

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8210

To reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 6, 2026

Mr. WALBERG introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “A  
5 Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Subtitle A—General Provisions

- Sec. 101. Purposes.
- Sec. 102. Definitions.
- Sec. 103. Table of contents amendments.

Subtitle B—System Alignment

CHAPTER 1—STATE PROVISIONS

- Sec. 111. State workforce development board.
- Sec. 112. Unified State plan.

CHAPTER 2—LOCAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 115. Workforce development areas.
- Sec. 116. Local workforce development boards.
- Sec. 117. Local plan.

CHAPTER 3—PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY

- Sec. 119. Performance accountability system.

Subtitle C—Workforce Investment Activities and Providers

CHAPTER 1—WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES AND PROVIDERS

- Sec. 121. Establishment of one-stop delivery systems.
- Sec. 122. Identification of eligible providers of training services.
- Sec. 123. Eligible providers of youth workforce investment activities.

CHAPTER 2—YOUTH WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES

- Sec. 131. Reservations; Reallocation.
- Sec. 132. Use of funds for youth workforce investment activities.

CHAPTER 3—ADULT AND DISLOCATED WORKER EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

- Sec. 141. State allotments.
- Sec. 142. Reservations for State activities; within State allocations; Reallocation.
- Sec. 143. Use of funds for employment and training activities.

CHAPTER 4—GENERAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT PROVISIONS

- Sec. 145. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle D—Job Corps

- Sec. 151. Purposes.
- Sec. 152. Definitions.
- Sec. 153. Individuals eligible for the Job Corps.
- Sec. 154. Recruitment, screening, selection, and assignment of enrollees.
- Sec. 155. Job Corps Campuses.
- Sec. 156. Program activities.
- Sec. 157. Counseling and job placement.
- Sec. 158. Support.
- Sec. 159. Operations.
- Sec. 160. Standards of conduct.
- Sec. 161. Community participation.

- Sec. 162. Workforce councils.
- Sec. 163. Advisory committees.
- Sec. 164. Experimental projects and technical assistance.
- Sec. 165. Special provisions.
- Sec. 166. Management information.
- Sec. 167. Job Corps oversight and reporting.
- Sec. 168. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 169. Conforming amendments.

#### Subtitle E—National Programs

- Sec. 171. Native American programs.
- Sec. 172. Migrant and seasonal farmworker programs.
- Sec. 173. Technical assistance.
- Sec. 174. Evaluations and research.
- Sec. 175. National dislocated worker grants.
- Sec. 176. YouthBuild Program.
- Sec. 177. Reentry employment opportunities.
- Sec. 178. Youth apprenticeship readiness grant program.
- Sec. 179. Strengthening community colleges grant program.
- Sec. 180. Authorization of appropriations.

#### Subtitle F—Administration

- Sec. 191. Requirements and restrictions.
- Sec. 192. Monitoring.
- Sec. 193. Fiscal controls; sanctions.
- Sec. 194. Administrative adjudication.
- Sec. 195. Judicial review.
- Sec. 196. General waivers of statutory or regulatory requirements.
- Sec. 197. Make America Skilled Again grants.
- Sec. 198. General program requirements.

### TITLE II—ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY

#### Subtitle A—Transferring All Functions of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act to the Department of Labor

- Sec. 201. Transfer of functions.
- Sec. 202. Personnel Determinations by the Office of Management and Budget.
- Sec. 203. Delegation and assignment.
- Sec. 204. Reorganization; Rules.
- Sec. 205. Transfer and allocation of appropriations and personnel.
- Sec. 206. Incidental transfers.
- Sec. 207. Savings provisions.
- Sec. 208. References.
- Sec. 209. Transition.
- Sec. 210. Updating references.
- Sec. 211. Effective date.

#### Subtitle B—Adult Education and Family Literacy Act

- Sec. 221. Purposes.
- Sec. 222. Definitions.
- Sec. 223. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 224. Special rule.
- Sec. 225. Performance accountability system.

- Sec. 226. Matching requirement.
- Sec. 227. State leadership activities.
- Sec. 228. Programs for corrections education and other institutionalized individuals.
- Sec. 229. Grants and contracts for eligible providers.
- Sec. 230. Local application.
- Sec. 231. Local administrative cost limits.
- Sec. 232. National leadership activities.
- Sec. 233. Integrated English literacy and civics education.

#### TITLE III—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER LAWS

- Sec. 301. Amendments to the Wagner-Peyser Act.
- Sec. 302. Job training grants.
- Sec. 303. Access to National Directory of New Hires.
- Sec. 304. References to other laws.

#### TITLE IV—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Sec. 401. Technical assistance for transforming to competitive integrated employment.

#### TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 501. Report on data capability and interoperability of Federal and State databases and data exchange agreements.
- Sec. 502. Effective dates; transition authority.

# **TITLE I—WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES Subtitle A—General Provisions**

## **SEC. 101. PURPOSES.**

Section 2 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “support services” and inserting “supportive services”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, for youth and adults,” after “economic development systems”;

(3) in paragraph (6), by striking “of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency,” and inserting “of

1 the workforce, provide economic mobility, reduce de-  
2 pendency on public assistance programs,”; and

3 (4) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(7) To prepare a globally competitive work-  
5 force by developing robust education and skills devel-  
6 opment programs for youth to access career path-  
7 ways that will lead such youth into in-demand indus-  
8 try sectors and occupations.”.

9 **SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.**

10 (a) FOUNDATIONAL SKILL NEEDS.—Section 3(5) of  
11 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
12 3102(5)) is amended to read as follows:

13 “(5) FOUNDATIONAL SKILL NEEDS.—The term  
14 ‘foundational skill needs’ means, with respect to an  
15 individual who is a youth or adult, that the indi-  
16 vidual—

17 “(A) has English reading, writing, or com-  
18 puting skills at or below the 8th grade level on  
19 a generally accepted standardized test; or

20 “(B) is unable to compute or solve prob-  
21 lems, is unable to read, write, or speak English,  
22 or does not possess digital literacy skills, at a  
23 level necessary to function in the individual’s  
24 education or occupation, in the individual’s  
25 family, or in society.”.

1 (b) CAREER PATHWAY.—Section 3(7)(F) of the  
2 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
3 3102(7)(F)) is amended by striking “secondary school di-  
4 ploma” and inserting “regular high school diploma”.

5 (c) EMPLOYER-DIRECTED SKILLS DEVELOPMENT.—  
6 Section 3(14) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
7 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(14)) is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 “(14) EMPLOYER-DIRECTED SKILLS DEVELOP-  
10 MENT.—The term ‘employer-directed skills develop-  
11 ment’ means skills development provided through a  
12 program—

13 “(A) that is selected or designed to meet  
14 the specific skill demands of an employer (in-  
15 cluding a group of employers, such as an indus-  
16 try or trade association or an industry or sector  
17 partnership);

18 “(B) that is conducted pursuant to the  
19 terms and conditions established under an em-  
20 ployer-directed skills agreement described in  
21 section 134(c)(3)(I), including a commitment  
22 by the employer to employ an individual upon  
23 successful completion of the program; and

24 “(C) for which the employer pays a portion  
25 of the cost of the program, as determined by

1 the local board involved, which shall not be less  
 2 than—

3 “(i) 10 percent of the cost, in the case  
 4 of an employer with 50 or fewer employees;

5 “(ii) 25 percent of the cost, in the  
 6 case of an employer with more than 50 but  
 7 not more than 100 employees; and

8 “(iii) 50 percent of the cost, in the  
 9 case of an employer with more than 100  
 10 employees.”.

11 (d) DISLOCATED WORKER.—Section 3(15)(B) of the  
 12 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
 13 3102(15)(B)) is amended—

14 (1) in clause (i), by inserting “, including such  
 15 a closure or layoff due to advances in automation  
 16 technology” before the semicolon; and

17 (2) in clause (iii), by striking “section  
 18 134(c)(2)(A)(xii)” and inserting “section  
 19 134(c)(2)(B)(vii)”.

20 (e) DISPLACED HOMEMAKER.—Section 3(16) of the  
 21 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
 22 3102(16)) is amended, in the matter preceding subpara-  
 23 graph (A), by striking “family members” and inserting “a  
 24 family member”.

1 (f) ENGLISH LEARNER.—Section 3 of the Workforce  
 2 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102) is fur-  
 3 ther amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (21)—

5 (A) in the heading, by striking “LAN-  
 6 GUAGE”; and

7 (B) by striking “language”; and

8 (2) in paragraph (24)(I), by striking “lan-  
 9 guage”.

10 (g) INDIVIDUAL WITH A BARRIER TO EMPLOY-  
 11 MENT.—Section 3(24) of the Workforce Innovation and  
 12 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(24)) is amended—

13 (1) in subparagraph (G), by striking “(42  
 14 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6)))” and inserting “(34 U.S.C.  
 15 12473(6)))”;

16 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (I) through  
 17 (N) as subparagraphs (J) through (O), respectively;

18 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (H) the fol-  
 19 lowing:

20 “(I) Out of school youth.”; and

21 (4) in subparagraph (K), as so redesignated, by  
 22 striking “section 167(i)” and inserting “167(j)”.

23 (h) INDUSTRY OR SECTOR PARTNERSHIP.—Section  
 24 3(26) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
 25 (29 U.S.C. 3102(26)) is amended—



1           (1) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “or an-  
2           other labor representative, as appropriate;” and in-  
3           serting “and, to the extent practicable, another labor  
4           representative;”; and

5           (2) in subparagraph (B)—

6                   (A) by redesignating clauses (vi) through  
7                   (xi) as clauses (viii) through (xiii), respectively;  
8                   and

9                   (B) by striking clause (v) and inserting the  
10           following:

11                           “(v) State educational agencies or  
12                           local educational agencies;

13                           “(vi) State higher education agencies,  
14                           as defined in section 103 of the Higher  
15                           Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003),  
16                           or State systems of higher education;

17                           “(vii) other State or local agencies;”.

18           (i) LOCAL AREA.—Section 3(32) of the Workforce  
19 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(32)) is  
20 amended by striking “sections 106(c)(3)(A)” and insert-  
21 ing “sections 106(c)(4)(A)”.

22           (j) EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—Section 3(34) of the  
23 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
24 3102(34)) is amended to read as follows:

1           “(1) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY; STATE  
2       EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The terms ‘local edu-  
3       cational agency’ and ‘State educational agency’ have  
4       the meanings given the terms in section 8101 of the  
5       Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.”.

6       (k) LOCAL PLAN.—Section 3(35) of the Workforce  
7       Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(32)) is  
8       amended by striking “section 106(c)(3)(B)” and inserting  
9       “section 106(c)(4)(B)”.

10       (l) LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUAL.—Section 3(36)(A)(iii)  
11       of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
12       U.S.C. 3102(36)(A)(iii)) is amended by striking “(42  
13       U.S.C. 14043e-2(6)))” and inserting “(34 U.S.C.  
14       12473(6)))”.

15       (m) PAY-FOR-PERFORMANCE CONTRACT STRAT-  
16       EGY.—Section 3(47) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
17       portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(47)) is amended to read  
18       as follows:

19           “(47) PAY-FOR-PERFORMANCE CONTRACT  
20       STRATEGY.—The term ‘pay-for-performance contract  
21       strategy’ means a performance-based contract strat-  
22       egy that uses pay-for-performance contracts in the  
23       provision of services described in paragraph (2) or  
24       (3) of section 134(c) or activities described in sec-  
25       tion 129(c)(2), and includes—

1 “(A) contracts, each of which—

2 “(i) shall specify a fixed amount that  
3 will be paid to an eligible service provider  
4 (which may include a local or national  
5 community-based organization or inter-  
6 mediary, community college, or other pro-  
7 vider) based on the achievement of speci-  
8 fied levels of performance on the primary  
9 indicators of performance described in sec-  
10 tion 116(b)(2)(A) for target populations as  
11 identified by the local board and which  
12 shall identify a specific target for the num-  
13 ber or percentage of individuals to be  
14 served that will be individuals with barriers  
15 to employment, within a defined timetable;  
16 and

17 “(ii) may provide for bonus payments  
18 to such service provider to expand capacity  
19 to provide effective training and other serv-  
20 ices, including bonus payments for exceed-  
21 ing the identified target for serving individ-  
22 uals with barriers to employment;

23 “(B) a strategy for validating the achieve-  
24 ment of the performance described in subpara-  
25 graph (A); and

1           “(C) a description of how the State or  
2           local area will reallocate funds not paid to a  
3           provider because the achievement of the per-  
4           formance described in subparagraph (A) did not  
5           occur, for further activities related to such a  
6           contract strategy, subject to section  
7           189(g)(2)(D).”.

8           (n) RAPID RESPONSE ACTIVITY.—Section 3(51) of  
9           the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
10          3102(51)) is amended—

11           (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),  
12           by inserting “, through a rapid response unit” after  
13           “designated by a State”;

14           (2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting before  
15           the semicolon at the end the following: “, including  
16           access through individual training accounts for eligi-  
17           ble dislocated workers under section 414(c) of the  
18           American Competitiveness and Workforce Improve-  
19           ment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 3224a)”;

20           (3) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at  
21           the end;

22           (4) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as sub-  
23           paragraph (F);

24           (5) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the fol-  
25           lowing new subparagraph:

1 “(E) assistance in identifying workers eli-  
2 gible for assistance, including workers who work  
3 a majority of their time offsite or remotely;”;

4 (6) in subparagraph (F), as so redesignated, by  
5 striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;  
6 and

7 (7) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(G) the provision of business engagement  
9 or layoff aversion strategies and other activities  
10 designed to prevent or minimize the duration of  
11 unemployment, such as—

12 “(i) connecting employers to short-  
13 term compensation or other programs de-  
14 signed to prevent layoffs;

15 “(ii) conducting worker skill assess-  
16 ment, and programs to match workers to  
17 different occupations;

18 “(iii) establishing incumbent worker  
19 training or other upskilling approaches, in-  
20 cluding through incumbent worker  
21 upskilling accounts described in section  
22 134(d)(4)(E);

23 “(iv) facilitating business support ac-  
24 tivities, such as connecting employers to

1 programs that offer access to credit, finan-  
2 cial support, and business consulting; and  
3 “(v) partnering or contracting with  
4 business-focused organizations to assess  
5 risks to companies, and to propose, imple-  
6 ment, and measure the impact of strategies  
7 and services to address such risks.”.

8 (o) SCHOOL DROPOUT.—Section 3(54) of the Work-  
9 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
10 3102(54)) is amended by striking “secondary school di-  
11 ploma” and inserting “regular high school diploma”.

12 (p) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Section 3(59) of the  
13 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
14 3102(59)) is amended by striking “housing,” and insert-  
15 ing “assistive technology, housing, food assistance,”.

16 (q) NEW DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the Workforce  
17 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102) is fur-  
18 ther amended by adding at the end the following:

19 “(72) CO-ENROLLMENT.—The term ‘co-enroll-  
20 ment’ means simultaneous enrollment in more than  
21 one of the programs or activities carried out by a  
22 one-stop partner specified in section 121(b)(1)(B).

23 “(73) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.—The term  
24 ‘digital literacy skills’ has the meaning given the  
25 term in section 203.

