of an individual who  
 13 is a first-time homebuyer of a principal residence in an  
 14 economically distressed community during a taxable year,  
 15 there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed  
 16 by this subtitle for such taxable year an amount equal to  
 17 10 percent of the purchase price of the residence.

18           “(b) **LIMITATIONS.—**

19           “(1) **DOLLAR LIMITATION.—**

20           “(A) **IN GENERAL.—**Except as otherwise  
 21 provided in this paragraph, the credit allowed  
 22 under subsection (a) shall not exceed \$8,000.

23           “(B) **MARRIED INDIVIDUALS FILING SEPA-**  
 24 **RATELY.—**In the case of a married individual

1 filing a separate return, subparagraph (A) shall  
2 be applied by substituting ‘\$4,000’ for ‘\$8,000’.

3 “(C) OTHER INDIVIDUALS.—If two or  
4 more individuals who are not married purchase  
5 a principal residence, the amount of the credit  
6 allowed under subsection (a) shall be allocated  
7 among such individuals in such manner as the  
8 Secretary may prescribe, except that the total  
9 amount of the credits allowed to all such indi-  
10 viduals shall not exceed \$8,000.

11 “(D) SPECIAL RULE FOR LONG-TIME RESI-  
12 DENTS OF SAME PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE.—In  
13 the case of a taxpayer to whom a credit under  
14 subsection (a) is allowed by reason of sub-  
15 section (c)(7), subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C)  
16 shall be applied by substituting ‘\$6,500’ for  
17 ‘\$8,000’ and ‘\$3,250’ for ‘\$4,000’.

18 “(2) LIMITATION BASED ON MODIFIED AD-  
19 JUSTED GROSS INCOME.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount allowable  
21 as a credit under subsection (a) (determined  
22 without regard to this paragraph) for the tax-  
23 able year shall be reduced (but not below zero)  
24 by the amount which bears the same ratio to  
25 the amount which is so allowable as—

1 “(i) the excess (if any) of—

2 “(I) the taxpayer’s modified ad-  
3 justed gross income for such taxable  
4 year, over

5 “(II) \$125,000 (\$225,000 in the  
6 case of a joint return), bears to

7 “(ii) \$20,000.

8 “(B) MODIFIED ADJUSTED GROSS IN-  
9 COME.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the  
10 term ‘modified adjusted gross income’ means  
11 the adjusted gross income of the taxpayer for  
12 the taxable year increased by any amount ex-  
13 cluded from gross income under section 911,  
14 931, or 933.

15 “(3) LIMITATION BASED ON PURCHASE  
16 PRICE.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection  
17 (a) for the purchase of any residence if the purchase  
18 price of such residence exceeds \$800,000.

19 “(4) AGE LIMITATION.—No credit shall be al-  
20 lowed under subsection (a) with respect to the pur-  
21 chase of any residence unless the taxpayer has at-  
22 tained age 18 as of the date of such purchase. In  
23 the case of any taxpayer who is married (within the  
24 meaning of section 7703), the taxpayer shall be  
25 treated as meeting the age requirement of the pre-

1 ceding sentence if the taxpayer or the taxpayer's  
2 spouse meets such age requirement.

3 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

4 “(1) FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER.—The term  
5 ‘first-time homebuyer’ means any individual if such  
6 individual (and if married, such individual’s spouse)  
7 had no present ownership interest in a principal resi-  
8 dence during the 3-year period ending on the date  
9 of the purchase of the principal residence to which  
10 this section applies.

11 “(2) PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE.—The term ‘prin-  
12 cipal residence’ has the same meaning as when used  
13 in section 121.

14 “(3) ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED COMMU-  
15 NITY.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘economi-  
17 cally distressed community’ means any area  
18 identified as an economically distressed commu-  
19 nity for purposes of this section by the Sec-  
20 retary of Housing and Urban Development.

21 “(B) FACTORS TO BE TAKEN INTO AC-  
22 COUNT.—For purposes of identifying areas as  
23 economically distressed communities for pur-  
24 poses of this section, the Secretary of Housing

1 and Urban Development shall take into account  
2 the following:

3 “(i) Percent of the population in such  
4 area which has attained age 25 and is  
5 without a high school degree.

6 “(ii) Percent of habitable housing in  
7 such area that is unoccupied, excluding  
8 properties that are for seasonal, rec-  
9 reational, or occasional use.

10 “(iii) Percent of the population in  
11 such area which has attained age 16 and  
12 is not currently employed.

13 “(iv) Percent of population in such  
14 area which is living under the poverty line.

15 “(v) Ratio of such area’s median in-  
16 come to the median income of the State in  
17 which such area is located.

18 “(vi) Percent change in the number of  
19 employed individuals in such area in 2013  
20 compared to 2010.

21 “(vii) Percent change in the number  
22 of business establishments in such areas in  
23 2013 compared to 2010.

24 “(viii) Such other factors as such Sec-  
25 retary determines appropriate.

1 “(4) PURCHASE.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘purchase’  
3 means any acquisition, but only if—

4 “(i) the property is not acquired from  
5 a person related to the person acquiring  
6 such property (or, if married, such individ-  
7 ual’s spouse), and

8 “(ii) the basis of the property in the  
9 hands of the person acquiring such prop-  
10 erty is not determined—

11 “(I) in whole or in part by ref-  
12 erence to the adjusted basis of such  
13 property in the hands of the person  
14 from whom acquired, or

15 “(II) under section 1014(a) (re-  
16 lating to property acquired from a de-  
17 cedent).

