

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1126

To amend the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 and the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 to strengthen research in adult education.

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 14, 2021

Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

---

## A BILL

To amend the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 and the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 to strengthen research in adult education.

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 “Strengthening Re-  
5 search in Adult Education Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STRENGTHEN RESEARCH IN ADULT EDUCATION.**

7 (a) EDUCATION SCIENCES REFORM ACT OF 2002.—

8 The Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C.

9 9501 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 102 (20 U.S.C. 9501)—

2 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (2)  
3 through (8), (9) through (22), and (23), as  
4 paragraphs (3) through (9), (11) through (24),  
5 and (26), respectively;

6 (B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the  
7 following:

8 “(2) ADULT EDUCATION; ADULT EDUCATION  
9 AND LITERACY ACTIVITIES.—The terms ‘adult edu-  
10 cation’ and ‘adult education and literacy activities’  
11 have the meanings given the terms in section 203 of  
12 the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (29  
13 U.S.C. 3272).”;

14 (C) by inserting after paragraph (9), as re-  
15 designated by subparagraph (A), the following:

16 “(10) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.—The term  
17 ‘digital literacy skills’ has the meaning given the  
18 term in section 202 of the Museum and Library  
19 Services Act (20 U.S.C. 9101).”; and

20 (D) by inserting after paragraph (24), as  
21 redesignated by subparagraph (A), the fol-  
22 lowing:

23 “(25) STUDENT.—Unless otherwise provided,  
24 the term ‘student’ means any elementary, secondary,  
25 postsecondary, or adult education student.”;

1           (2) in section 111(b)(1) (20 U.S.C.  
2           9511(b)(1)), in the matter preceding subparagraph  
3           (A), by inserting “, including adult education” after  
4           “postsecondary study”;

5           (3) in section 115(a) (20 U.S.C. 9515(a))—

6           (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),  
7           by inserting “the Adult Education and Family  
8           Literacy Act (29 U.S.C. 3271 et seq.),” after  
9           “the Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
10          of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.)”; and

11          (B) in paragraph (2)—

12           (i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting  
13           “and adults” after “children”;

14           (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
15           “and” after the semicolon;

16           (iii) by redesignating subparagraph  
17           (C) as subparagraph (D); and

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

20           “(C) access to, and opportunities for, adult  
21           education and literacy activities; and”;

22          (4) in section 116(e)(4)(A)(ii) (20 U.S.C.  
23          9516(e)(4)(A)(ii))—

24           (A) by inserting “adult educators,” after  
25           “professional educators,”; and

1 (B) by inserting “State directors of adult  
2 education,” after “postsecondary education ex-  
3 ecutives,”;

4 (5) in section 131(b)(1) (20 U.S.C.  
5 9531(b)(1))—

6 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
7 “and” after the semicolon;

8 (B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting  
9 “and” after the semicolon; and

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

11 “(E) improve the literacy and numeracy  
12 skills of individuals who need adult education;”;

13 (6) in section 133 (20 U.S.C. 9533)—

14 (A) in subsection (a)—

15 (i) in paragraph (10)(D), by striking  
16 “and” after the semicolon;

17 (ii) in paragraph (11), by striking the  
18 period at the end and inserting “; and”;

19 and

20 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
21 lowing:

22 “(12) carry out research on successful State  
23 and local adult education and literacy activities  
24 that—

1           “(A) result in increased literacy and  
2 numeracy and educational attainment for adult  
3 learners; or

4           “(B) prepare students for postsecondary  
5 education or employment.”; and

6           (B) in subsection (c)—

7                 (i) in paragraph (1), by inserting “At  
8 least 1 center shall be assigned the topic of  
9 adult education.” after “paragraph (2).”;  
10 and

11                 (ii) in paragraph (2)—

12                         (I) by striking subparagraph (A)  
13 and inserting the following:

14                         “(A) Adult education.”;

15                         (II) by redesignating subpara-  
16 graphs (C) through (K) as subpara-  
17 graphs (D) through (L), respectively;  
18 and

19                         (III) by inserting after subpara-  
20 graph (B) the following:

21                         “(C) Digital literacy skills.”;

22           (7) in section 153(a)(1) (20 U.S.C.  
23 9543(a)(1))—

24                         (A) by striking subparagraph (D) and in-  
25 serting the following:

1           “(D) secondary school graduation and  
2 completion rates, including the four-year ad-  
3 justed cohort graduation rate and the extended-  
4 year adjusted cohort graduation rate (as de-  
5 fined in section 8101 of the Elementary and  
6 Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. 7801)),  
7 school dropout rates, and adult literacy;”;

8           (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (F)  
9 through (O) as subparagraphs (G) through (P),  
10 respectively;

11           (C) by inserting after subparagraph (E)  
12 the following:

13           “(F) access to, and opportunity for, adult  
14 education and literacy activities;” and

15           (D) in subparagraph (L), as redesignated  
16 by subparagraph (A), by inserting “and in  
17 adult education” after “secondary schools”;

18           (8) in section 154(b)(2)(A) (20 U.S.C.  
19 9544(b)(2)(A)), by striking “vocational and adult  
20 education,” and inserting “career and technical edu-  
21 cation, adult education,”; and

22           (9) in section 172(a)(2) (20 U.S.C.  
23 9562(a)(2))—

24           (A) in subparagraph (D), by striking  
25 “and” after the semicolon;

1 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as  
2 subparagraph (F); and

3 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (D)  
4 the following:

5 “(E) educational practices that improve  
6 digital literacy skills; and”.

7 (b) EDUCATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACT OF  
8 2002.—Section 206(b)(2) of the Educational Technical  
9 Assistance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9605(b)(2)) is amend-  
10 ed—

11 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (B)  
12 through (F) as subparagraphs (C) through (G), re-  
13 spectively; and

14 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the fol-  
15 lowing:

16 “(B) Representatives of local or regional  
17 adult education providers.”.

○