1           “(74) EVIDENCE-BASED.—The term ‘evidence-  
2       based’, when used with respect to an activity, serv-  
3       ice, strategy, or intervention, or content of materials,  
4       means an activity, service, strategy, or intervention,  
5       or content of materials that—

6           “(A) demonstrates a statistically signifi-  
7       cant effect on improving participant outcomes  
8       or other relevant outcomes based on—

9           “(i) strong evidence from at least 1  
10       well-designed and well-implemented experi-  
11       mental study;

12           “(ii) moderate evidence from at least  
13       1 well-designed and well-implemented  
14       quasi-experimental study; or

15           “(iii) promising evidence from at least  
16       1 well-designed and well-implemented cor-  
17       relational study with statistical controls for  
18       selection bias; or

19           “(B)(i) demonstrates a rationale based on  
20       high-quality research findings or positive eval-  
21       uation that such activity, service, strategy, or  
22       intervention is likely to improve student out-  
23       comes or other relevant outcomes; and

1           “(ii) includes ongoing efforts to examine the ef-  
2           fects of such activity, service, strategy, or interven-  
3           tion.

4           “(75) LABOR ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘labor  
5           organization’ means a labor organization, as defined  
6           in section 2(5) of the National Labor Relations Act  
7           (29 U.S.C. 152(5)), and an organization rep-  
8           resenting public sector employees.

9           “(76) REGULAR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.—The  
10          term ‘regular high school diploma’ has the meaning  
11          given the term in section 8101 of the Elementary  
12          and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
13          7801).

14          “(77) WORK-BASED LEARNING.—The term  
15          ‘work-based learning’ has the meaning given the  
16          term in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and  
17          Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

18          “(78) TALENT MARKETPLACE.—

19                 “(A) TALENT MARKETPLACE.—The term  
20                 ‘talent marketplace’ means an array of publicly-  
21                 and privately-owned platforms supported by  
22                 interconnected and, where relevant, interoper-  
23                 able and based on open standards, technologies  
24                 (which may include artificial intelligence)  
25                 that—



1 “(i) is made available to the public;

2 “(ii) is used to match individuals with  
3 employment and learning opportunities in  
4 a State (or a consortium of States) using  
5 information provided by users, including—

6 “(I) education and training pro-  
7 viders;

8 “(II) employers;

9 “(III) jobseekers;

10 “(IV) students; and

11 “(V) any other individual; and

12 “(iii) incorporates and allows users  
13 access to—

14 “(I) the learning and employment  
15 records of users of such marketplace;

16 “(II) a credential registry; and

17 “(III) a skills profile generator.

18 “(B) CREDENTIAL REGISTRY.—The term  
19 ‘credential registry’ means a process through  
20 which a digital portal or repository may be used  
21 by education and training providers to make  
22 publicly available, and, where relevant, inter-  
23 operable and based on open standards, a de-  
24 scription, using standardized terminology, of  
25 the skills, competencies and learning outcomes

1 associated with credentials, including recognized  
2 postsecondary credentials.

3 “(C) LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT  
4 RECORD.—The term ‘learning and employment  
5 record’ means a digital, machine-readable  
6 record of an individual’s educational and em-  
7 ployment history that—

8 “(i) contains information that may be  
9 self attested and is verified by the employ-  
10 ers, persons for whom the individual per-  
11 formed services, and education and train-  
12 ing providers of such individual;

13 “(ii) allows the individual to control  
14 such information and use any such infor-  
15 mation for the purpose of matching such  
16 individual with employment and learning  
17 opportunities as described in subparagraph  
18 (A)(ii); and

19 “(iii) uses standardized terminology.

20 “(D) SKILLS PROFILE GENERATOR.—The  
21 term ‘skills profile generator’ means a digital  
22 tool that can be used to create a skill profile  
23 that, using standardized terminology, describes  
24 skills gained through, or necessary for—

25 “(i) employment;

1 “(ii) hiring; or

2 “(iii) education.

3 “(E) STANDARDIZED TERMINOLOGY.—The  
4 term ‘standardized terminology’ means, in rela-  
5 tion to a learning employment record, credential  
6 registry, or skills profile generator made avail-  
7 able through a talent marketplace, a limited set  
8 of terms that is provided through a publicly  
9 available, and, where relevant, interoperable  
10 and based on open standards, skills framework  
11 and used to describe skills, competencies, or  
12 learning outcomes in a manner that—

13 “(i) provides a definition of such skill,  
14 competency, or outcome, and identifies the  
15 skills framework used for such definition;

16 “(ii) ensures that identical terms are  
17 used to describe substantially similar skills,  
18 competencies, or outcomes across such  
19 records, registries, and generators in such  
20 marketplace; and

21 “(iii) permits such terms to be effec-  
22 tively used for the purpose of matching in-  
23 dividuals with employment and learning  
24 opportunities as described in subparagraph  
25 (A)(ii).”.

(r) REDESIGNATIONS.—Section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102) is further amended by reordering paragraphs (1) through (71), as amended by this section, and the paragraphs added by subsection (q) of this section in alphabetical order, and renumbering such paragraphs as so reordered.

**SEC. 103. TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENTS.**

The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating the item relating to section 172 as section 175;

(2) by inserting after the item relating to section 171, the following:

“Sec. 172. Reentry employment opportunities.

“Sec. 173. Youth apprenticeship readiness grant program.

“Sec. 174. Strengthening community colleges workforce development grants program.”; and

(3) by striking the item relating to section 190 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 190. Make America Skilled Again grants.”.

**Subtitle B—System Alignment**

**CHAPTER 1—STATE PROVISIONS**

**SEC. 111. STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD.**

Section 101(d)(3)(B) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3112(d)(3)(B)) is amended by striking “low-skilled adults” and inserting “adults with foundational skill needs”.

1 **SEC. 112. UNIFIED STATE PLAN.**

2 Section 102 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
3 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3112) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (b)—

5 (A) in paragraph (1)—

6 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs  
7 (C) through (E) as subparagraphs (D)  
8 through (F), respectively;

9 (ii) by inserting the following after  
10 subparagraph (B):

11 “(C) a description of—

12 “(i) how the State will use real-time  
13 labor market information to continually as-  
14 sess the economic conditions and workforce  
15 trends described in subparagraphs (A) and  
16 (B); and

17 “(ii) how the State will communicate  
18 changes in such conditions or trends to the  
19 workforce system in the State;”;

20 (iii) in subparagraph (D), as so reded-  
21 ignated, by inserting “the extent to which  
22 such activities are evidence-based,” after  
23 “of such activities,”;

24 (iv) in subparagraph (E), as so reded-  
25 ignated—

1 (I) by striking “and for meeting  
2 the skilled workforce needs of employ-  
3 ers” and inserting “and for preparing  
4 workers to meet the skilled workforce  
5 needs of employers and to enter and  
6 remain in unsubsidized employment”;  
7 and

8 (II) by striking “and” at the end;

9 (v) in subparagraph (F), as so redes-  
10 ignated, by striking the period at the end  
11 and inserting a semicolon; and

12 (vi) by adding at the end the fol-  
13 lowing:

14 “(G) a description of activities the State is  
15 conducting to expand economic opportunity for  
16 individuals and reduce barriers to labor market  
17 entry by—

18 “(i) developing, in cooperation with  
19 employers, education and training pro-  
20 viders, and other stakeholders, statewide  
21 skills-based initiatives that promote the use  
22 of demonstrated skills and competencies as  
23 an alternative to the exclusive use of de-  
24 gree attainment as a requirement for em-  
25 ployment or advancement in a career; and

1 “(ii) evaluating the existing occupa-  
2 tional licensing policies in the State and  
3 identifying potential changes to recommend  
4 to the appropriate State entity to—

5 “(I) remove or streamline licens-  
6 ing requirements, as appropriate; and

7 “(II) improve the reciprocity of  
8 licensing, including through partici-  
9 pating in interstate licensing com-  
10 pacts;

11 “(H) an analysis of the out-of-school youth  
12 population in the State, including the estimated  
13 number of out-of-school youth and any gaps in  
14 services provided to such population by other  
15 existing workforce development activities, as  
16 identified under subparagraph (D);

17 “(I) a description of the availability of ap-  
18 prenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs  
19 in the State and the providers of such pro-  
20 grams, including any that serve youth; and

21 “(J) a description of any strategies the  
22 State will use to prioritize the funding of evi-  
23 dence-based programs through the funds avail-  
24 able for statewide workforce development activi-  
25 ties described in section 128(a).”; and

1 (B) in paragraph (2)—

2 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
3 “including a description” and inserting  
4 “which may include a description”;

5 (ii) in subparagraph (C)(viii), by  
6 striking “necessary for effective State op-  
7 erating systems and policies” and inserting  
8 “useful to States to be included in the  
9 State plan, on an optional basis”;

10 (iii) in subparagraph (D)(i)—

11 (I) in subclause (II), by striking  
12 “any”; and

13 (II) in subclause (IV), by striking  
14 “section 121(h)(2)(E)” and inserting  
15 “section 121(h)(1)(E)”; and

16 (iv) in subparagraph (E)—

17 (I) in clause (iv), by striking  
18 “116(i)” and inserting “116(j)”; and

19 (II) in clause (x), by striking  
20 “necessary for the administration of  
21 the core programs” and inserting  
22 “useful to States to be included in the  
23 State plan, on an optional basis”; and

24 (2) in subsection (c)(3)—



(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “shall” the second place it appears and inserting “may”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “required”; and

(ii) by inserting “, except that communicating changes in economic conditions and workforce trends to the workforce system in the State as described in subsection (b)(1)(C) shall not be considered modifications subject to approval under this paragraph” before the period at the end.

## **CHAPTER 2—LOCAL PROVISIONS**

### **SEC. 115. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS.**

(a) REGIONS.—Section 106(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3121(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) REVIEW.—Before the second full program year after the date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026, in order for a State to receive an allotment under section 127(b) or 132(b) and as part of the process for developing the State plan, a State shall—

“(A) review each region in the State identified under this subsection (as such subsection

was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026); and

“(B) after consultation with the local boards and chief elected officials in the local areas and consistent with the considerations described in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

“(i) revise such region and any other region impacted by such revision; or

“(ii) make a determination to maintain such region with no revision.”.

(b) LOCAL AREAS.—Section 106(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3121(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “subsection (d), and consistent with paragraphs (2) and (3),” and inserting “subsection (d)”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “(except for those local areas described in paragraphs (2) and (3))”; and

(2) by striking paragraphs (2) through (7), and inserting the following:

“(2) CONTINUATION PERIOD.—Except as provided in paragraph (5) of this subsection and sub-

1 section (d), in order to receive an allotment under  
2 section 127(b) or 132(b), the Governor shall main-  
3 tain the designations of local areas in the State  
4 under this subsection (as in effect on the day before  
5 the date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce  
6 for America Act of 2026) until the end of the third  
7 full program year after the date of enactment of the  
8 A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026.

9 “(3) INITIAL ALIGNMENT REVIEW.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Prior to the third full  
11 program year after the date of enactment of the  
12 A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026,  
13 the Governor shall—

14 “(i) review the designations of local  
15 areas in the State (as in effect on the day  
16 before the date of enactment of the A  
17 Stronger Workforce for America Act of  
18 2026); and

19 “(ii)(I) based on the considerations  
20 described in paragraph (1)(B), issue pro-  
21 posed redesignations of local areas in the  
22 State through the process described in  
23 paragraph (1)(A), which shall—

24 “(aa) include an explanation of  
25 the strategic goals and objectives that

1 the State intends to achieve through  
2 such redesignations; and

3 “(bb) be subject to the approval  
4 of the chief elected officials of the  
5 local areas in the State in accordance  
6 with the process described in subpara-  
7 graph (C); or

8 “(II) with respect to a State described  
9 in subsection (d)(2)(B), if the Governor  
10 determines that such State should be des-  
11 ignated as a single State local area, con-  
12 duct a process in accordance with the re-  
13 quirements of subsection (d)(2).

14 “(B) DESIGNATION OF LOCAL AREAS.—A  
15 redesignation of local areas in a State that is  
16 approved by a majority of the chief elected offi-  
17 cials of the local areas in the State through the  
18 process described in subparagraph (C) shall  
19 take effect on the first day of the 4th full pro-  
20 gram year after the date of enactment of the A  
21 Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026.

22 “(C) PROCESS TO REACH MAJORITY AP-  
23 PROVAL.—To approve a designation of local  
24 areas in the State, the chief elected officials of

1 the local areas in the State shall comply with  
2 the following:

3 “(i) INITIAL VOTE.—Not later than  
4 60 days after the Governor issues proposed  
5 redesignations under subparagraph (A),  
6 the chief elected official of each local area  
7 shall review the proposed redesignations  
8 and submit a vote to the Governor either  
9 approving or rejecting the proposed red-  
10 ignations.

11 “(ii) RESULTS OF INITIAL VOTE.—If  
12 a majority of the chief elected officials of  
13 the local areas in the State vote under  
14 clause (i)—

15 “(I) to approve such proposed re-  
16 designations, such redesignations shall  
17 take effect in accordance with sub-  
18 paragraph (B); or

19 “(II) to disapprove such proposed  
20 redesignations, the chief elected offi-  
21 cials of the local areas in the State  
22 shall comply with the requirements of  
23 clause (iii).

24 “(iii) ALTERNATE REDESIGNA-  
25 TIONS.—In the case of the disapproval de-

scribed in clause (ii)(II), not later than  
 120 days after the Governor issues pro-  
 posed redesignations under subparagraph  
 (A), the chief elected officials of the local  
 areas in the State shall—

“(I) select 2 alternate redesigna-  
 tions of local areas—

“(aa) one of which aligns  
 with the regional economic devel-  
 opment areas in the State; and

“(bb) one of which aligns  
 with the regions described in sub-  
 paragraph (A) or (B) of sub-  
 section (a)(2); and

“(II) conduct a vote to approve,  
 by majority vote, 1 of the 2 alternate  
 redesignations described in subclause  
 (I).

“(iv) EFFECTIVE DATE OF ALTER-  
 NATE DESIGNATIONS.—The alternate re-  
 designations approved pursuant to clause  
 (iii)(II) shall take effect in accordance with  
 subparagraph (B).

“(4) SUBSEQUENT ALIGNMENT REVIEWS.—On  
 the date that is the first day of the 12th full pro-

1       gram year after the date of enactment of the A  
2       Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026, and  
3       every 8 years thereafter, the Governor shall—

4               “(A) review the designation of local areas;

5               and

6               “(B) carry out the requirements of para-  
7       graph (3)(A)(ii), except that any redesignation  
8       of local areas in a State that is approved by a  
9       majority of the chief elected officials of the local  
10      areas in the State through the process de-  
11      scribed in paragraph (3)(C) shall take effect on  
12      the first day of the next full program year after  
13      the Governor’s review pursuant to this para-  
14      graph.

15              “(5) INTERIM REVISIONS.—

16              “(A) APPROVAL OF CERTAIN REDESIGNA-  
17      TION REQUESTS.—

18              “(i) IN GENERAL.—At any time, and  
19      notwithstanding the requirements of para-  
20      graphs (2), (3), and (4), the Governor,  
21      upon receipt of a request for a redesigna-  
22      tion of a local area described in clause (ii),  
23      may approve such request.

1                   “(ii) REQUESTS.—The following re-  
2                   quests may be approved pursuant to clause  
3                   (i) upon request:

4                   “(I) A request from multiple  
5                   local areas to be redesignated as a  
6                   single local area.

7                   “(II) A request from multiple  
8                   local areas for a revision to the des-  
9                   ignations of such local areas, which  
10                  would not impact the designations of  
11                  local areas that have not made such  
12                  request.