18 “(B) CONSTRUCTION.—A residence which  
19 is constructed by the taxpayer shall be treated  
20 as purchased by the taxpayer on the date the  
21 taxpayer first occupies such residence.

22 “(5) PURCHASE PRICE.—The term ‘purchase  
23 price’ means the adjusted basis of the principal resi-  
24 dence on the date such residence is purchased.

1           “(6) RELATED PERSONS.—A person shall be  
2           treated as related to another person if the relation-  
3           ship between such persons would result in the dis-  
4           allowance of losses under section 267 or 707(b) (but,  
5           in applying section 267(b) and (c) for purposes of  
6           this section, paragraph (4) of section 267(c) shall be  
7           treated as providing that the family of an individual  
8           shall include only his spouse, ancestors, and lineal  
9           descendants).

10           “(7) EXCEPTION FOR LONG-TIME RESIDENTS  
11           OF SAME PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE.—In the case of an  
12           individual (and, if married, such individual’s spouse)  
13           who has owned and used the same residence as such  
14           individual’s principal residence for any 5-consecu-  
15           tive-year period during the 8-year period ending on  
16           the date of the purchase of a subsequent principal  
17           residence, such individual shall be treated as a first-  
18           time homebuyer for purposes of this section with re-  
19           spect to the purchase of such subsequent residence.

20           “(d) EXCEPTIONS.—No credit under subsection (a)  
21 shall be allowed to any taxpayer for any taxable year with  
22 respect to the purchase of a residence if—

23           “(1) the taxpayer is a nonresident alien,

24           “(2) the taxpayer disposes of such residence (or  
25           such residence ceases to be the principal residence of



1 the taxpayer (and, if married, the taxpayer's  
2 spouse)) before the close of such taxable year,

3 “(3) a deduction under section 151 with respect  
4 to such taxpayer is allowable to another taxpayer for  
5 such taxable year, or

6 “(4) the taxpayer fails to attach to the return  
7 of tax for such taxable year a properly executed copy  
8 of the settlement statement used to complete such  
9 purchase.

10 “(e) REPORTING.—If the Secretary requires informa-  
11 tion reporting under section 6045 by a person described  
12 in subsection (e)(2) thereof to verify the eligibility of tax-  
13 payers for the credit allowable by this section, the excep-  
14 tion provided by section 6045(e) shall not apply.

15 “(f) RECAPTURE OF CREDIT.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If a taxpayer disposes of  
17 the principal residence with respect to which a credit  
18 was allowed under subsection (a) (or such residence  
19 ceases to be the principal residence of the taxpayer  
20 (and, if married, the taxpayer's spouse)) before the  
21 end of the 5-year period beginning on the date of the  
22 purchase of such residence by the taxpayer, the tax  
23 imposed by this chapter for the taxable year of such  
24 disposition or cessation shall be increased by the  
25 amount of the credit so allowed.

1           “(2) LIMITATION BASED ON GAIN.—In the case  
2 of the sale of the principal residence to a person who  
3 is not related to the taxpayer, the increase in tax de-  
4 termined under paragraph (1) shall not exceed the  
5 amount of gain (if any) on such sale. Solely for pur-  
6 poses of the preceding sentence, the adjusted basis  
7 of such residence shall be reduced by the amount of  
8 the credit allowed under subsection (a).

9           “(3) EXCEPTIONS.—

10           “(A) DEATH OF TAXPAYER.—Paragraph  
11 (1) shall not apply to any taxable year ending  
12 after the date of the taxpayer’s death.

13           “(B) INVOLUNTARY CONVERSION.—Para-  
14 graph (a) shall not apply in the case of a resi-  
15 dence which is compulsorily or involuntarily  
16 converted (within the meaning of section  
17 1033(a)) if the taxpayer acquires a new prin-  
18 cipal residence during the 2-year period begin-  
19 ning on the date of the disposition or cessation  
20 referred to in paragraph (1). Paragraph (1)  
21 shall apply to such new principal residence dur-  
22 ing the 5-year period referred to therein in the  
23 same manner as if such new principal residence  
24 were the converted residence.

1           “(C) TRANSFERS BETWEEN SPOUSES OR  
2 INCIDENT TO DIVORCE.—In the case of a trans-  
3 fer of a residence to which section 1041(a) ap-  
4 plies—

5                   “(i) paragraph (1) shall not apply to  
6 such transfer, and

7                   “(ii) in the case of taxable years end-  
8 ing after such transfer, paragraph (1) shall  
9 apply to the transferee in the same manner  
10 as if such transferee were the transferor  
11 (and shall not apply to the transferor).

12           “(4) JOINT RETURNS.—In the case of a credit  
13 allowed under subsection (a) with respect to a joint  
14 return, half of such credit shall be treated as having  
15 been allowed to each individual filing such return for  
16 purposes of this subsection.

17           “(5) RETURN REQUIREMENT.—If the tax im-  
18 posed by this chapter for the taxable year is in-  
19 creased under this subsection, the taxpayer shall,  
20 notwithstanding section 6012, be required to file a  
21 return with respect to the taxes imposed under this  
22 subtitle.

23           “(g) APPLICATION OF SECTION.—This section shall  
24 only apply to a principal residence purchased by the tax-

1 payer after December 31, 2017, and before January 1,  
2 2020.”.

3 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
4 tions for subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of  
5 chapter 1 of such Code is amended by striking the  
6 item relating to section 36 and inserting the fol-  
7 lowing new item:

“Sec. 36. First-time homebuyer tax credit for economically distressed commu-  
nities.”.