13                  “(III) A request for designation  
14                  as a local area from an area described  
15                  in section 107(c)(1)(C).

16                  “(B) OTHER REDESIGNATIONS.—Other  
17                  than the redesignations described in subpara-  
18                  graph (A), the Governor may only redesignate  
19                  a local area outside of the process described in  
20                  paragraphs (3) and (4), if the local area that  
21                  will be subject to such redesignation has not—

22                   “(i) performed successfully;

23                   “(ii) sustained fiscal integrity; or

24                   “(iii) in the case of a local area in any  
25                  planning region described in subparagraph



1 (B) or (C) of subsection (a)(2), met the re-  
2 quirements described in subsection (c)(1).

3 “(C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any redesigna-  
4 tion of a local area approved by the Governor  
5 under subparagraph (A) or (B) shall take effect  
6 on the first date of the first full program year  
7 after such date of approval.

8 “(6) APPEALS.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The chief elected offi-  
10 cial of a local area that is subject to a redesign-  
11 nation of such local area under paragraph (3),  
12 (4), or (5) may submit an appeal to maintain  
13 its existing designation to the State board  
14 under an appeal process established in the  
15 State plan as specified in section  
16 102(b)(2)(D)(i)(III).

17 “(B) STATE BOARD REQUIREMENTS.—The  
18 State board shall grant an appeal to maintain  
19 an existing designation of a local area described  
20 in subparagraph (A) only if the local board of  
21 the local area can demonstrate that the process  
22 for redesignation of such local area under para-  
23 graph (3), (4), or (5), as applicable, has not  
24 been followed.

1           “(C) SECRETARIAL REQUIREMENTS.—If a  
2           request to maintain an existing designation as  
3           a local area is not granted as a result of such  
4           appeal, the Secretary, after receiving a request  
5           for review from the local board of such local  
6           area and determining that the local board was  
7           not accorded procedural rights under the ap-  
8           peals process referred to in subparagraph (A),  
9           shall—

10                 “(i) review the process for the redesign-  
11                 nation of the local area under paragraph  
12                 (3), (4), or (5), as applicable; and

13                 “(ii) upon determining that the appli-  
14                 cable process has not been followed, re-  
15                 quire that the local area’s existing designa-  
16                 tion be maintained.

17           “(7) REDESIGNATION INCENTIVE.—The State  
18           may provide funding from funds made available  
19           under sections 128(a)(1) and 133(a)(1) to provide  
20           payments to incentivize—

21                 “(A) groups of local areas to request to be  
22                 redesignated as a single local area under para-  
23                 graph (5)(A); or

1           “(B) multiple local boards in a planning  
2           region to develop an agreement to operate as a  
3           regional consortium under subsection (c)(3).”.

4           (c) REGIONAL COORDINATION.—Section 106(c) of  
5 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
6 3121(c)) is amended—

7           (1) in paragraph (1)—

8                 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (F)  
9                 through (H) as subparagraphs (G) through (I),  
10                respectively; and

11               (B) by inserting the following after sub-  
12               paragraph (E):

13                 “(F) the establishment of cost arrange-  
14               ments for services described in subsections (c)  
15               and (d) of section 134, including the pooling of  
16               funds for such services, as appropriate, for the  
17               region;”;

18               (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, including  
19               to assist with establishing administrative costs ar-  
20               rangements or cost arrangements for services under  
21               subparagraphs (F) and (G) of such paragraph”  
22               after “delivery efforts”;

23               (3) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-  
24               graph (4); and

1           (4) by inserting after paragraph (2), as so  
2 amended, the following:

3           “(3) REGIONAL CONSORTIUMS.—

4           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The local boards and  
5 chief elected officials of any local area in any  
6 planning region described in subparagraph (B)  
7 or (C) of subsection (a)(2) may develop an  
8 agreement to receive funding under section  
9 128(b) and section 133(b) as a single consor-  
10 tium for the planning region.

11           “(B) CONSORTIUM AGREEMENTS.—If the  
12 local boards and chief elected officials develop  
13 such an agreement—

14           “(i) one of the chief elected officials in  
15 the planning region shall designate the fis-  
16 cal agent for the consortium;

17           “(ii) the local boards shall develop a  
18 memorandum of understanding to jointly  
19 administer the activities for the consor-  
20 tium; and

21           “(iii) the required activities for local  
22 areas under this Act (including the re-  
23 quired functions of the local boards de-  
24 scribed in section 107(d)) shall apply to  
25 such a consortium as a whole and may not

1                   be applied separately or differently to the  
2                   local areas or local boards within such con-  
3                   sortium.”.

4           (d) SINGLE STATE LOCAL AREAS.—Section 106(d)  
5 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
6 U.S.C. 3121(d)) is amended—

7                   (1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-  
8                   graph (3); and

9                   (2) by inserting after paragraph (1), the fol-  
10                  lowing:

11                   “(2) NEW DESIGNATION.—

12                           “(A) PROCESS.—If, upon a review de-  
13                           scribed in paragraph (3)(A) or (4)(B) of sub-  
14                           section (b) of a State described in subparagraph  
15                           (B) of this paragraph, the Governor of such  
16                           State determines, after consultation with the  
17                           State board, that such State should be des-  
18                           ignated as a single State local area—

19                                   “(i) the Governor shall propose to the  
20                                   legislature of the State to designate such  
21                                   State as a single State local area;

22                                   “(ii) in a case in which the majority  
23                                   of the legislature of the State consents to  
24                                   the Governor’s proposed designation—

1                   “(I) such designation shall take  
2                   effect in accordance with subpara-  
3                   graph (C); and

4                   “(II) the Governor shall identify  
5                   the State as a local area in the State  
6                   plan; and

7                   “(iii) in a case in which in which the  
8                   majority of the legislature of the State  
9                   does not so consent to the Governor’s pro-  
10                  posed designation, the designations of the  
11                  local areas in the State shall be maintained  
12                  and shall be subject to the requirements of  
13                  subsection (b)(4).

14                  “(B) STATE DESCRIBED.—A State de-  
15                  scribed in this subparagraph is a State that—

16                   “(i) has not been designated as a sin-  
17                   gle State local area under paragraph (1);  
18                   and

19                   “(ii)(I) has a population of less than  
20                   5,100,000, as determined by the last de-  
21                   cennial census preceding such designation;  
22                   or

23                   “(II) contains 5 or fewer local areas.

24                   “(C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Notwithstanding  
25                  subsection (b)(2), a designation described in

paragraph (A) shall take effect on the later of—

“(i) the first day of the third full program year after the date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026; or

“(ii) the first day of the first full program year following the date on which the Governor so designates the State as a single State local area.

“(D) REESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL AREAS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—At the end of the 5-year period beginning on the date on which a State is designated as a single State local area under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall notify the Governor of such State if, during such 5-year period, the average of the overall State program scores (as referred to in section 116(f)(2)) across the adult and dislocated worker programs and youth programs authorized under chapters 2 and 3 of subtitle B are lower than the average of the State overall program scores across such programs dur-

1 ing the 5-year period for such period end-  
2 ing on the date prior the date on which  
3 such State was so designated.

4 “(ii) DETERMINATION AFTER NO-  
5 TICE.—

6 “(I) IN GENERAL.—If, after re-  
7 ceiving the notice described in clause  
8 (i) with respect to a State, the Gov-  
9 ernor determines—

10 “(aa) that the designation of  
11 the State as a single State local  
12 area should be maintained, the  
13 Governor shall comply with sub-  
14 clause (II) or (III), as appro-  
15 priate; or

16 “(bb) that such designation  
17 should not be so maintained, the  
18 Governor shall reestablish the  
19 local areas that comprised the  
20 State prior to the designation of  
21 the State as a single State local  
22 area under subparagraph (A),  
23 and such reestablishment shall  
24 take effect on the first day of the



1 first full program year after the  
2 Governor receives such notice.

3 “(II) REQUIREMENTS FOR MAIN-  
4 TAINING DESIGNATION.—A designa-  
5 tion described in subclause (I)(aa)  
6 with respect to a State may only be so  
7 maintained if the Governor—

8 “(aa) not later than 180  
9 days after the date on which  
10 Governor receives the notice de-  
11 scribed in clause (i), issues a  
12 public notice of the determination  
13 by the Governor that the designa-  
14 tion of such State as a single  
15 State local area should be main-  
16 tained; and

17 “(bb) not later than 1 year  
18 after the date on which the Gov-  
19 ernor issues such public notice,  
20 the Governor receives the consent  
21 of a majority of the legislature of  
22 the State to so maintain the des-  
23 ignation.

24 “(III) FAILURE TO MEET RE-  
25 QUIREMENTS.—If the Governor fails

1 to comply with each of the require-  
2 ments of subclause (II) with respect  
3 to a State—

4 “(aa) a designation de-  
5 scribed in subclause (I)(aa) for  
6 such State may not be so main-  
7 tained; and

8 “(bb) the Governor shall re-  
9 establish the local areas that  
10 comprised the State prior to the  
11 designation of the State as a sin-  
12 gle State local area under sub-  
13 paragraph (A), and such reestab-  
14 lishment shall take effect on the  
15 first full program year after the  
16 date that is 1 year after the date  
17 on which the Governor issues the  
18 public notice described in sub-  
19 clause (II)(aa) with respect to  
20 the State.”.

21 (e) DEFINITION OF PERFORMED SUCCESSFULLY.—

22 Section 106(e)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
23 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3121(e)) is amended to read as fol-  
24 lows:

1           “(1) PERFORMED SUCCESSFULLY.—The term  
 2           ‘performed successfully’, used with respect to a local  
 3           area, means the local area is not subject to correc-  
 4           tive action as described in section 116(g)(2) on the  
 5           local performance accountability measures for the  
 6           most recent year for which data are available pre-  
 7           ceding the determination of performance under this  
 8           paragraph.”.

9   **SEC. 116. LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS.**

10          (a) MEMBERSHIP.—Section 107(b) of the Workforce  
 11          Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3122(b)) is  
 12          amended—

13               (1) in paragraph (2)—

14                       (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “20”  
 15                       and inserting “30”; and

16                       (B) in subparagraph (C)—

17                               (i) in clause (i), by inserting after  
 18                               “title II” the following: “(such as correc-  
 19                               tions education programs under such  
 20                               title)”;

21                               (ii) in clause (ii), by inserting after  
 22                               “community colleges” the following: “and,  
 23                               as applicable, other institutions of higher  
 24                               education”; and

1 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 “(iv) may include faculty and staff  
4 members working directly with students in  
5 providing workforce investment activities  
6 through education or training programs  
7 that support an industry cluster.”; and

8 (2) in paragraph (4)(A)—

9 (A) in clause (ii), by striking “include”  
10 and all that follows through the period at the  
11 end and inserting the following: “include—

12 “(I) representatives from commu-  
13 nity-based organizations and other  
14 representatives with professional ex-  
15 pertise in youth workforce develop-  
16 ment programs and with a dem-  
17 onstrated record of success in serving  
18 eligible youth;

19 “(II) out-of-school youth, includ-  
20 ing youth who are individuals with  
21 disabilities;

22 “(III) at least 1 representative of  
23 a public or nonprofit agency that  
24 serves youth, including juvenile justice  
25 and child welfare agencies, and at

1 least 1 representative of a local public  
2 housing authority;

3 “(IV) for a local area in which a  
4 Job Corps campus (as such term is  
5 defined in section 142) is located, at  
6 least 1 representative of that campus;  
7 and

8 “(V) for a local area in which a  
9 YouthBuild program (as such term is  
10 defined in section 171(b)) is carried  
11 out, at least 1 representative of such  
12 program.”; and

13 (B) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(iv) A standing committee to provide  
15 information and to assist with planning,  
16 operational, and other issues relating to  
17 the engagement of representatives of the  
18 workforce in the local area, which—

19 “(I) shall include at least 1 rep-  
20 resentative of local labor organizations  
21 or joint labor-management organiza-  
22 tions, including at least 1 representa-  
23 tive of either of such organizations  
24 with special interest or expertise in  
25 youth workforce readiness or appren-

1 ticeship and pre-apprenticeship pro-  
2 grams that serve youth; and

3 “(II) may include, in a local area  
4 with a significant number of dis-  
5 located workers (as determined by the  
6 local board), at least 1 representative  
7 with special interest or expertise in  
8 providing supports for finding edu-  
9 cation, training, and employment op-  
10 portunities for dislocated workers.

11 “(v) A standing committee to provide  
12 information and to assist with planning,  
13 operational, and other issues relating to  
14 the engagement of educational entities in  
15 the local area, which shall include, at a  
16 minimum—

17 “(I) at least 1 representative of a  
18 local educational agency that serves  
19 students residing in such local area;

20 “(II) at least 1 representative of  
21 institutions of higher education in the  
22 local area, including community col-  
23 leges in the local area; and

24 “(III) at least 1 representative of  
25 entities administering education and

1 training activities, including career  
2 and technical education programs or  
3 after- school and summer learning  
4 programs, in the local area.

5 “(vi) A standing committee to provide  
6 information and to assist with planning,  
7 operational, and other issues relating to  
8 the provision of services to offenders, in-  
9 cluding pre-release education, training, and  
10 career services for such individuals, which  
11 shall include—

12 “(I) at least 1 offender; and

13 “(II) representatives from com-  
14 munity-based organizations with spe-  
15 cial interest or expertise in reentry  
16 services for incarcerated individuals  
17 and ex-offenders, including at least 1  
18 representative of an organization that  
19 is a recipient of a grant under section  
20 172.”.

21 (b) FUNCTIONS OF LOCAL BOARD.—Section 107(d)  
22 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
23 U.S.C. 3122(d)) is amended—

24 (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “section  
25 108(b)(1)(D)” and inserting “108(b)(1)(E)”;

1           (2) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, including,  
2           to the extent practicable, local representatives of the  
3           core programs and the programs described in section  
4           121(b)(1)(B),” after “system stakeholders”;

5           (3) in paragraph (4)—

6                 (A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting  
7                 “and industry and sector partnerships” after  
8                 “intermediaries”;

9                 (B) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “,  
10                local educational agencies, community colleges  
11                and other institutions of higher education”  
12                after “economic development entities”; and

13            (C) in subparagraph (D)—

14                         (i) by striking “proven” and inserting  
15                         “evidence-based”;

16                         (ii) by inserting “individual” after  
17                         “needs of”; and

18                         (iii) by inserting “from a variety of in-  
19                         dustries and occupations” after “and em-  
20                         ployers”;

21           (4) in paragraph (5), by inserting “and which,  
22           to the extent practicable, shall be aligned with career  
23           and technical education programs of study (as de-  
24           fined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and  
25           Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C.



1       2302(3)) offered within the local area” before the  
2       period at the end;

3               (5) in paragraph (6)—

4                       (A) in the heading, by striking “PROV-  
5       EN” and inserting “EVIDENCE-BASED”;

6                       (B) in subparagraph (A)—

7                               (i) by striking “proven” and inserting  
8       “evidence-based”;

9                               (ii) by inserting “and covered veterans  
10       (as defined in section 4212(a)(3)(A) of  
11       title 38, United States Code)” after “em-  
12       ployment”; and

13                              (iii) by inserting “, and give priority  
14       to covered persons in accordance with sec-  
15       tion 4215 of title 38, United States Code”  
16       after “delivery system”; and

17                       (C) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
18       “proven” and inserting “evidence-based”;

19               (6) in paragraph (10)(C)—

20                       (A) by inserting “, on the State eligible  
21       training provider list,” after “identify”; and

22                       (B) by inserting “that operate in or are ac-  
23       cessible to individuals” after “training serv-  
24       ices”; and

1           (7) in paragraph (12)(A), by striking “activi-  
 2           ties” and inserting “funds allocated to the local area  
 3           under section 128(b) and section 133(b) for the  
 4           youth workforce development activities described in  
 5           section 129 and local employment and training ac-  
 6           tivities described in section 134(b), and the activi-  
 7           ties”.

8           (c) LIMITATIONS.—Section 107(g)(1)(D) of the  
 9           Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
 10          3122(g)(1)(D)) is amended by striking “needed or” and  
 11          inserting the following: “, that the local board is failing  
 12          to meet the requirements for eligible providers of training  
 13          services under section 122, or”.

14       **SEC. 117. LOCAL PLAN.**

15          Section 108 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 16          tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3123) is amended—

17               (1) in subsection (a)—

18                       (A) by striking “section 102(b)(1)(E)” and  
 19                       inserting “section 102(b)(1)(F)”; and

20                       (B) by striking “shall prepare” and insert-  
 21                       ing “may prepare”; and

22               (2) in subsection (b)—

23                       (A) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs  
2 (D), (E), and (F) as subparagraphs (E),  
3 (F), and (H), respectively;

4 (ii) by inserting the following after  
5 subparagraph (C):

6 “(D) a description of—

7 “(i) how the local board will use real-  
8 time labor market information to contin-  
9 ually assess the economic conditions and  
10 workforce trends described in subpara-  
11 graphs (A), (B), and (C); and

12 “(ii) how changes in such conditions  
13 or trends will be communicated to job-  
14 seekers, education and training providers,  
15 and employers in the local area;”;

16 (iii) in subparagraph (F), as so redes-  
17 igned, by striking “and” at the end; and

18 (iv) by inserting after subparagraph  
19 (F), as so redesignated, the following:

20 “(G) an analysis, which may be conducted  
21 in coordination with the State, of the out-of-  
22 school youth population in the local area includ-  
23 ing the estimated number of such youth and  
24 any gaps in services for such population from  
25 other existing workforce development activities,

1 as identified under paragraph (9), and a de-  
2 scription of how the local board will address any  
3 such gaps in services identified in such analysis;  
4 and”;

5 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “section  
6 102(b)(1)(E)” and inserting “section  
7 102(b)(1)(F);

8 (C) in paragraph (4)—

9 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

10 (I) by striking “and” at the end  
11 of clause (iii); and

12 (II) by adding at the end the fol-  
13 lowing:

14 “(v) carry out any statewide skills-  
15 based initiatives identified in the State  
16 plan that promote the use of demonstrated  
17 skills and competencies as an alternative to  
18 the exclusive use of degree attainment as a  
19 requirement for employment or advance-  
20 ment in a career; and”;

21 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
22 “customized training” and inserting “em-  
23 ployer-directed skills development”;

1 (D) in paragraph (6)(B), by inserting “,  
2 such as the use of affiliated sites” after  
3 “means”;

4 (E) in paragraph (9)—

5 (i) by striking “including activities”  
6 and inserting the following: “including—

7 “(A) the availability of community based  
8 organizations that serve youth primarily during  
9 nonschool time hours to carry out activities  
10 under section 129;

11 “(B) activities”;

12 (ii) in subparagraph (B), as so redes-  
13 ignated—

14 (I) by inserting “or evidence-  
15 based” after “successful”; and

16 (II) by adding “and” at the end;

17 and

18 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
19 lowing:

20 “(C) the availability of preapprenticeship  
21 and apprenticeship programs serving youth;”;

22 (F) in paragraph (12), by inserting “in-  
23 cluding as described in section 134(c)(2),” after  
24 “system,”; and

(G) in paragraph (13), by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “, and encourage eligible youth who are enrolled in adult education and literacy activities under title II to co-enroll in youth workforce investment activities carried out by the local board, as appropriate”.

## **CHAPTER 3—PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY**

### **SEC. 119. PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.**

(a) STATE PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.—

(1) PRIMARY INDICATORS OF PERFORMANCE.—

Section 116(b)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(b)(2)(A)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) in subclause (II)—

(I) by striking “fourth” and inserting “second”; and

(II) by inserting “and remain in unsubsidized employment during the fourth quarter after exit from the program” after “the program”;

1 (ii) in subclause (IV), by striking  
2 “secondary school diploma” and inserting  
3 “regular high school diploma”;

4 (iii) in subclause (V)—

5 (I) by striking “, during a pro-  
6 gram year,”;

7 (II) by striking “are in” and in-  
8 serting “enter into”; and

9 (III) by inserting before the  
10 semicolon at the end the following:  
11 “within 12 months after the quarter  
12 in which the participant enters into  
13 the education and training program”;  
14 and

15 (iv) by amending subclause (VI) to  
16 read as follows:

17 “(VI) of the program partici-  
18 pants who received training services  
19 during a program year, the percentage  
20 of such program participants who par-  
21 ticipated in on-the-job training, em-  
22 ployer-directed skills development, in-  
23 cumbent worker training, or an ap-  
24 prenticeship.”;

25 (B) in clause (ii)—

1 (i) in subclause (II)—

2 (I) by striking “fourth” and in-  
3 serting “second”;

4 (II) by inserting “, and who re-  
5 main either in such activities or un-  
6 subsidized employment during the  
7 fourth quarter after exit from the pro-  
8 gram” after “the program”; and

9 (III) by striking “and” at the  
10 end;

11 (ii) in subclause (III)—

12 (I) by striking “(VI)” and insert-  
13 ing “(V)”; and

14 (II) by striking the period at the  
15 end and inserting “; and”; and

16 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
17 lowing:

18 “(IV) of the program partici-  
19 pants who exited the program during  
20 a program year, the percentage of  
21 such program participants who com-  
22 pleted, prior to such exit, a work ex-  
23 perience as described in section  
24 129(c)(2)(C).”; and



(C) in clause (iii), by striking “secondary school diploma” and inserting “regular high school diploma”; and

(D) by striking clause (iv).

(2) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—Section 116(b)(3)(A) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(b)(3)(A)) is amended—

(A) by amending clause (iii) to read as follows:

“(iii) IDENTIFICATION IN STATE PLAN.—

“(I) SECRETARIES.—For each State submitting a State plan, the Secretary of Labor shall, not later than January 15 of the year in which such State plan is submitted, for the first 2 program years covered by the State plan, and not later than January 15 of the second program year covered by the State plan, for the third and fourth program years covered by the State plan—

“(aa) propose to the State expected levels of performance,

1 for each of the corresponding pri-  
2 mary indicators of performance  
3 for each of the programs de-  
4 scribed in clause (ii) for such  
5 State, which shall—

6 “(AA) be consistent  
7 with the factors listed in  
8 clause (v); and

9 “(BB) be proposed in a  
10 manner that ensures suffi-  
11 cient time is provided for  
12 the State to evaluate and re-  
13 spond to such proposals; and

14 “(bb) publish, on a public  
15 website of the Department of  
16 Labor, the statistical model de-  
17 veloped under clause (viii) and  
18 the methodology used to develop  
19 each such expected level of per-  
20 formance.

21 “(II) STATES.—Each State  
22 shall—

23 “(aa) evaluate each of the  
24 expected levels of performance

1 proposed under subclause (I)  
2 with respect to such State;

3 “(bb) based on such evalua-  
4 tion of each such expected level  
5 of performance—

6 “(AA) accept the ex-  
7 pected level of performance  
8 as so proposed; or

9 “(BB) provide a coun-  
10 terproposal for such ex-  
11 pected level of performance,  
12 including an analysis of how  
13 the counterproposal address-  
14 es factors or circumstances  
15 unique to the State that  
16 may not have been ac-  
17 counted for in the expected  
18 level of performance; and

19 “(cc) include in the State  
20 plan, with respect to each of the  
21 corresponding primary indicators  
22 of performance for each of the  
23 programs described in clause (ii)  
24 for such State—

1 “(AA) the expected  
2 level of performance pro-  
3 posed under subclause (I);

4 “(BB) the counter-  
5 proposal for such proposed  
6 level, if any; and

7 “(CC) the level of per-  
8 formance that is agreed to  
9 under clause (iv).”;

10 (B) in clause (iv)—

11 (i) in subclause (I)—

12 (I) in the second sentence, by  
13 striking “the levels identified in the  
14 State plan under clause (iii) and the  
15 factors described in clause (v)” and  
16 inserting “the factors described in  
17 clause (v) and any counterproposal,  
18 and the analysis provided by the State  
19 with such counterproposal, described  
20 in clause (iii)(II)(bb)(BB)”;

21 (II) in the third sentence, by  
22 striking “incorporated into the State  
23 plan” and inserting “included in the  
24 State plan, as described in clause  
25 (iii)(II)(cc),”;

1 (ii) in subclause (II)—

2 (I) in the second sentence, by  
3 striking “the factors described in  
4 clause (v)” and inserting “the factors  
5 described in clause (v) and any coun-  
6 terproposal, and the analysis provided  
7 by the State with such counter-  
8 proposal, described in clause  
9 (iii)(II)(bb)(BB)’”; and

10 (II) in the third sentence, by  
11 striking “incorporated into the State  
12 plan” and inserting “included in the  
13 State plan, as described in clause  
14 (iii)(II)(cc),”; and

15 (C) in clause (v)(II)—

16 (i) in the matter preceding item (aa),  
17 by striking “based on” and inserting  
18 “based on each consideration that is found  
19 to be predictive of performance on an indi-  
20 cator for a program and consists of”; and

21 (ii) in item (bb)—

22 (I) by striking “including” and  
23 inserting “such as”; and

24 (II) by striking “and welfare de-  
25 pendency” and inserting “school sta-

1                   tus, education level, highest grade  
2                   level completed, low-income status,  
3                   and receipt of public assistance”.

4           (b) PERFORMANCE REPORTS.—Section 116(d) of the  
5 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
6 3141(d)) is amended—

7           (1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-  
8       lows:

9           “(1) IN GENERAL.—

10           “(A) TEMPLATES FOR PERFORMANCE RE-  
11       PORTS.—Not later than 24 months after the  
12       date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce  
13       for America Act of 2026, the Secretary of  
14       Labor shall develop, or review and modify, as  
15       appropriate, to comply with the requirements of  
16       this subsection, the templates for performance  
17       reports that shall be used by States (including  
18       by States on behalf of eligible providers of  
19       training services under section 122) and local  
20       areas to produce a report on outcomes achieved  
21       by the core programs. In developing, or review-  
22       ing and modifying, such templates, the Sec-  
23       retary of Labor shall take into account the need  
24       to maximize the value of the templates for  
25       workers, jobseekers, employers, local elected of-

1 officials, State officials, Federal policymakers,  
2 and other key stakeholders.

3 “(B) STANDARDIZED REPORTING.—In de-  
4 veloping, or reviewing and modifying, the tem-  
5 plates under subparagraph (A), the Secretary of  
6 Labor shall ensure that States and local areas,  
7 in producing performance reports for core pro-  
8 grams and eligible providers of training serv-  
9 ices, collect and report information on common  
10 data elements—

11 “(i) in a comparable and uniform for-  
12 mat; and

13 “(ii) using terms that are assigned  
14 identical meanings across all such reports.

15 “(C) ADDITIONAL REPORTING.—The Sec-  
16 retary of Labor—

17 “(i) in addition to the information on  
18 the common data elements, may require  
19 additional information with respect to any  
20 core program as necessary for effective re-  
21 porting; and

22 “(ii) shall periodically review any such  
23 requirement for additional information to  
24 ensure the requirement is necessary and

1 does not impose an undue reporting bur-  
2 den.

3 “(D) PRIVACY.—The Secretary of Labor  
4 shall ensure subparagraph (B) is carried out in  
5 a manner that protects and promotes individual  
6 privacy and data security, in accordance with  
7 applicable Federal privacy laws.

8 “(E) ACCESS TO WAGE RECORDS.—

9 “(i) ACCESS.—A State may facilitate  
10 for a local area that meets the require-  
11 ments of clause (ii), for the sole purpose of  
12 fulfilling the reporting requirements under  
13 this subsection, access to the quarterly  
14 wage records (excluding such records made  
15 available by any other State) of program  
16 participants in the local area.

17 “(ii) PRIVACY PROTECTIONS.—To re-  
18 ceive access to such quarterly wage  
19 records, the local area shall have dem-  
20 onstrated to the State the ability to com-  
21 ply, and agree to comply, with all applica-  
22 ble Federal and State requirements relat-  
23 ing to the access and use of such quarterly  
24 wage records, including requirements relat-  
25 ing to data privacy and cybersecurity.”;



1 (2) in paragraph (2)—

2 (A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “,  
3 and aggregated to compare those levels of per-  
4 formance for all individuals with barriers to em-  
5 ployment with those levels of performance for  
6 all other individuals” before the semicolon at  
7 the end;

8 (B) in subparagraphs (D) and (F), by  
9 striking “career and training services, respec-  
10 tively” and inserting “career services, training  
11 services, and supportive services, respectively”;

12 (C) by redesignating subparagraphs (J)  
13 through (L) as subparagraphs (K) through (M),  
14 respectively and inserting after subparagraph  
15 (I) the following:

16 “(J) the median earnings gain of partici-  
17 pants who received training services, calculated  
18 as the median value of the difference between—

19 “(i) participant earnings in unsub-  
20 sidized employment during the 4 quarters  
21 after program exit; and

22 “(ii) participant earnings in the 4  
23 quarters prior to entering the program;”;  
24 and

1 (D) in subparagraph (L), as so redesign-  
2 nated—

3 (i) by striking clause (ii); and

4 (ii) by striking “strategies for pro-  
5 grams” and all that follows through “the  
6 performance”, and inserting “strategies for  
7 programs, the performance”;

8 (3) in paragraph (3)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “(L)”  
10 and inserting “(M)”;

11 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
12 “and” at the end;

13 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as  
14 subparagraph (F); and

15 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (B)  
16 the following:

17 “(C) the percentage of the local area’s allo-  
18 cation under section 133(b) that the local area  
19 spent on services paid for through an individual  
20 training account described in section  
21 134(c)(3)(F)(iii) or a training contract de-  
22 scribed in section 134(c)(3)(G)(ii);

23 “(D) the percentage of the local area’s al-  
24 location under section 133(b) that the local  
25 area spent on supportive services;

1           “(E) the percentage of the local area’s al-  
2           location under section 133(b), if any, that is  
3           spent on incumbent worker training,  
4           disaggregated by whether the amount so spent  
5           was spent on the provision of incumbent worker  
6           training through contracts or through incum-  
7           bent worker upskilling accounts described in  
8           section 134(d)(4)(E); and”;

9           (4) by amending paragraph (4) to read as fol-  
10          lows:

11           “(4) CONTENTS OF ELIGIBLE TRAINING PRO-  
12          VIDERS PERFORMANCE REPORT.—

13           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The State shall use  
14           the information submitted by the eligible pro-  
15           viders of training services under section 122  
16           and administrative records, including quarterly  
17           wage records, of the participants of the pro-  
18           grams offered by the providers to produce a  
19           performance report on the eligible providers of  
20           training services in the State, which shall in-  
21           clude, subject to paragraph (6)(C)—