8 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made  
9 by this section shall apply to principal residences  
10 purchased after December 31, 2017.

11 (b) USE OF HARDEST HIT FUND AMOUNTS FOR  
12 COMMERCIAL DEMOLITION.—

13 (1) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any provi-  
14 sion of title I of the Emergency Economic Stabiliza-  
15 tion Act of 2008 (12 U.S.C. 5211 et seq.), any regu-  
16 lation, guidance, order, or other directive of the Sec-  
17 retary of the Treasury, or any agreement (or amend-  
18 ment thereto) entered into under the Hardest Hit  
19 Fund program of the Secretary under such title I,  
20 to the extent that any amounts of assistance that  
21 have been, or are, allocated for or provided to a  
22 State or State agency through the Hardest Hit  
23 Fund program may be used for demolishing and  
24 greening vacant and abandoned blighted residential

1 properties and related expenses, such amounts may  
2 also be used for demolishing and greening vacant  
3 and abandoned blighted commercial properties and  
4 related expenses.

5 (2) REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of  
6 the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enact-  
7 ment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall  
8 submit a report to the Congress regarding the im-  
9 pacts of using assistance provided under the Hard-  
10 est Hit Fund program pursuant to the authority  
11 provided under paragraph (1) and the effectiveness  
12 of such use.

## 13 **Subtitle B—Retail Redlining and** 14 **Food Deserts**

### 15 **SEC. 221. ECONOMIC GROWTH, RETENTION, AND RECRUIT-** 16 **MENT OF COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT IN ECO-** 17 **NOMICALLY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES.**

18 The Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15  
19 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the  
20 following new title:

1 **“TITLE** **VIII—ECONOMIC**  
2 **GROWTH, RETENTION, AND**  
3 **RECRUITMENT OF COMMER-**  
4 **CIAL INVESTMENT IN ECO-**  
5 **NOMICALLY UNDERSERVED**  
6 **COMMUNITIES**

7 **“SEC. 811. PURPOSE.**

8 “The purpose of this title is to assist with the eco-  
9 nomic growth of economically underserved communities  
10 that have potential for strong Class 1 commercial invest-  
11 ment, but that continue to have a difficult time recruiting  
12 Class 1 commercial investment.

13 **“SEC. 812. GRANT PROGRAM.**

14 “(a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—From amounts appropriated  
15 under section 814, the Administrator shall make grants  
16 on a competitive basis to an eligible community for—

17 “(1) the creation of a grant program or revolv-  
18 ing loan fund program (or both) that helps develop  
19 financing packages for Class 1 commercial invest-  
20 ment in the community;

21 “(2) lowering real estate property tax rates in  
22 the community;

23 “(3) conducting community-wide market anal-  
24 ysis to help recruit and retain Class 1 commercial  
25 investment;

1           “(4) creating employment training programs for  
2           Class 1 business customer service, sales, and mana-  
3           gerial positions in the community;

4           “(5) retail marketing strategies to solicit new  
5           Class 1 commercial investment starts in the commu-  
6           nity;

7           “(6) program allowances for activities to pro-  
8           mote Class 1 commercial investment in the commu-  
9           nity, such as the publication of marketing materials,  
10          development of economic development web pages,  
11          and educational outreach activities with retail trade  
12          associations; and

13          “(7) hiring business recruitment specialists to  
14          operate in the community.

15          “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—The Administrator may only  
16          make a grant under subsection (a) to a community whose  
17          demographics include—

18                 “(1) a median per capita income no higher than  
19                 \$35,000; and

20                 “(2) an identified lack of Class 1 commercial  
21                 investment.

22          “(c) APPLICATION.—A community seeking a grant  
23          under subsection (a) shall submit an application at such  
24          time, in such form, and containing such information and

1 assurances as the Administrator may require, except that  
2 the application shall include—

3 “(1) a description of how the community,  
4 through the activities the community proposes to  
5 carry out with the grant funds will recruit, retain  
6 and grow its economy through Class 1 commercial  
7 investment; and

8 “(2) a description of the difficulty the commu-  
9 nity has faced recruiting, retaining and growing its  
10 economy through Class 1 commercial investment.

11 “(d) MATCHING FUNDS.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may not  
13 make a grant to a community under subsection (a)  
14 unless the community agrees that, with respect to  
15 the costs to be incurred by the community in car-  
16 rying out the activities for which the grant is award-  
17 ed, the community will make available non-Federal  
18 contributions in an amount equal to not less than 10  
19 percent of the Federal funds provided under the  
20 grant.

21 “(2) SATISFYING MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—  
22 The non-Federal contributions required under para-  
23 graph (1) may be—

24 “(A) in cash or in-kind, including services,  
25 fairly evaluated; and



1                   “(B) from—  
2                    “(i) any private source;  
3                    “(ii) State or local governmental enti-  
4                   ty; or  
5                    “(iii) nonprofit source.

6                   “(3) WAIVER.—The Administrator may waive  
7                   or reduce the non-Federal contribution required by  
8                   paragraph (1) if the community involved dem-  
9                   onstrates that the community cannot meet the con-  
10                  tribution requirement due to financial hardship.

11                  “(e) LIMITATIONS.—Amounts appropriated pursuant  
12                  to the authorization of appropriations in section 814 for  
13                  a fiscal year shall be allocated as follows:

14                  “(1) No more than 5 percent of such funds  
15                  shall go to administrative costs;

16                  “(2) 70 percent of such funds shall go toward  
17                  activities described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of  
18                  subsection (a), after taking into account administra-  
19                  tive costs under subparagraph (A); and

20                  “(3) 30 percent of such funds shall go toward  
21                  activities described in paragraphs (5) through (7) of  
22                  subsection (a), after taking into account administra-  
23                  tive costs under subparagraph (A).

24                  **“SEC. 813. DEFINITIONS.**

25                  “‘In this title:

1           “(1) COMMUNITY.—The term ‘community’  
2 means a governance structure that includes county,  
3 parish, city, village, township, district or borough.

4           “(2) CLASS 1 COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT.—The  
5 term ‘Class 1 commercial investment’ means retail  
6 grocery chains, food service retailers, restaurants  
7 and franchises, retail stores, cafes, shopping malls,  
8 and other shops.

9           “(3) ECONOMICALLY UNDERSERVED COMMU-  
10 NITY.—The term ‘economically underserved commu-  
11 nity’ means an area suffering from low income and  
12 resultant low purchasing power, limiting its ability  
13 to generate sufficient goods and services to be used  
14 in exchange with other areas to meet current con-  
15 sumption needs.

16 **“SEC. 814. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17           “‘There is authorized to be appropriated to the Ad-  
18 ministrator to make grants under section 812(a)  
19 \$40,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2024.’”.

1 **SEC. 222. PRODUCER DISCRETION TO PLANT ADDITIONAL**  
2 **FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ON BASE ACRES**  
3 **TO ALLEVIATE FOOD DESERTS WITHOUT A**  
4 **RESULTING REDUCTION IN PAYMENT ACRES.**

5 Section 1114(e) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7  
6 U.S.C. 9014(e)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
7 lowing new paragraph:

8 “(5) PRODUCER DISCRETION TO PLANT ADDI-  
9 TIONAL FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO ALLEVIATE  
10 FOOD DESERTS.—

11 “(A) ADDITIONAL PLANTING AUTHORITY;  
12 PURPOSE.—The percentages specified in para-  
13 graphs (2) and (3) are increased by an addi-  
14 tional five percent of base acres, to 20 percent  
15 and 40 percent respectively, if the crops re-  
16 ferred to in paragraph (1) grown on the addi-  
17 tional base acres are grown solely for sale or  
18 donation, directly or indirectly by the producer  
19 and with or without processing, in a food  
20 desert.

21 “(B) FOOD DESERT DEFINED.—In this  
22 paragraph, the term ‘food desert’ means a cen-  
23 sus tract that, as determined by the Sec-  
24 retary—

25 “(i) has a poverty rate of 20 percent  
26 or greater; and

1                   “(ii) provides difficult access to a re-  
2                   tail outlet that provides a wide-variety of  
3                   fruits and vegetables.”.

## 4   **Subtitle C—Digital Infrastructure**

### 5   **SEC. 231. GAO REPORT ON FEDERAL EFFORTS TO EXPAND** 6                   **BROADBAND SERVICE.**

7           (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
8   date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
9   of the United States shall submit to Congress a report  
10 on the efficiency and effectiveness of efforts by Federal  
11 agencies to expand access to broadband service, including  
12 through the programs described in subsection (c).

13          (b) INCLUDED MATTERS.—The report required by  
14 subsection (a) shall include—

15               (1) for each program covered by the report and  
16               over a period of time for such program considered  
17               appropriate by the Comptroller General, an analysis  
18               of the number of subscribers that have gained ac-  
19               cess, through or as a result of such program, to  
20               broadband service that has the capacity to transmit  
21               data to enable subscribers to originate and receive  
22               high-quality voice, data, graphics, and video; and

23               (2) an analysis of implementation by Federal  
24               agencies of the recommendations of the Broadband  
25               Opportunity Council, established by the Presidential

1 Memorandum entitled “Expanding Broadband De-  
2 ployment and Adoption by Addressing Regulatory  
3 Barriers and Encouraging Investment and Train-  
4 ing” and dated March 23, 2015.

5 (c) INCLUDED PROGRAMS.—The programs described  
6 in this subsection are the following:

7 (1) Federal universal service support mecha-  
8 nisms established under section 254 of the Commu-  
9 nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254).

10 (2) The Broadband Technology Opportunities  
11 Program established under section 6001 of the  
12 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009  
13 (47 U.S.C. 1305).

14 (3) Rural broadband loans under section 601 of  
15 the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C.  
16 950bb).

17 (4) Telecommunications infrastructure loans  
18 under section 201 of the Rural Electrification Act of  
19 1936 (7 U.S.C. 922).

20 (5) Community Connect grants under the last  
21 proviso under the heading “Distance Learning, Tele-  
22 medicine, and Broadband Program” in title III of  
23 the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug  
24 Administration, and Related Agencies Appropria-  
25 tions Act, 2004.

1           (6) Distance Learning and Telemedicine grants  
2           under chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XXIII of the  
3           Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of  
4           1990.

5           (d) FEDERAL AGENCY DEFINED.—In this section,  
6           the term “Federal agency” has the meaning given the  
7           term “agency” in section 551 of title 5, United States  
8           Code.

## 9           **Subtitle D—Direct Lending**

### 10          **SEC. 241. DIRECT LOANS TO SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.**

11          (a) IN GENERAL.—From amounts appropriated pur-  
12          suant to subsection (e), the Administrator of the Small  
13          Business Administration shall establish a program to  
14          make direct loans to small business concerns (as defined  
15          under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.  
16          632)).