22           “(i) with respect to each program of  
23           study (or the equivalent) of a provider on  
24           the list described in section 122(d)—

1 “(I) information specifying the  
2 levels of performance achieved with  
3 respect to the primary indicators of  
4 performance described in subclauses  
5 (I) through (IV) of subsection  
6 (b)(2)(A)(i) with respect to all individ-  
7 uals engaging in the program of study  
8 (or the equivalent); and

9 “(II) the total number of individ-  
10 uals exiting from the program of  
11 study (or the equivalent),  
12 disaggregated by whether such indi-  
13 viduals completed the program of  
14 study (or equivalent); and

15 “(ii) with respect to all eligible pro-  
16 viders of training services under section  
17 122—

18 “(I) the total number of partici-  
19 pants who received training services  
20 through each adult and dislocated  
21 worker program authorized under  
22 chapter 3 of subtitle B, disaggregated  
23 by the type of entity that provided the  
24 training services, during the most re-

1 cent program year and the 3 pre-  
2 ceding program years;

3 “(II) the total number of partici-  
4 pants who exited from training serv-  
5 ices, disaggregated by the type of en-  
6 tity that provided the training serv-  
7 ices, and by whether such participants  
8 completed the training services, dur-  
9 ing the most recent program year and  
10 the 3 preceding program years;

11 “(III) the average cost per par-  
12 ticipant for the participants who re-  
13 ceived training services, disaggregated  
14 by the type of entity that provided the  
15 training, during the most recent pro-  
16 gram year and the 3 preceding pro-  
17 gram years;

18 “(IV) the average of the per-pro-  
19 gram ratios of median earnings in-  
20 crease for a participant to the total  
21 cost of the provider’s program, as de-  
22 scribed in section 122(b)(5)(B)(i)(III)  
23 for the participant; and

24 “(V) the number of individuals  
25 with barriers to employment served by

1 each adult and dislocated worker pro-  
2 gram authorized under chapter 3 of  
3 subtitle B, disaggregated by each sub-  
4 population of such individuals, and by  
5 race, ethnicity, sex, and age; and

6 “(iii) to the extent practicable, with  
7 respect to each recognized postsecondary  
8 credential on the list of credentials award-  
9 ed by eligible providers in the State de-  
10 scribed in section 122(d)(2)—

11 “(I) information specifying the  
12 levels of performance achieved with  
13 respect to the primary indicators of  
14 performance described in subclauses  
15 (I) through (IV) of subsection  
16 (b)(2)(A)(i) for all participants in the  
17 State receiving such credential; and

18 “(II) information specifying the  
19 levels of performance achieved with  
20 respect to the primary indicators of  
21 performance described in subclauses  
22 (I) through (IV) of subsection  
23 (b)(2)(A)(i) for participants in the  
24 State receiving such credential who  
25 are individuals with barriers to em-

1                   ployment, disaggregated by each sub-  
2                   population of such individuals, and by  
3                   race, ethnicity, sex, and age.”; and

4                   (5) in paragraph (6)—

5                   (A) by amending subparagraph (A) to read  
6                   as follows:

7                   “(A) STATE PERFORMANCE REPORTS.—

8                   The Secretary of Labor shall annually make  
9                   available the performance reports for States  
10                  containing the information described in para-  
11                  graph (2), which shall include making such re-  
12                  ports available—

13                  “(i) digitally using transparent,  
14                  linked, open, machine readable, and inter-  
15                  operable data formats that are human  
16                  readable and machine actionable such that  
17                  the data from these reports—

18                  “(I) are easily understandable;

19                  and

20                  “(II) can be easily included in  
21                  web-based tools and services sup-  
22                  porting search, discovery, comparison,  
23                  analysis, navigation, and guidance;

24                  “(ii) in a printable format; and

1 “(iii) in multiple languages, to the ex-  
2 tent practicable.”;

3 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

4 (i) by striking “(including by elec-  
5 tronic means), in an easily understandable  
6 format,”; and

7 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-  
8 lowing: “The Secretary of Labor shall in-  
9 clude, on the website where the State per-  
10 formance reports are required under sub-  
11 paragraph (A) to be made available, a link  
12 to local area performance reports and the  
13 eligible provider of training services report  
14 for each State. Such reports shall be made  
15 available in each of the formats described  
16 in subparagraph (A).”; and

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

18 “(E) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing  
19 in this subsection shall be construed to require  
20 the retroactive collection of information, from  
21 program years prior to the effective date de-  
22 scribed in section 502(a)(1) of the A Stronger  
23 Workforce for America Act of 2026, that was  
24 not required under this subsection prior to that  
25 effective date.”.



1 (c) EVALUATION OF STATE PROGRAMS.—Section  
 2 116(e) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
 3 (29 U.S.C. 3141(e)) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (1)—

5 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “shall  
 6 conduct ongoing” and inserting “shall use data  
 7 to conduct analyses and ongoing”; and

8 (B) in the second sentence, by striking  
 9 “conduct the” and inserting “conduct such  
 10 analyses and”; and

11 (2) in paragraph (2), by adding “A State may  
 12 use various forms of analysis, such as machine  
 13 learning or other advanced analytics, to improve pro-  
 14 gram operations and outcomes and to identify areas  
 15 for further evaluation.” at the end.

16 (d) SANCTIONS FOR STATE FAILURE TO MEET  
 17 STATE PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.—  
 18 Section 116(f) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 19 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(f)) is amended to read as fol-  
 20 lows:

21 “(f) SANCTIONS FOR STATE FAILURE TO MEET  
 22 STATE PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.—

23 “(1) TARGETED SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If a State fails to  
 25 meet 80 percent of the State adjusted level of

1 performance for an indicator described in sub-  
2 section (b)(2)(A) (referred to in the regulations  
3 carrying out this section as an ‘individual indi-  
4 cator score’) for a core program for any pro-  
5 gram year, the Secretary of Labor shall provide  
6 technical assistance.

7 “(B) SANCTIONS.—

8 “(i) IN GENERAL.—If the State fails  
9 in the manner described in subclause (I) or  
10 (II) of clause (ii) with respect to the pro-  
11 gram year specified in that subclause, the  
12 percentage of each amount that could (in  
13 the absence of this subsection) be reserved  
14 by the Governor under section 128(a)(1)  
15 for the immediately succeeding program  
16 year shall be reduced by 5 percent and an  
17 amount equivalent to the amount reduced  
18 shall be returned to the Secretary of Labor  
19 until such date as the Secretary of Labor  
20 determines that the State meets the State  
21 adjusted level of performance, in the case  
22 of a failure described in clause (ii)(II), or  
23 has submitted the reports for the appro-  
24 priate program years, in the case of a fail-  
25 ure described in clause (ii)(I).

1 “(ii) FAILURES.—A State shall be  
2 subject to clause (i)—

3 “(I) if (except in the case of ex-  
4 ceptional circumstances as determined  
5 by the Secretary of Labor), such State  
6 fails to submit a report under sub-  
7 section (d) for any program year; or

8 “(II) for a failure under subpara-  
9 graph (A) that has continued for a  
10 second consecutive program year.

11 “(2) COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT AND ASSIST-  
12 ANCE.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If a State fails to  
14 meet an average of 90 percent of the State ad-  
15 justed levels of performance for a single core  
16 program across all indicators of performance  
17 (referred to in the regulations carrying out this  
18 section as an ‘overall State program score’) for  
19 any program year, or if a State fails to meet an  
20 average of 90 percent of the State adjusted lev-  
21 els of performance for a single indicator of per-  
22 formance across all core programs (referred to  
23 in the regulations carrying out this section as  
24 an ‘overall State indicator score’) for any pro-  
25 gram year, the Secretary of Labor shall provide

1 technical assistance, as described and author-  
2 ized under section 168(b), including assistance  
3 in the development of a comprehensive perform-  
4 ance improvement plan.

5 “(B) SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR FAIL-  
6 URE.—If such failure under subparagraph (A)  
7 continues for a second consecutive program  
8 year, the percentage of each amount that could  
9 (in the absence of this subsection) be reserved  
10 by the Governor under section 128(a)(1) for the  
11 immediately succeeding program year shall be  
12 reduced by 8 percent and an amount equivalent  
13 to the amount reduced shall be returned to the  
14 Secretary of Labor until such date as the Sec-  
15 retary of Labor determines that the State meets  
16 such State adjusted levels of performance.

17 “(3) LIMITATION.—The total reduction under  
18 this subsection to the percentage of each amount  
19 that could (in the absence of this subsection) be re-  
20 served by the Governor under section 128(a)(1) may  
21 not exceed 10 percent for a program year.

22 “(4) REALLOTMENT OF REDUCTIONS.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amounts available  
24 for reallocation for a program year shall be re-

1           allotted to a State (in this paragraph referred  
2           to as an ‘eligible State’) that—

3                   “(i) was not subject to a reduction of  
4                   funds under paragraph (1)(B) or para-  
5                   graph (2)(B) of this subsection for such  
6                   program year;

7                   “(ii) in the case of amounts available  
8                   under section 127(b)(1)(C), was 1 of the 5  
9                   States that achieved, in the most recent  
10                  program year, the greatest increase from  
11                  the prior year to the average of the State’s  
12                  adjusted levels of performance across all  
13                  indicators of performance for the youth  
14                  program under chapter 2 of subtitle B;

15                  “(iii) in the case of amounts available  
16                  under section 132(b)(1)(B), was 1 of the 5  
17                  States that achieved, in the most recent  
18                  program year, the greatest increase from  
19                  the prior year to the average of the State’s  
20                  adjusted levels of performance across all  
21                  indicators of performance for the adult  
22                  program under chapter 3 of subtitle B;  
23                  and

24                  “(iv) in the case of amounts available  
25                  under section 132(b)(2)(B), was 1 of the 5

1 States that achieved, in the most recent  
2 program year, the greatest increase from  
3 the prior year to the average of the State's  
4 adjusted levels of performance across all  
5 indicators of performance for the dis-  
6 located worker program under chapter 3 of  
7 subtitle B.

8 “(B) AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR REALLOT-  
9 MENT.—In this paragraph, the term ‘amounts  
10 available for reallocation for a program year’  
11 means the amounts available under section  
12 127(b)(1)(C) and paragraphs (1)(B) and (2)(B)  
13 of section 132(b) for such program year which  
14 could (in the absence of the requirements to re-  
15 turn funds of paragraph (1)(B) or paragraph  
16 (2)(B) of this subsection) have otherwise been  
17 reserved under section 128(a)(1) by a Governor  
18 of a State for such program year.

19 “(C) REALLOTMENT AMOUNTS.—In mak-  
20 ing reallocations under subparagraph (A) for a  
21 program year to eligible States, the Secretary  
22 shall allot to each eligible State—

23 “(i) in the case of amounts available  
24 under section 127(b)(1)(C), an amount  
25 based on the relative amount of the allot-

1           ment made (before the reallotments under  
2           this paragraph are made) to such eligible  
3           State under section 127(b)(1)(C) for such  
4           program year, compared to the total allot-  
5           ments made (before the reallotments under  
6           this paragraph are made) to all eligible  
7           States under section 127(b)(1)(C) for such  
8           program year;

9           “(ii) in the case of amounts available  
10          under paragraph (1)(B) of section 132(b),  
11          an amount based on the relative amount of  
12          the allotment made (before the reallot-  
13          ments under this paragraph are made) to  
14          such eligible State under paragraph (1)(B)  
15          of section 132(b) for such program year,  
16          compared to the total allotments made (be-  
17          fore the reallotments under this paragraph  
18          are made) to all eligible States under para-  
19          graph (1)(B) of section 132(b) for such  
20          program year; and

21          “(iii) in the case of amounts available  
22          under paragraph (2)(B) of section 132(b),  
23          an amount based on the relative amount of  
24          the allotment made (before the reallot-  
25          ments under this paragraph are made) to

1           such eligible State under paragraph (2)(B)  
 2           of section 132(b) for such program year,  
 3           compared to the total allotments made (be-  
 4           fore the reallocations under this paragraph  
 5           are made) to all eligible States under para-  
 6           graph (2)(B) of section 132(b) for such  
 7           program year.”.

8           (e) SANCTIONS FOR LOCAL AREA FAILURE TO MEET  
 9   LOCAL PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.—  
 10   Section 116(g) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 11   tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(g)) is amended—

12           (1) in paragraph (1)—

13                (A) by inserting “80 percent of the” before  
 14                “local performance”; and

15                (B) by striking “local performance ac-  
 16                countability measures established under sub-  
 17                section (c)” and inserting “local level of per-  
 18                formance established under subsection (c) for  
 19                an indicator of performance described in sub-  
 20                section (b)(2)(A) for a single program, an aver-  
 21                age of 90 percent of the local levels of perform-  
 22                ance across all such indicators for a single pro-  
 23                gram, or an average of 90 percent of the local  
 24                levels of performance for a single such indicator  
 25                across all programs,”; and



1 (2) in paragraph (2)—

2 (A) by amending subparagraph (A) to read  
3 as follows:

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If such failure con-  
5 tinues, the Governor shall take corrective ac-  
6 tions, which shall include—

7 “(i) in the case of such failure, as de-  
8 scribed in paragraph (1), for a second con-  
9 secutive year, on any single indicator,  
10 across indicators for a single program, or  
11 on a single indicator across programs, a 5-  
12 percent reduction in the amount that  
13 would (in the absence of this clause) be al-  
14 located to the local area for the imme-  
15 diately succeeding program year under  
16 chapter 2 or 3 of subtitle B for the pro-  
17 gram subject to the performance failure;

18 “(ii) in the case of such failure, as de-  
19 scribed in paragraph (1), for a third con-  
20 secutive year, the development of a reorga-  
21 nization plan through which the Governor  
22 shall—

23 “(I) require the appointment and  
24 certification of a new local board, con-

1                   sistent with the criteria established  
2                   under section 107(b);

3                   “(II) prohibit the use of one-stop  
4                   delivery system contractors or service  
5                   providers identified as achieving a  
6                   poor level of performance; and

7                   “(III) redesignate a local area  
8                   (which may include merging a local  
9                   area with another local area), if the  
10                  Governor determines that the likely  
11                  cause of such continued performance  
12                  failure of a local area is due to such  
13                  local area’s designation being granted  
14                  without the appropriate consideration  
15                  of parameters described under section  
16                  106(b)(1)(B); or

17                  “(iii) taking another significant action  
18                  determined appropriate by the Governor.”;

19                  (B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting  
20                  “(ii)” after “subparagraph (A)”; and

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

22                  “(D) REALLOCATION OF REDUCTIONS.—

23                  With respect to any amounts available to carry  
24                  out section 128(b), paragraph (2)(A) or (3) of  
25                  section 133(b), and section 133(b)(2)(B) to a

1 Governor for a program year which would (in  
2 the absence of subparagraph (A)(i)) have other-  
3 wise been allocated by such Governor to a local  
4 area (referred to individually in this subpara-  
5 graph as an ‘unallocated amount’) for such pro-  
6 gram year—

7 “(i) 10 percent of those 3 unallocated  
8 amounts shall be reserved by the Governor  
9 to provide technical assistance to local  
10 areas within the State that were subject to  
11 a reduction of allocation amounts pursuant  
12 to subparagraph (A)(i) for such program  
13 year; and

14 “(ii) the amounts remaining after the  
15 reservations under clause (i) shall be re-  
16 allocated by the Governor, to the local  
17 areas within the State that were not sub-  
18 ject to a reduction of allocation amounts  
19 pursuant to subparagraph (A)(i) for such  
20 program year, in a manner determined by  
21 the Governor, which may take into consid-  
22 eration the extent to which local areas  
23 serve a significant number, as determined  
24 by the Governor, of individuals with bar-  
25 riers to employment.”.