17          (b) AMOUNT.—Loans made under this section shall  
18          be in an amount not greater than the lesser of—

19                  (1) 5 percent of the annual revenue of the small  
20                  business concern requesting the loan; or

21                  (2) \$250,000.

22          (c) INTEREST RATE.—The interest rate on a loan  
23          made under this section shall be equal to the discount win-  
24          dow primary credit interest rate most recently published  
25          on the Federal Reserve Statistical Release on selected in-

1 terest rates (daily or weekly), commonly referred to as the  
2 H.15 release.

3 (d) REPORT.—The Administrator of the Small Busi-  
4 ness Administration shall submit a report to Congress on  
5 the implementation and results of the program established  
6 under this section.

7 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
8 are authorized to be appropriated \$25,000,000 for each  
9 of fiscal years 2018 to 2022.

## 10 **TITLE III—NEW ECONOMY AND** 11 **INNOVATION INVESTMENT**

### 12 **SEC. 301. COMMISSION ON INNOVATION.**

13 (a) COMPOSITION OF COMMISSION.—There is estab-  
14 lished in the Office of Management and Budget, a com-  
15 mission, to be known as the Commission on Innovation  
16 (hereinafter in this section referred to as the commission),  
17 which shall be composed of the following members:

18 (1) The Director of the Office of Management  
19 and Budget, or his or her designee, who shall serve  
20 as the chair of the Commission.

21 (2) Five individuals from the private sector, to  
22 be appointed by the Director of the Office of Man-  
23 agement and Budget.

24 (3) A representative appointed by the head of  
25 each of the following:

1                   (A) The National Institute of Standards  
2                   and Technology.

3                   (B) The National Science Foundation.

4                   (C) The Federal Communications Commis-  
5                   sion.

6                   (D) The Department of Commerce.

7                   (E) The Department of the Treasury.

8                   (F) The General Service Administration.

9           (b) DUTIES OF COMMISSION.—The commission shall  
10 study new and developing technologies, and shall make  
11 recommendations to each Federal agency on how the agen-  
12 cy should take into consideration the existence, possible  
13 uses, development, and potential effect that such tech-  
14 nologies may have on the agency’s carrying out of its stat-  
15 utory duties. The commission shall submit a report to  
16 Congress not later than 1 year after the effective date of  
17 enactment of this Act and annually thereafter on the ac-  
18 tivities of the commission during the 12 months imme-  
19 diately preceding the date of the report, including sum-  
20 maries of all recommendations made to agencies.

21           (c) APPLICATION OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMIS-  
22 SION ACT.—The provisions of the Federal Advisory Com-  
23 mittee Act shall apply to the commission.



1 **SEC. 302. PILOT PROGRAM TO FUND LOCAL INCUBATORS.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Commerce  
3 shall establish a competitive program to make grants to  
4 States and political subdivisions of States to partner with  
5 local incubators in order to provide start-ups with work-  
6 space and other resources for use in developing their busi-  
7 nesses.

8 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—The Secretary may only award a  
9 grant under this section to a State or political subdivision  
10 of a State that submits an application at such time, in  
11 such form, and with such information and assurances as  
12 the Secretary may require, including an identification of  
13 one or more incubators with which the State or political  
14 subdivision will partner in implementing the grant.

15 (c) LIMITATIONS.—

16 (1) ONE GRANT PER STATE OR POLITICAL SUB-  
17 DIVISION.—A State or political subdivision of a  
18 State may not receive more than one grant under  
19 this section. For purposes of the preceding sentence,  
20 a grant received by a State shall not be considered  
21 to be received by a political subdivision of the State,  
22 and a grant received by a political subdivision of a  
23 State shall not be considered to be received by the  
24 State.

25 (2) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—A grant awarded  
26 under this section may not exceed \$500,000.

1 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—A State or political subdivi-  
3 sion of a State that receives a grant under this sec-  
4 tion shall use grant funds to partner with one or  
5 more incubators located within the territory of such  
6 State or political subdivision in order to provide  
7 start-ups with workspace and other resources for use  
8 in developing their businesses. The partnership may  
9 take such form as the Secretary considers appro-  
10 priate, including one or more subgrants from the  
11 State or political subdivision to the incubator or in-  
12 cubators.

13 (2) SPECIFIC EXPENSES INCLUDED.—Grant  
14 funds may be used for any expense incurred in order  
15 to provide start-ups with workspace and other re-  
16 sources for use in developing their businesses, in-  
17 cluding—

18 (A) purchase or rental of land;

19 (B) modification of buildings;

20 (C) charges for utility services or broad-  
21 band service;

22 (D) fees of consultants for the provision of  
23 technical or professional assistance;

24 (E) costs of promoting the incubator or in-  
25 cubators; and

1                   (F) any other such expense that the Sec-  
2                   retary considers appropriate.

3           (e) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—A State or political  
4 subdivision of a State may not partner with an incubator  
5 (or group of incubators) in implementing a grant under  
6 this section unless the incubator (or group of incubators)  
7 agrees that, with respect to the expenses to be incurred  
8 in carrying out activities within the scope of the partner-  
9 ship, the incubator (or group of incubators) will make  
10 available from private funds contributions in an amount  
11 equal to not less than 50 percent of the amount made  
12 available by the State or political subdivision from grant  
13 funds under this section.

14           (f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days  
15 after the end of fiscal year 2021, the Secretary shall sub-  
16 mit to Congress a report on the results achieved by the  
17 grant program established under this section. Such report  
18 shall include recommendations of the Secretary with re-  
19 spect to extending, expanding, or improving the program.

20           (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21                   (1) INCUBATOR.—The term “incubator” means  
22                   a private-sector entity that—

23                               (A) provides start-ups with workspace and  
24                               other resources (such as utilities, broadband

1 service, and technical or professional assistance)  
2 for use in developing their businesses; and

3 (B) may charge start-ups a reasonable fee  
4 for such resources.

5 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
6 the Secretary of Commerce.

7 (3) START-UP.—The term “start-up” means  
8 any business entity (including an individual oper-  
9 ating an unincorporated business) that, as of the  
10 time the entity receives resources from an incu-  
11 bator—

12 (A) has been in operation for not more  
13 than 5 years;

14 (B) has not more than 5 employees; and

15 (C) for the most recently completed fiscal  
16 year of the entity (if any) and any preceding  
17 fiscal year, has annual gross revenues of less  
18 than \$150,000.

19 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means each of  
20 the several States, the District of Columbia, each  
21 commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United  
22 States, and each federally recognized Indian tribe.

23 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
24 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry  
25 out this section \$5,000,000, of which not more than 5 per-

1 cent shall be available for the costs of administering the  
2 grant program established under this section, for each of  
3 the fiscal years 2018 through 2022.

4 **SEC. 303. EXTENSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF NEW MAR-**  
5 **KETS TAX CREDIT.**

6 (a) EXTENSION.—Section 45D(f)(1) of the Internal  
7 Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding “, and” at  
8 the end of subparagraph (F), by striking the period at  
9 the end of subparagraph (G) and inserting “, and”, and  
10 by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

11 “(H) \$10,000,000,000 for each of calendar  
12 years 2020 through 2029.”.

13 (b) DEGREE OF DISTRESS OF TARGETED COMMU-  
14 NITY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN MAKING ALLOCATIONS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 45D(f)(2) of such  
16 Code is amended by inserting the following after the  
17 first sentence: “In making allocations under this  
18 paragraph, the Secretary shall take into account the  
19 entity’s business strategy, community impact, man-  
20 agement capacity, and capitalization strategy, and  
21 the degree of distress of the communities served by  
22 the entity.”.

23 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section  
24 45D(f)(2) of such Code is amended by striking

1 “under the preceding sentence” and inserting  
2 “under this paragraph”.

3 (c) INCREASED CREDIT FOR INVESTMENTS IN COM-  
4 MUNITY DEVELOPMENT ENTITIES SERVING DISTRESSED  
5 COMMUNITIES.—Section 45D of such Code is amended by  
6 redesignating subsections (h) and (i) as subsections (i)  
7 and (j), respectively, and by inserting after subsection (g)  
8 the following new subsection:

9 “(h) INCREASED CREDIT FOR INVESTMENTS IN COM-  
10 MUNITY DEVELOPMENT ENTITIES SERVING DISTRESSED  
11 COMMUNITIES.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a qualified  
13 equity investment in a qualified distressed commu-  
14 nity development entity, subsection (a)(2) shall be  
15 applied—

16 “(A) by substituting ‘6 percent’ for ‘5 per-  
17 cent’ in subparagraph (A), and

18 “(B) by substituting ‘7 percent’ for ‘6 per-  
19 cent’ in subparagraph (B).

20 “(2) QUALIFIED DISTRESSED COMMUNITY DE-  
21 VELOPMENT ENTITY.—For purposes of this sub-  
22 section—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified  
24 distressed community development entity’

1 means any qualified community development  
2 entity if—

3 “(i) a substantial portion of the serv-  
4 ices and investment capital provided by  
5 such entity is provided with respect to dis-  
6 tressed communities, and

7 “(ii) such entity is certified by the  
8 Secretary for purposes of this section as  
9 being a qualified distressed community de-  
10 velopment entity.

11 “(B) DISTRESSED COMMUNITY.—The term  
12 ‘distressed community’ means any population  
13 census tract (or equivalent county division with-  
14 in the meaning of subsection (e)(3)) which  
15 would be a low-income community if—

16 “(i) subsection (e)(1)(A) were applied  
17 by substituting ‘30 percent’ for ‘20 per-  
18 cent’, and

19 “(ii) subsection (e)(1)(B) were applied  
20 by substituting ‘60 percent’ for ‘80 per-  
21 cent’ each place it appears.”.

22 (d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

23 (1) EXTENSION.—The amendments made by  
24 subsection (a) shall apply to calendar years after  
25 2019.

1           (2) DEGREE OF DISTRESS OF TARGETED COM-  
2           MUNITY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN MAKING ALLOCA-  
3           TIONS.—The amendments made by subsection (b)  
4           shall apply to allocations made by the Secretary  
5           after the date of the enactment of this Act.

6           (3) INCREASED CREDIT FOR INVESTMENTS IN  
7           COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ENTITIES SERVING DIS-  
8           TRESSED COMMUNITIES.—The amendments made by  
9           subsection (c) shall apply to qualified equity invest-  
10          ments acquired at original issue after the date of the  
11          enactment of this Act.

12 **SEC. 304. RACE TO THE SHOP.**

13          (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From the amounts ap-  
14          propriated under subsection (e), the Secretary of Labor  
15          shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible enti-  
16          ties to increase and improve skills training for current and  
17          prospective workers in highly-skilled industries.