1       (f) ESTABLISHING PAY-FOR-PERFORMANCE CON-  
 2 TRACT STRATEGY INCENTIVES.—Section 116(h) of the  
 3 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
 4 3141(h)) is amended by striking “non-Federal funds” and  
 5 inserting “not more than 5 percent of the funds reserved  
 6 under section 128(a)(1)”.

7       (g) INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—  
 8 Section 116 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
 9 Act (29 U.S.C. 3141) is amended—

10           (1) by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection

11           (j); and

12           (2) by inserting after subsection (h) the fol-  
 13           lowing:

14       “(i) INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—  
 15 Beginning not later than 12 months after the date of en-  
 16 actment of the A Stronger Workforce for America Act of  
 17 2026, the Secretary of Labor shall hold meetings with  
 18 each State board and State agency that administers a core  
 19 program, and that requests such a meeting, to provide in-  
 20 formation and technical assistance concerning the per-  
 21 formance accountability measures established in accord-  
 22 ance with subsection (b), and related requirements for  
 23 States under this section.”.

24       (h) FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY IN-  
 25 FORMATION SYSTEMS.—Section 116(j) of the Workforce

1 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(j)), as  
2 so redesignated, is amended—

3 (1) in the first sentence of paragraph (2), by  
4 inserting “, and may use information provided from  
5 the National Directory of New Hires in accordance  
6 with section 453(j)(8) of the Social Security Act (42  
7 U.S.C. 653(j)(8))” after “State law”;

8 (2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-  
9 graph (4); and

10 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
11 lowing:

12 “(3) DESIGNATED ENTITY.—The Governor  
13 shall designate a State agency (or appropriate State  
14 entity) to assist in carrying out the performance re-  
15 porting requirements of this section for core pro-  
16 grams and eligible providers of training services.  
17 The designated State agency (or appropriate State  
18 entity) shall be responsible for—

19 “(A) facilitating data matches using quar-  
20 terly wage record information, including wage  
21 record information made available by other  
22 States, to measure employment and earnings  
23 outcomes;

24 “(B) notifying State agencies that admin-  
25 ister core programs and eligible providers of

1 training services of the State’s procedures for  
 2 data validation and reliability, as described in  
 3 subsection (d)(5); and

4 “(C) protection against disaggregation that  
 5 would violate applicable privacy standards, as  
 6 described in subsection (d)(6)(C).”.

7 (i) IMPLEMENTATION OF PERFORMANCE ACCOUNT-  
 8 ABILITY MEASURES.—Section 116 of the Workforce Inno-  
 9 vation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141) is amended  
 10 by adding at the end the following:

11 “(k) IMPLEMENTATION OF PERFORMANCE ACCOUNT-  
 12 ABILITY MEASURES.—Not later than 24 months after the  
 13 date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for Amer-  
 14 ica Act of 2026, the Secretary of Labor shall fully imple-  
 15 ment the requirements of this section for programs de-  
 16 scribed in subsection (b)(3)(A)(iv), including—

17 “(1) developing and disseminating the objective  
 18 statistical adjustment model framework described in  
 19 subsection (b)(3)(A)(viii) and using the model as de-  
 20 scribed in subsection (b)(3)(A)(viii) for each pro-  
 21 gram; and

22 “(2) notifying the State agencies carrying out  
 23 such programs of the performance accountability  
 24 measures established under this section, of the re-  
 25 porting and evaluation requirements for such pro-

1       grams, and of the sanctions requirements for pro-  
 2       grams that fail to meet State adjusted levels of per-  
 3       formance under subsection (b)(3)(A)(iv).”.

4       **Subtitle C—Workforce Investment**  
 5       **Activities and Providers**

6       **CHAPTER 1—WORKFORCE INVESTMENT**  
 7       **ACTIVITIES AND PROVIDERS**

8       **SEC. 121. ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE-STOP DELIVERY SYS-**  
 9       **TEMS.**

10       (a) ONE-STOP PARTNERS.—Section 121(b) of the  
 11       Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
 12       3151(b)) is amended—

13               (1) in paragraph (1)—

14                       (A) in subparagraph (B)—

15                               (i) in clause (xi), by inserting “and”  
 16                               at the end;

17                               (ii) by striking clause (xii); and

18                               (iii) by redesignating clause (xiii) as  
 19                               clause (xii); and

20                       (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “sub-  
 21       paragraph (B)(xiii)” and inserting “subpara-  
 22       graph (B)(xii)”;

23               (2) in paragraph (2)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
2 “With” and inserting “At the direction of the  
3 Governor or with”; and

4 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

5 (i) in clause (vi), by striking “and” at  
6 the end;

7 (ii) by redesignating clause (vii) as  
8 clause (viii);

9 (iii) by inserting after clause (vi) the  
10 following:

11 “(vii) any applicable economic devel-  
12 opment and workforce development pro-  
13 grams carried out in the State—

14 “(I) by the Economic Develop-  
15 ment Administration;

16 “(II) under Public Law 117–167  
17 (commonly known as the ‘CHIPS and  
18 Science Act of 2022’);

19 “(III) under the Infrastructure  
20 Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law  
21 117–58); or

22 “(IV) under Public Law 117–168  
23 (commonly known as the ‘Inflation  
24 Reduction Act of 2022’); and”; and



1 (iv) in clause (viii), as so redesign-  
2 nated—

3 (I) by inserting “out-of-school  
4 youth services,” after “education,”;  
5 and

6 (II) by inserting “, by commu-  
7 nity-based organizations,” after “li-  
8 braries”.

9 (b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Section  
10 121(c)(2)(A)(iv) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
11 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3151(c)(2)(A)(iv)) is amended by  
12 striking “access to services, including access to technology  
13 and materials, made” and inserting “access or referral to  
14 services, including access or referral to technology, mate-  
15 rials, and other supportive services, made”.

16 (c) ONE-STOP OPERATORS.—Section 121(d) of the  
17 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
18 3151(d)) is amended—

19 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraphs  
20 (2) and (3)” and inserting “paragraphs (2) and  
21 (5)”;

22 (2) in paragraph (2)(B)—

23 (A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by  
24 inserting “(including effectiveness in serving in-

1           dividuals with barriers to employment)” after  
 2           “demonstrated effectiveness”;

3           (B) in clause (i), by inserting after “edu-  
 4           cation” the following: “or an area career and  
 5           technical education school”;

6           (C) in clause (v), by striking “and”;

7           (D) by redesignating clause (vi) as clause  
 8           (viii);

9           (E) by inserting after clause (v) the fol-  
 10          lowing:

11                   “(vi) a public library;

12                   “(vii) a local board that meets the re-  
 13                   quirements of paragraph (4); and”; and

14           (F) in clause (viii), as so redesignated, by  
 15           inserting after “labor organization” the fol-  
 16           lowing: “or joint labor-management organiza-  
 17           tion”;

18           (3) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as  
 19           paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and

20           (4) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
 21           lowing:

22                   “(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—

23                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—In operating a one-  
 24                   stop delivery system referred to in subsection  
 25                   (e), a one-stop operator—

1 “(i) shall—

2 “(I) manage operations of the  
3 one-stop delivery system in the local  
4 area;

5 “(II) facilitate coordination  
6 among the one-stop partners in such  
7 one-stop delivery system; and

8 “(III) take the necessary steps to  
9 ensure efficient and effective service  
10 delivery for individuals served by the  
11 one-stop delivery system, including in-  
12 dividuals with barriers to employment;  
13 and

14 “(ii) may, subject to the requirements  
15 under subparagraph (B), directly provide  
16 services to job seekers and employers.

17 “(B) INTERNAL CONTROLS.—In a case in  
18 which a one-stop operator seeks to operate as a  
19 service provider pursuant to subparagraph  
20 (A)(ii), the local board shall establish internal  
21 controls (which shall include written policies  
22 and procedures)—

23 “(i) with respect to the competition in  
24 which the one-stop operator will compete to  
25 be selected as such service provider, and

1           the subsequent oversight, monitoring, and  
2           evaluation of the performance of such one-  
3           stop operator as such service provider; and  
4           “(ii) which require compliance with—  
5                 “(I) relevant Office of Manage-  
6                 ment and Budget circulars relating to  
7                 conflicts of interest; and  
8                 “(II) any applicable State conflict  
9                 of interest policy.

10           “(4) LOCAL BOARDS AS ONE-STOP OPERA-  
11           TORS.—Subject to approval from the chief elected  
12           official and Governor and in accordance with any  
13           other eligibility criteria established by the State, a  
14           local board may serve as a one-stop operator, if the  
15           local board—

16                 “(A) enters into a written agreement with  
17                 the chief elected official that clarifies how the  
18                 local board will carry out the functions and re-  
19                 sponsibilities as a one-stop operator in a man-  
20                 ner that complies with the appropriate internal  
21                 controls to prevent any conflicts of interest,  
22                 which shall include how the local board, while  
23                 serving as a one-stop operator, will—

1 “(i) comply with the relevant Office of  
2 Management and Budget circulars relating  
3 to conflicts of interest; and

4 “(ii) any applicable State conflict of  
5 interest policy; and

6 “(B) complies with the other applicable re-  
7 quirements of this subsection.”.

8 (d) ONE-STOP DELIVERY.—Section 121(e) of the  
9 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
10 3151(e)) is amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (2)—

12 (A) in subparagraph (A), to read as fol-  
13 lows:

14 “(A) shall make each of the programs,  
15 services (meaning a referral in the case of sup-  
16 portive services, for the purposes of this para-  
17 graph), and activities described in paragraph  
18 (1) available—

19 “(i) at not less than 1 physical or vir-  
20 tual center for each local area of the State,  
21 except that local areas may share—

22 “(I) a virtual center, if the local  
23 area complies with subparagraph (E);  
24 or

1                   “(II) a physical center, if such  
 2                   center is located in a location that  
 3                   promotes accessibility to services for  
 4                   individuals residing in all such local  
 5                   areas served by the center; and

6                   “(ii) in a manner that is designed to  
 7                   promote efficiency, coordination, quality,  
 8                   and accessibility for individuals with bar-  
 9                   riers to employment, as determined by the  
 10                  local board, in the delivery of such pro-  
 11                  grams, services, and activities;”;

12                  (B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting  
 13                  after “affiliated sites” the following: “(such as  
 14                  a site of any of the entities described in sub-  
 15                  section (d)(2)(B))”;

16                  (C) in subparagraph (C)—

17                   (i) by inserting after “centers” the  
 18                   following: “(which may be virtual or phys-  
 19                   ical centers)”; and

20                   (ii) by striking “and” at the end;

21                  (D) in subparagraph (D)—

22                   (i) by striking “as applicable and  
 23                   practicable, shall” and inserting “in the  
 24                   case of a one-stop delivery system that is  
 25                   making each of the programs, services, and

1 activities described in paragraph (1) acces-  
2 sible at not less than 1 physical center, as  
3 described in subparagraph (A)(i), shall, in  
4 accordance with the regulations issued pur-  
5 suant to paragraph (5),”; and

6 (ii) by striking the period at the end  
7 and inserting “, and local areas that share  
8 at least 1 common border may coordinate  
9 in making such programs, services, and ac-  
10 tivities accessible through electronic means  
11 through such a one-stop delivery system;  
12 and”; and

13 (E) by inserting after subparagraph (D)  
14 the following:

15 “(E) in the case of a one-stop delivery sys-  
16 tem that is making each of the programs, serv-  
17 ices, and activities accessible through electronic  
18 means, as described in subparagraph (A)(i),  
19 shall—

20 “(i) have not fewer than 2 affiliated  
21 sites (not fewer than 1 of which will have  
22 not fewer than 1 professional staff mem-  
23 ber) with a physical location where individ-  
24 uals can access, virtually, each of the pro-  
25 grams, services, and activities described in

1 paragraph (1) that are virtually accessible;  
2 and

3 “(ii) comply with the regulations  
4 issued pursuant to paragraph (5).”;

5 (2) in paragraph (4), by inserting after the first  
6 sentence the following: “The system identifier shall  
7 be prominently and visibly displayed at each com-  
8 prehensive and specialized one-stop center operated  
9 by the one-stop delivery system, including physical  
10 and virtual centers identified in paragraph (2)(A),  
11 and the sites and centers described in subparagraphs  
12 (B) through (E) of paragraph (2).”; and

13 (3) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(5) MINIMUM DIGITAL FUNCTIONALITY REGU-  
15 LATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations to  
16 establish minimum digital functionality requirements  
17 with respect to the one-stop delivery system.”.

18 (e) CERTIFICATION AND IMPROVEMENT CRITERIA.—  
19 Section 121(g)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation and  
20 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3151(g)(2)(A)) is amended  
21 by striking “under subsections (h)(1)” and inserting  
22 “under subsections (h)(1)(C)”.

23 (f) FUNDING OF ONE-STOP INFRASTRUCTURE.—Sec-  
24 tion 121(h) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
25 Act (29 U.S.C. 3151(h)) is amended—



1 (1) by striking paragraph (1);

2 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as  
3 paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

4 (3) in paragraph (1), as so redesignated—

5 (A) by amending subparagraph (B) to read  
6 as follows:

7 “(B) PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS.—Subject  
8 to subparagraph (D), the covered portions of  
9 funding for a fiscal year shall be provided to  
10 the Governor from the programs described in  
11 subsection (b)(1) to pay the costs of infrastruc-  
12 ture of one-stop centers in local areas of the  
13 State.”;

14 (B) in subparagraph (C)(i)—

15 (i) by striking “for funding pursuant  
16 to clause (i)(II) or (ii) of paragraph (1)(A)  
17 by each partner,”; and

18 (ii) by striking the third sentence; and

19 (C) in subparagraph (D)—

20 (i) in clause (ii), by striking “For  
21 local areas in a State that are not covered  
22 by paragraph (1)(A)(i)(I), the” and insert-  
23 ing “The”;

24 (ii) in clause (ii)—

25 (I) in subclause (I)—

1 (aa) by striking “WIA” in  
 2 the header and inserting  
 3 “WIOA”; and

4 (bb) by striking “3 percent”  
 5 and inserting “5 percent”; and

6 (II) by striking subclause (III)  
 7 and inserting the following:

8 “(III) VOCATIONAL REHABILITA-  
 9 TION.—Notwithstanding subclauses  
 10 (I) and (II), an entity administering a  
 11 program described in subsection  
 12 (b)(1)(B)(iii) shall not be required to  
 13 provide from that program, under this  
 14 paragraph, a portion that exceeds 1.5  
 15 percent of the amount of Federal  
 16 funds provided to carry out such pro-  
 17 gram in the State for a program  
 18 year.”; and

19 (iii) in clause (iii), by striking “For  
 20 local areas in a State that are not covered  
 21 by paragraph (1)(A)(i)(I), an” and insert-  
 22 ing “An”;

23 (4) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “pur-  
2 poses of assisting in” and inserting “purpose  
3 of”; and

4 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

5 (i) in the first sentence, by striking  
6 “not funding costs of infrastructure under  
7 the option described in paragraph  
8 (1)(A)(i)(I)”; and

9 (ii) in the second sentence, by insert-  
10 ing after “local area,” the following: “the  
11 intensity of services provided by such cen-  
12 ters, the number and types of one-stop  
13 partners engaged by or providing services  
14 through such centers”;

15 (5) by inserting after paragraph (2), as so re-  
16 designated, the following:

17 “(3) SUPPLEMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND-  
18 ING.—For any fiscal year in which the allocation re-  
19 ceived by a local area under paragraph (2) is insuffi-  
20 cient to cover the total costs of infrastructure of  
21 one-stop centers in such local area, the local board,  
22 the chief elected official, and the one-stop partners  
23 that have entered into the local memorandum of un-  
24 derstanding with the local board under subsection  
25 (c) may agree to fund, using Federal or other funds,

1 the remainder of any such costs using a method de-  
 2 scribed in such memorandum.”; and

3 (6) in paragraph (4), by inserting after “oper-  
 4 ation of the one-stop center” the following: “(wheth-  
 5 er for in-person or virtual service delivery)”.