18          (b) APPLICATION.—To receive a grant under this sec-  
19          tion, an eligible entity shall submit to the Secretary an  
20          application at such time, in such manner, and containing  
21          such information as the Secretary may require, which shall  
22          include the following:

23                  (1) A bold economic plan for the eligible entity  
24                  that builds on the special assets and strengths of the



1       entity in highly-skilled industries, as such assets and  
2       strengths are determined by the entity.

3           (2) An identification and prioritization of key  
4       weaknesses or barriers (such as lack of strong voca-  
5       tional education or skills training system, or absence  
6       of customized training for industrial firms and sec-  
7       tors), as determined by the eligible entity, to suc-  
8       cessfully implementing such plan.

9           (3) A description of strategies that will carry  
10      out the plan through projects and investments, with  
11      deep and sustainable involvement of highly-skilled  
12      industries.

13          (4) A description of how other Federal and  
14      non-Federal funds will be leverage in support of  
15      such strategies.

16          (5) A description of how the eligible entity will  
17      reform the entity's policies or governance in support  
18      of such strategies.

19      (c) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives  
20      a grant under this section shall use such grant to carry  
21      out the entity's bold economic plan described in subsection  
22      (b)(1).

23      (d) LIMITATION.—An eligible entity may not receive  
24      assistance from more than 1 grant awarded under this  
25      section for a fiscal year.

1 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
2 are authorized to be appropriated \$25,000,000 for each  
3 of fiscal years 2018 through 2022.

4 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

5 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
6 ty” means a State or unit of general local govern-  
7 ment.

8 (2) HIGHLY-SKILLED INDUSTRY.—The term  
9 “highly-skilled industry” includes the manufacturing  
10 industry.

11 (3) WIOA TERMS.—The terms “State” and  
12 “unit of general local government” have the mean-  
13 ings given the terms in section 3 of the Workforce  
14 Investment and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

15 **TITLE IV—EXPANDED ACCESS**  
16 **TO CARE**

17 **SEC. 401. STUDY ON THE UNINSURED.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
19 Human Services (in this section referred to as the “Sec-  
20 retary”) shall—

21 (1) conduct a study, in accordance with the  
22 standards under section 3101 of the Public Health  
23 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300kk), on the demographic  
24 characteristics of the population of individuals who  
25 do not have health insurance coverage;

1           (2) include in such study an analysis of the  
2 usage by such population of emergency room and ur-  
3 gent care facilities; and

4           (3) predict, based on such study, the demo-  
5 graphic characteristics of the population of individ-  
6 uals who would remain without health insurance cov-  
7 erage after the end of open enrollment or any special  
8 enrollment period.

9           (b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

10           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 12 months  
11 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
12 retary shall submit to the Congress the results of  
13 the study under subsection (a) and the prediction  
14 made under subsection (a)(3).

15           (2) REPORTING OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTER-  
16 ISTICS.—The Secretary shall report the demographic  
17 characteristics under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of  
18 subsection (a) on the basis of racial and ethnic  
19 group, and shall stratify the reporting on each racial  
20 and ethnic group by other demographic characteris-  
21 tics that can impact access to health insurance cov-  
22 erage, such as sexual orientation, gender identity,  
23 primary language, disability status, sex, socio-  
24 economic status, age group, and citizenship and im-

1 migration status, in a manner consistent with title  
2 I of this Act.

3 **SEC. 402. VOLUNTEER DENTAL PROJECTS AND ACTION FOR**  
4 **DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM.**

5 Part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act  
6 is revised by amending section 317M (42 U.S.C. 247b–  
7 14) as follows:

8 (1) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as  
9 (g) and (h), respectively;

10 (2) by inserting after subsection (d), the fol-  
11 lowing:

12 “(e) GRANTS TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEER DENTAL  
13 PROJECTS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting  
15 through the Director of the Centers for Disease  
16 Control and Prevention, may award grants to or  
17 enter into contracts with eligible entities to obtain  
18 portable or mobile dental equipment, and pay for ap-  
19 propriate operational costs, for the provision of free  
20 dental services to underserved populations that are  
21 delivered in a manner consistent with State licensing  
22 laws.

23 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this subsection, the  
24 term ‘eligible entity’ includes a State or local dental  
25 association, a State oral health program, a dental

1 education, dental hygiene education, or postdoctoral  
2 dental education program accredited by the Commis-  
3 sion on Dental Accreditation, and a community-  
4 based organization that partners with an academic  
5 institution, that—

6 “(A) is exempt from tax under section  
7 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;  
8 and

9 “(B) offers a free dental services program  
10 for underserved populations.

11 “(f) ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting  
13 through the Director of the Centers for Disease  
14 Control and Prevention, may award grants to or  
15 enter into contracts with eligible entities to collabo-  
16 rate with State, county, or local public officials and  
17 other stakeholders to develop and implement initia-  
18 tives to accomplish any of the following goals:

19 “(A) To improve oral health education and  
20 dental disease prevention, including community-  
21 wide prevention programs, use of dental  
22 sealants and fluoride varnish, and increasing  
23 oral health literacy.

24 “(B) To make the health care delivery sys-  
25 tem providing dental services more accessible

1 and efficient through the development and ex-  
2 pansion of outreach programs that will facili-  
3 tate the establishment of dental homes for chil-  
4 dren and adults, including the aged, blind, and  
5 disabled populations.

6 “(C) To reduce geographic, language, cul-  
7 tural, and similar barriers in the provision of  
8 dental services.