6 (g) OTHER FUNDS.—Section 121(i)(2) of the Work-  
 7 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
 8 3151(i)(2)) is amended by striking “intake,” and all that  
 9 follows through “skills,” and inserting “intake, case man-  
 10 agement, assessment of needs, appraisal of foundational  
 11 skill needs,”.

12 **SEC. 122. IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS OF**  
 13 **TRAINING SERVICES.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 122 of the Workforce In-  
 15 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3152) is amend-  
 16 ed—

17 (1) by redesignating subsections (f) through (i)  
 18 as subsections (g) through (j), respectively;

19 (2) by striking the section heading and all that  
 20 follows through subsection (e) and inserting the fol-  
 21 lowing:

22 **“SEC. 122. IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS OF**  
 23 **TRAINING SERVICES.**

24 **“(a) ELIGIBILITY.—**

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in sub-  
2           section (i), the Governor, after consultation with the  
3           State board and considering the State’s adjusted lev-  
4           els of performance described in section  
5           116(b)(3)(A)(iv), shall establish—

6                   “(A) procedures regarding the eligibility of  
7                   providers of training services to receive funds  
8                   provided under section 133(b) for the provision  
9                   of training services through programs with eli-  
10                  gibility under this section (in this section re-  
11                  ferred to as ‘eligible programs’) in local areas in  
12                  the State; and

13                   “(B) the minimum levels of performance  
14                   on the criteria for a program to receive such eli-  
15                   gibility.

16           “(2) PROVIDERS.—Subject to the provisions of  
17           this section, to be eligible to receive those funds for  
18           the provision of training services, the provider shall  
19           be—

20                   “(A) an institution of higher education  
21                   that provides a program that leads to a recog-  
22                   nized postsecondary credential;

23                   “(B) an entity that carries out programs  
24                   registered under the Act of August 16, 1937  
25                   (commonly known as the ‘National Apprentice-

1 ship Act'; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C.  
2 50 et seq.); or

3 “(C) another public or private provider of  
4 a program of training services, which may in-  
5 clude joint labor-management organizations,  
6 providers of entrepreneurial skills development  
7 programs, industry or sector partnerships,  
8 groups of employers, trade or professional asso-  
9 ciations, and eligible providers of adult edu-  
10 cation and literacy activities under title II (if  
11 such activities are provided in combination with  
12 occupational skills training or integrated edu-  
13 cation and training programs).

14 “(3) INCLUSION IN LIST OF ELIGIBLE PRO-  
15 VIDERS.—

16 “(A) COMPLIANCE WITH ADDITIONAL CRI-  
17 TERIA, INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS AND PRO-  
18 CEDURES.—A provider described in subpara-  
19 graph (A) or (C) of paragraph (2) (other than  
20 a provider described in subparagraph (B)(ii) of  
21 this paragraph) shall comply with the criteria,  
22 information requirements, and procedures es-  
23 tablished under this section to be included on  
24 the list of eligible providers of training services  
25 described in subsection (d).

1 “(B) AUTOMATIC INCLUSION.—

2 “(i) PROVIDERS OF REGISTERED AP-  
3 PRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—A provider de-  
4 scribed in paragraph (2)(B) shall be in-  
5 cluded and maintained on the list of eligi-  
6 ble providers of training services described  
7 in subsection (d) for so long as the cor-  
8 responding program of the provider re-  
9 mains registered as described in paragraph  
10 (2)(B).

11 “(ii) PROVIDERS OF WORKFORCE  
12 PELL PROGRAMS.—With respect to a pro-  
13 vider described in paragraph (2)(A) that  
14 provides an eligible program for purposes  
15 of the Workforce Pell Grant program  
16 under section 401(k) of the Higher Edu-  
17 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(k)),  
18 as added by section 83002(a) of Public  
19 Law 119–21, such provider shall be in-  
20 cluded and maintained on the list of eligi-  
21 ble providers of training services described  
22 in subsection (d) for so long as the pro-  
23 vider provides such eligible program.

24 “(b) CRITERIA AND INFORMATION REQUIRE-  
25 MENTS.—

1           “(1) GENERAL CRITERIA FOR PROGRAMS.—

2           Each provider shall demonstrate to the Governor  
3           that the program for which the provider is seeking  
4           eligibility under this section—

5                   “(A) prepares participants to meet the hir-  
6                   ing requirements of potential employers in the  
7                   State, or a local area within the State, for em-  
8                   ployment that—

9                           “(i) is high-skill and high-wage; or

10                           “(ii) is in an in-demand industry sec-  
11                           tor or occupation;

12                   “(B) leads to a recognized postsecondary  
13                   credential;

14                   “(C) has been offered by the provider for  
15                   not less than 1 year; and

16                   “(D) meets the performance requirements  
17                   for eligibility described in paragraph (2).

18           “(2) PERFORMANCE CRITERIA FOR ELIGI-  
19           BILITY.—

20                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Governor shall—

21                           “(i) establish and publicize minimum  
22                           levels of performance for each of the cri-  
23                           teria listed in subparagraph (B) that a  
24                           program offered by a provider of training  
25                           services shall achieve, for all participants



1 in the program (including participants for  
2 whom the provider receives payments  
3 under this title) for the program to receive  
4 and maintain eligibility under this section;

5 “(ii) verify the performance achieved  
6 by such a program with respect to each  
7 such criterion to determine whether the  
8 program meets the corresponding min-  
9 imum level of performance established  
10 under clause (i)—

11 “(I) in the case of the criteria de-  
12 scribed in (ii) through (iv) of subpara-  
13 graph (B), using State administrative  
14 data (such as quarterly wage records);  
15 and

16 “(II) in the case of the criteria  
17 described in subparagraph (B)(i),  
18 using any applicable method for such  
19 verification; and

20 “(iii) in verifying the performance  
21 achievement of a program to make such  
22 determination, verify that such program  
23 included a sufficient number of program  
24 participants to protect participants’ per-  
25 sonally identifiable information, and to

1 provide information that is a reliable indi-  
2 cator of performance achievement.

3 “(B) PERFORMANCE CRITERIA.—The per-  
4 formance criteria to receive and maintain eligi-  
5 bility for a program under this section are each  
6 of the following:

7 “(i) The credential attainment rate of  
8 program participants (calculated as the  
9 percentage of program participants who  
10 obtain the recognized postsecondary cre-  
11 dential that the program prepares partici-  
12 pants to earn within 6 months after exit  
13 from the program).

14 “(ii) The job placement rate of pro-  
15 gram participants (calculated as the per-  
16 centage of program participants in unsub-  
17 sidized employment during the second  
18 quarter after exit from the program).

19 “(iii) The median earnings of program  
20 participants who are in unsubsidized em-  
21 ployment during the second quarter after  
22 exit from the program.

23 “(iv) The ratio of median earnings in-  
24 crease to the total cost of program, cal-  
25 culated as the ratio of—

1 “(I) the median value of the dif-  
2 ference between—

3 “(aa) participant wages  
4 from unsubsidized employment  
5 during the second quarter after  
6 program exit; and

7 “(bb) participant wages dur-  
8 ing the quarter prior to entering  
9 the program; to

10 “(II) the total cost of the pro-  
11 gram (as described in paragraph  
12 (5)(B)(i)(III)).

13 “(C) LOCAL CRITERIA.—With respect to  
14 any program receiving eligibility under this sec-  
15 tion from a Governor, a local board in the State  
16 may require higher levels of performance than  
17 the minimum levels of performance established  
18 by the Governor under this paragraph for the  
19 program to be an eligible program in the cor-  
20 responding local area, but may not—

21 “(i) require any information or appli-  
22 cation from the provider that is not re-  
23 quired for such eligibility; or

1                   “(ii) establish a performance require-  
2                   ment with respect to any criterion not list-  
3                   ed in subparagraph (B).

4                   “(3) EMPLOYER-SPONSORED OR INDUSTRY OR  
5                   SECTOR PARTNERSHIP DESIGNATION.—

6                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Governor shall  
7                   establish procedures and criteria for a provider  
8                   to demonstrate that a program meets, in apply-  
9                   ing for an employer-sponsored designation for a  
10                  program that has received eligibility under this  
11                  subsection, which shall include demonstrating a  
12                  commitment from an employer or an industry  
13                  or sector partnership to—

14                  “(i) pay to the provider, on behalf of  
15                  each participant enrolled in such program  
16                  under this Act, not less than 25 percent of  
17                  the total cost of the program (as described  
18                  in paragraph (5)(B)(i)(III)), which shall be  
19                  provided in lieu of 25 percent of the  
20                  amount that the provider would have oth-  
21                  erwise received under section 133(b) for  
22                  the provision of training services by such  
23                  program to such participant; and

24                  “(ii) guarantee an interview and  
25                  meaningful consideration for a job with the

1 employer, or in the case of an industry or  
2 sector partnership, an employer within  
3 such partnership, for each such participant  
4 that successfully completes the program.

5 “(B) RESTRICTION ON FINANCIAL AR-  
6 RANGEMENT.—A provider of a program receiv-  
7 ing an employer-sponsored designation under  
8 this paragraph may not—

9 “(i) have an ownership stake in the  
10 employer or industry or sector partnership  
11 making a commitment described in sub-  
12 paragraph (A); or

13 “(ii) enter into an arrangement to re-  
14 imburse an employer or partnership for the  
15 costs of a participant paid by such em-  
16 ployer or partnership under this para-  
17 graph.

18 “(4) WORKFORCE INNOVATION LEADER DES-  
19 IGNATION.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Governor deter-  
21 mines that a program offered by an eligible pro-  
22 vider meets the minimum levels of performance  
23 described in subparagraph (B) to receive a  
24 Workforce Innovation Leader (or WIL) des-  
25 ignation, which designates the program as a

1           WIL program, the Governor shall grant the  
2           program designation as a WIL program and in-  
3           form the provider of such program of their abil-  
4           ity to display the WIL seal, as described in sub-  
5           paragraph (C), in marketing materials.

6           “(B) LEVELS.—A eligible program shall  
7           meet the levels of performance to receive a WIL  
8           designation if such program has achieved—

9                   “(i) a credential attainment rate of  
10                  program participants (calculated as the  
11                  percentage of program participants who  
12                  obtain the recognized postsecondary cre-  
13                  dential that the program prepares partici-  
14                  pants to earn within 6 months after exit  
15                  from the program) of not less than 80 per-  
16                  cent;

17                  “(ii) a job placement rate of program  
18                  participants (calculated as the percentage  
19                  of program participants in unsubsidized  
20                  employment during the second quarter  
21                  after exit from the program) of not less  
22                  than 70 percent;

23                  “(iii) median earnings of program  
24                  participants who are in unsubsidized em-  
25                  ployment during the second quarter after

1 exit from the program that are not less  
2 than 25 percent greater than the State-  
3 level median earnings of individuals ages  
4 25 through 34 in the labor force who have  
5 only a regular high school diploma or its  
6 recognized equivalent; and

7 “(iv) a ratio of greater than 1.5 of  
8 median earnings increase to the total cost  
9 of program, calculated as the ratio of—

10 “(I) the median value of the dif-  
11 ference between—

12 “(aa) participant wages  
13 from unsubsidized employment  
14 during the second quarter after  
15 program exit; and

16 “(bb) participant wages dur-  
17 ing the quarter prior to entering  
18 the program; to

19 “(II) the total cost of the pro-  
20 gram (as described in paragraph  
21 (5)(B)(i)(III)).

22 “(C) WIL SEAL.—Not later than 2 years  
23 after the date of enactment of the A Stronger  
24 Workforce for America Act of 2026, the Sec-  
25 retary shall design a seal signifying that a pro-

1           gram has achieved a WIL designation, for the  
2           Governor of each State to provide to any pro-  
3           grams in their State that achieve the perform-  
4           ance necessary to receive a WIL designation.

5           “(D) LOSS OF WIL DESIGNATION.—If, dur-  
6           ing the annual review of eligibility described in  
7           subsection (c)(3), the Governor determines that  
8           a WIL program no longer meets the levels de-  
9           scribed in subparagraph (B) or otherwise has  
10          eligibility under this section revoked or termi-  
11          nated, or the provider of the program has eligi-  
12          bility terminated under subsection (g)(1)(A),  
13          the Governor shall revoke the program’s WIL  
14          designation and inform the provider of such  
15          program that such provider may no longer dis-  
16          play the WIL seal in marketing materials or  
17          otherwise.

18          “(5) INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS.—A pro-  
19          vider that seeks to establish eligibility under this  
20          section, and an eligible provider, shall submit appro-  
21          priate, accurate, and timely information to the Gov-  
22          ernor, to enable the Governor to carry out sub-  
23          section (d), with respect to all participants in each  
24          eligible program (including participants for whom



1 the provider receives payments under this title) of-  
2 ferred by the provider, which information shall—

3 “(A) be made available by the State in a  
4 common, linked, open, and interoperable data  
5 format; and

6 “(B) consist of—

7 “(i) information on—

8 “(I) in the case of an eligible pro-  
9 vider offering a program who is seek-  
10 ing to maintain eligibility, the per-  
11 formance of the program with respect  
12 to the indicators described in section  
13 116(b)(2)(A) for participants in the  
14 program;

15 “(II) the recognized postsec-  
16 ondary credentials received by such  
17 participants, including, in relation to  
18 each such credential, the issuing enti-  
19 ty, any third-party endorsements, the  
20 occupations for which the credential  
21 prepares individuals, the competencies  
22 achieved by the individuals, the level  
23 of mastery of such competencies (in-  
24 cluding how mastery is assessed)

1 achieved by the individuals, and any  
2 transfer value or stackability;

3 “(III) the total cost of the pro-  
4 gram, including the costs of the pub-  
5 lished tuition and fees, supplies, and  
6 books, and any other costs required  
7 by the provider, for a participant in  
8 the program;

9 “(IV) the percentage of such par-  
10 ticipants that complete the program  
11 within the expected time to comple-  
12 tion; and

13 “(V) the program’s level of per-  
14 formance on the criteria described in  
15 paragraph (2) and not otherwise in-  
16 cluded in clause (I) of this clause; and

17 “(ii) with respect to employment and  
18 earnings measures described in subclauses  
19 (I) through (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i)  
20 and the performance criteria described in  
21 subsection (b)(2) for such participants—

22 “(I) the necessary information  
23 for the State to develop program per-  
24 formance data using State adminis-

1 trative data (such as quarterly wage  
2 records); and

3 “(II) the necessary information  
4 to determine the percentage of such  
5 participants who entered unsubsidized  
6 employment in an occupation related  
7 to the program, to the extent prac-  
8 ticable.