9 “(D) To help reduce the use of emergency  
10 departments by those who seek dental services  
11 more appropriately delivered in a dental pri-  
12 mary care setting.

13 “(E) To facilitate the provision of dental  
14 care to nursing home residents who are dis-  
15 proportionately affected by lack of care.

16 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this subsection, the  
17 term ‘eligible entity’ includes a State or local dental  
18 association, a State oral health program, or a dental  
19 education, dental hygiene, or postdoctoral dental  
20 education program accredited by the Commission on  
21 Dental Accreditation, and a community-based orga-  
22 nization that partners with an academic institution,  
23 that—

1           “(A) is exempt from tax under section  
2           501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;  
3           and

4           “(B) partners with public and private  
5           stakeholders to facilitate the provision of dental  
6           services for underserved populations.”; and

7           (3) in subsection (h), as redesignated by para-  
8           graph (1), by striking “fiscal years 2001 through  
9           2005” and inserting “fiscal years 2016 through  
10          2020”.

11 **SEC. 403. CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENTS.**

12          (a) **ELIMINATION OF ISOLATION TEST FOR COST-**  
13 **BASED AMBULANCE REIMBURSEMENT.—**

14           (1) **IN GENERAL.—**Section 1834(l)(8) of the  
15          Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(l)(8)) is  
16          amended—

17           (A) in subparagraph (B)—

18           (i) by striking “owned and”; and

19           (ii) by inserting “(including when  
20           such services are provided by the entity  
21           under an arrangement with the hospital)”  
22           after “hospital”; and

23           (B) by striking the comma at the end of  
24           subparagraph (B) and all that follows and in-  
25           serting a period.

1           (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made  
2           by this subsection shall apply to services furnished  
3           on or after January 1, 2018.

4           (b) PROVISION OF A MORE FLEXIBLE ALTERNATIVE  
5 TO THE CAH DESIGNATION 25 INPATIENT BED LIMIT  
6 REQUIREMENT.—

7           (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1820(c)(2) of the  
8           Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i–4(c)(2)) is  
9           amended—

10           (A) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by striking  
11           “provides not more than” and inserting “sub-  
12           ject to subparagraph (F), provides not more  
13           than”; and

14           (B) by adding at the end the following new  
15           subparagraph:

16           “(F) ALTERNATIVE TO 25 INPATIENT BED  
17           LIMIT REQUIREMENT.—

18           “(i) IN GENERAL.—A State may elect  
19           to treat a facility, with respect to the des-  
20           ignation of the facility for a cost-reporting  
21           period, as satisfying the requirement of  
22           subparagraph (B)(iii) relating to a max-  
23           imum number of acute care inpatient beds  
24           if the facility elects, in accordance with a  
25           method specified by the Secretary and be-



1           fore the beginning of the cost reporting pe-  
2           riod, to meet the requirement under clause  
3           (ii).

4           “(ii) ALTERNATE REQUIREMENT.—  
5           The requirement under this clause, with  
6           respect to a facility and a cost-reporting  
7           period, is that the total number of inpa-  
8           tient bed days described in subparagraph  
9           (B)(iii) during such period will not exceed  
10          7,300. For purposes of this subparagraph,  
11          an individual who is an inpatient in a bed  
12          in the facility for a single day shall be  
13          counted as one inpatient bed day.

14          “(iii) WITHDRAWAL OF ELECTION.—  
15          The option described in clause (i) shall not  
16          apply to a facility for a cost-reporting pe-  
17          riod if the facility (for any two consecutive  
18          cost-reporting periods during the previous  
19          5 cost-reporting periods) was treated under  
20          such option and had a total number of in-  
21          patient bed days for each of such two cost-  
22          reporting periods that exceeded the num-  
23          ber specified in such clause.”.

24               (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made  
25               by paragraph (1) shall apply to cost-reporting peri-

1       ods beginning on or after the date of the enactment  
2       of this Act.

3       **SEC. 404. COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER COLLABORATIVE**  
4                                   **ACCESS EXPANSION.**

5       Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42  
6       U.S.C. 254b) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
7       lowing:

8       “(t) MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.—

9               “(1) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION WITH RESPECT  
10       TO RURAL HEALTH CLINICS.—Nothing in this sec-  
11       tion shall be construed to prevent a community  
12       health center from contracting with a federally cer-  
13       tified rural health clinic (as defined by section  
14       1861(aa)(2) of the Social Security Act) for the deliv-  
15       ery of primary health care and other mental, dental,  
16       and physical health services that are available at the  
17       rural health clinic to individuals who would other-  
18       wise be eligible for free or reduced cost care if that  
19       individual were able to obtain that care at the com-  
20       munity health center. Such services may be limited  
21       in scope to those primary health care and other  
22       mental, dental, and physical health services available  
23       in that rural health clinic.

24               “(2) ENABLING SERVICES.—To the extent pos-  
25       sible, enabling services such as transportation and

1 translation assistance shall be provided by rural  
2 health clinics described in paragraph (1).

3 “(3) ASSURANCES.—In order for a rural health  
4 clinic to receive funds under this section through a  
5 contract with a community health center for the de-  
6 livery of primary health care and other services de-  
7 scribed in paragraph (1), such rural health clinic  
8 shall establish policies to ensure—

9 “(A) nondiscrimination based upon the  
10 ability of a patient to pay;

11 “(B) the establishment of a sliding fee  
12 scale for low-income patients; and

13 “(C) any such services should be subject to  
14 full reimbursement according to the Prospective  
15 Payment System scale.”.

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