9 “(6) ELIGIBLE PROVIDER.—In this section,  
10 other than subsection (i), a provider of an eligible  
11 program under this section shall be considered to be  
12 identified as an eligible provider of training services.

13 “(c) PROCEDURES.—

14 “(1) APPLICATION PROCEDURES.—The proce-  
15 dures established under subsection (a) shall identify  
16 the application process for a provider of training  
17 services (for a program offered by the provider) to  
18 become eligible to receive funds provided under sec-  
19 tion 133(b) for the provision of training services.  
20 That process shall be implemented in a manner that  
21 minimizes the financial and administrative burden  
22 on the provider and shall not require the submission  
23 of information in excess of the information required  
24 to determine a program’s eligibility under para-  
25 graphs (1), (2), and (5) of subsection (b). The pro-

1       cedures shall identify the respective roles of the  
2       State and local areas in receiving and reviewing the  
3       applications and in making determinations of such  
4       eligibility based on the criteria, information require-  
5       ments, and procedures established under this sec-  
6       tion. The procedures shall also establish a process,  
7       for a provider of training services to appeal a denial  
8       or revocation or termination of eligibility under this  
9       section, that includes an opportunity for a hearing  
10      and prescribes appropriate time limits to ensure  
11      prompt resolution of the appeal.

12           “(2) APPROVAL.—A Governor shall make a de-  
13      termination of such eligibility with respect to a pro-  
14      gram for which the provider is seeking eligibility  
15      under this section not later than 30 days after re-  
16      ceipt of an application submitted by such provider  
17      consistent with the procedures in paragraph (1).

18           “(3) RENEWAL PROCEDURES.—The procedures  
19      established by the Governor shall also provide for  
20      annual review and renewal of eligibility under this  
21      section for a program of training services that con-  
22      tinues to meet the requirements under paragraphs  
23      (1), (2), and (5) of subsection (b).

24           “(4) REVOCATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—The proce-  
25      dures established under subsection (a) shall adhere

1 to the following requirements for revocation of eligi-  
2 bility by the Governor:

3 “(A) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED IN-  
4 FORMATION.—With respect to a provider of  
5 training services that is eligible under this sec-  
6 tion for a program year with respect to an eligi-  
7 ble program, but that does not provide the in-  
8 formation described in subsection (b)(5) with  
9 respect to such program for such program year  
10 (including information on performance nec-  
11 essary to determine if the program meets the  
12 minimum levels of performance on the perform-  
13 ance criteria to maintain eligibility), the pro-  
14 vider shall be ineligible under this section with  
15 respect to such program for the program year  
16 after the program year for which the provider  
17 fails to provide such information.

18 “(B) FAILURE TO MEET PERFORMANCE  
19 CRITERIA.—

20 “(i) FIRST YEAR.—The provider of an  
21 eligible program that has received eligi-  
22 bility under subsection (c)(2) for a pro-  
23 gram year but fails to meet the minimum  
24 levels of performance on the performance  
25 criteria described in subsection (b)(2) for

1 the most recent program year for which  
2 performance data on such criteria are  
3 available shall be notified of such failure by  
4 the Governor.

5 “(ii) SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR.—A  
6 program that fails to meet the minimum  
7 levels of performance for a second consecu-  
8 tive program year shall be ineligible under  
9 this section with respect to such program  
10 for the program year following such second  
11 consecutive program year and until the  
12 program meets the minimum levels of per-  
13 formance.

14 “(iii) REAPPLICATION.—A provider  
15 that loses eligibility under this subpara-  
16 graph with respect to a program may re-  
17 apply to receive eligibility for the program  
18 according to the procedures described in  
19 this subparagraph if the program meets  
20 the minimum levels of performance de-  
21 scribed in clause (i), for the most recent  
22 program year for which performance data  
23 on the performance criteria are available.

1           “(C) REPEATED FAILURE.—A program for  
2           which the Governor revokes eligibility under  
3           subparagraph (A) or (B)—

4                   “(i) 2 times shall be determined ineli-  
5                   gible under this section by the Governor  
6                   for a period of at least 2 years;

7                   “(ii) 3 times shall be determined ineli-  
8                   gible under the section by the Governor for  
9                   a period of at least 5 years; and

10                   “(iii) more than 3 times shall be de-  
11                   termined ineligible under this section by  
12                   the Governor for a period of at least 10  
13                   years.

14           “(5) CONTINUITY OF TRAINING SERVICES.—A  
15           provider of a program for which the Governor re-  
16           vokes eligibility under paragraph (4) shall—

17                   “(A) be prohibited from enrolling any new  
18                   participants whose participation would be fund-  
19                   ed under section 133(b) in the program and  
20                   from receiving any payments from funds pro-  
21                   vided under section 133(b) for any participants  
22                   not already enrolled in the program on the date  
23                   of revocation or termination until and unless  
24                   the Governor determines that the provider has  
25                   demonstrated that the program offered by the

1 provider has met the requirements for the pro-  
2 vider to gain the opportunity to reapply for eli-  
3 gibility under the procedure described in para-  
4 graph (4)(B)(iii); and

5 “(B) enable each participant currently en-  
6 rolled in the program, on the date of the rev-  
7 ocation or termination, to complete such pro-  
8 gram.

9 “(6) NOTIFICATION OF PROGRAM LOSS OF ELI-  
10 GIBILITY.—The local board serving participants  
11 whose participation is funded under section 133(b)  
12 in a program for which eligibility is revoked by the  
13 Governor under this subsection shall notify such par-  
14 ticipants that such program no longer meets the  
15 State’s requirements for eligible providers of train-  
16 ing services under this Act and that the participant  
17 has the opportunity to continue receiving training  
18 services from such program, in order to complete the  
19 program.

20 “(7) MULTISTATE PROVIDERS.—The proce-  
21 dures established under subsection (a) shall specify  
22 the process for any provider of training services of-  
23 fering a program that is eligible under this section  
24 in a first State to establish eligibility under this sec-  
25 tion in an additional State, which shall, to the extent



1 practicable, minimize financial and administrative  
2 burdens on any such provider by authorizing the  
3 provider to submit the same application materials  
4 and information to the Governor of the additional  
5 State that was accepted by the Governor granting  
6 the provider's eligibility in the first State, as long as  
7 the program meets the applicable State requirements  
8 for such eligibility established under subsection (b).

9 “(8) ONLINE PROVIDERS.—The procedures es-  
10 tablished under subsection (a) shall apply to a pro-  
11 vider that delivers training services exclusively on-  
12 line. If a participant chooses a provider that delivers  
13 training services exclusively online and is not located  
14 in the State of the local area that approved such  
15 training services for the participant in accordance  
16 with section 133(c)(3)(A)(i), such provider shall be  
17 ineligible to receive payment for such participant  
18 from funds allotted to such State under section 132  
19 unless such provider is on the list of eligible pro-  
20 viders of training services described in subsection (d)  
21 for such State with respect to the program involved.

22 “(d) LIST AND INFORMATION TO ASSIST PARTICI-  
23 PANTS IN CHOOSING PROVIDERS.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to facilitate and  
25 assist participants in choosing employment and

1 training activities and in choosing providers of train-  
2 ing services, the Governor shall ensure that an ap-  
3 propriate list of providers determined to be eligible  
4 under this section to offer a program in the State  
5 (and, as appropriate, in a local area), accompanied  
6 by information identifying the recognized postsec-  
7 ondary credential offered by the provider and other  
8 appropriate information, is prepared. The list shall  
9 be provided to the local boards in the State, and  
10 made available to such participants and to members  
11 of the public through the one-stop delivery system in  
12 the State in accordance with paragraph (4).

13 “(2) TALENT MARKETPLACE.—The Governor  
14 may establish (or develop in partnership with other  
15 States) a talent marketplace.

16 “(3) ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION.—The ac-  
17 companying information referred to in paragraph (1)  
18 shall consist of—

19 “(A) with respect to providers described in  
20 subparagraphs (A) and (C) of subsection (a)(2)  
21 (other than providers described in subsection  
22 (a)(3)(B)(ii)), information provided by such  
23 providers (disaggregated by local areas served,  
24 as applicable) in accordance with subsection (b);

1           “(B) with respect to a program described  
2           in subsection (b)(3) that is offered by a pro-  
3           vider, information promoting the program as  
4           having an employer-sponsored designation and  
5           identifying the employer or partnership spon-  
6           soring the program; and

7           “(C) with respect to a program described  
8           in subsection (b)(4) that is offered by a pro-  
9           vider, information promoting the program as  
10          being a WIL program and displaying the seal  
11          described in subsection (b)(4)(C).

12          “(4) AVAILABILITY.—The list (including the  
13          talent marketplace if one has been established by the  
14          State), and the accompanying information shall be  
15          made available to such participants and to members  
16          of the public through the one-stop delivery system in  
17          the State—

18               “(A) on a publicly accessible website  
19               that—

20                       “(i) is consumer-tested; and

21                       “(ii) is searchable, easily understand-  
22                       able, and navigable, and allows for the  
23                       comparison of eligible programs through  
24                       the use of common, linked, open-data de-

1           scriptive language, including interoperable  
2           skills and competency data; and

3           “(B) in a manner that does not reveal per-  
4           sonally identifiable information about an indi-  
5           vidual participant.

6           “(5) WEBSITE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The  
7           Secretary shall—

8           “(A) upon request, provide technical assist-  
9           ance to a State on establishing a website that  
10          meets the requirements of paragraph (4); and

11          “(B) disseminate to each State effective  
12          practices or resources from States and private  
13          sector entities related to establishing a website  
14          that is consumer-tested to ensure that the  
15          website is easily understood, searchable, and  
16          navigable.

17          “(6) LIMITATION.—In carrying out the require-  
18          ments of this subsection, no personally identifiable  
19          information regarding a student, including a Social  
20          Security number, student identification number, or  
21          other identifier, may be disclosed without the prior  
22          written consent of the student or student’s parent in  
23          compliance with section 444 of the General Edu-  
24          cation Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g).

1       “(e) OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT COMMENTS.—In es-  
2     tablishing, under this section, criteria, procedures, and the  
3     list of eligible providers described in subsection (d), the  
4     Governor shall provide an opportunity for interested mem-  
5     bers of the public to make recommendations and submit  
6     comments regarding such criteria, procedures, and list.

7       “(f) PROVIDER PERFORMANCE INCENTIVES.—

8               “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Governor shall estab-  
9     lish a system of performance incentive payments to  
10    be awarded to eligible providers in addition to the  
11    amount paid under section 133(b) to such providers  
12    for the provision of training services to participants  
13    of eligible programs. Such system of performance in-  
14    centive payments may be established to award the  
15    payments to providers of eligible programs that—

16               “(A) achieve levels of performance above  
17    the minimum levels established by the Governor  
18    under subsection (b)(2);

19               “(B) serve a significantly higher number of  
20    individuals with barriers to employment com-  
21    pared to training providers offering similar  
22    training services; or

23               “(C) achieve other performance successes,  
24    including those related to jobs that provide eco-  
25    nomic stability and upward mobility (such as

1           jobs with high wages and family sustainable  
2           benefits) as determined by the State or the  
3           local board.

4           “(2) INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.—Incentive pay-  
5           ments to providers established under paragraph (1)  
6           shall be awarded to eligible providers from funds re-  
7           served by the Governor under section 128(a)(1), ex-  
8           cept that not more than 5 percent of the funds re-  
9           served by the Governor under section 128(a)(1) may  
10          be used for such payments.”;

11          (3) by striking subsections (i) and (j) and in-  
12          serting the following:

13          “(i) ON-THE-JOB TRAINING, EMPLOYER-DIRECTED  
14          SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING,  
15          AND OTHER TRAINING EXCEPTIONS.—

16          “(1) IN GENERAL.—Providers of on-the-job  
17          training, employer-directed skills development, in-  
18          cumbent worker training, internships, paid or un-  
19          paid work experience opportunities, or transitional  
20          employment shall not be subject to the requirements  
21          of subsections (a) through (f).

22          “(2) COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF IN-  
23          FORMATION.—A one-stop operator in a local area  
24          shall collect the minimum amount of information  
25          from providers of on-the-job training, employer-di-

1       rected skills development, incumbent worker train-  
2       ing, internships, paid or unpaid work experience op-  
3       portunities, or transitional employment as necessary  
4       to enable the use of State administrative data to  
5       generate such performance information as the Gov-  
6       ernor may require, and use the information to deter-  
7       mine whether the providers meet such performance  
8       criteria as the Governor may require. The one-stop  
9       operator shall disseminate information identifying  
10      such providers that meet the criteria as eligible pro-  
11      viders, and the performance information, through  
12      the one-stop delivery system. Providers determined  
13      to meet the criteria shall be considered to be identi-  
14      fied as eligible providers of training services.

15      “(j) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Governor may  
16      apply to the Secretary for technical assistance, as de-  
17      scribed in section 168(c), for purposes of carrying out the  
18      requirements of the amendments made by the A Stronger  
19      Workforce for America Act of 2026 to this section, and  
20      the Secretary shall provide such technical assistance in a  
21      timely manner.”.

22      (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON STATE PERFORMANCE  
23      CRITERIA.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enact-  
24      ment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall submit a  
25      report to the Committee on Education and Workforce of

1 the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
2 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate on  
3 eligible providers of training services under section 122 of  
4 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
5 3152), as amended by this Act, in each State that shall  
6 include—

7           (1) the minimum levels of performance estab-  
8           lished by the Governor of each State with respect to  
9           the performance criteria under subsection (b)(2) of  
10          that section 122 for such eligible providers of train-  
11          ing services in the State;

12          (2) the number of such eligible providers of  
13          training services in the State in each program year  
14          that begins after the date of enactment of this Act,  
15          compared with the number of such providers in the  
16          State in the program year that began immediately  
17          preceding that date of enactment; and

18          (3) the average length of time that such eligible  
19          providers of training services in the State maintain  
20          eligibility, disaggregated by the type of entity that  
21          provided the training services.

22 **SEC. 123. ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS OF YOUTH WORKFORCE IN-**  
23 **VESTMENT ACTIVITIES.**

24          Section 123(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
25          portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3153(a)) is amended by insert-



1 ing “, which may include providers of pre-apprenticeship  
 2 programs, and apprenticeship programs, that serve  
 3 youth,” before “identified based”.

## 4 **CHAPTER 2—YOUTH WORKFORCE**

### 5 **INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES**

#### 6 **SEC. 131. RESERVATIONS; REALLOCATION.**

7 (a) RESERVATIONS FOR STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES.—  
 8 Section 128(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 9 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3163(a)) is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “reserved  
 11 amounts” in each place and inserting “reserved  
 12 amounts required under paragraph (1)”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(3) CRITICAL INDUSTRY SKILLS FUND, AND  
 15 INDUSTRY SECTOR PARTNERSHIP AND CAREER  
 16 PATHWAYS DEVELOPMENT FUND.—

17 “(A) AUTHORIZED RESERVATION.—In ad-  
 18 dition to the reservations required under para-  
 19 graph (1) and section 133(a)(2), and subject to  
 20 subparagraph (B), the Governor may reserve  
 21 not more than 10 percent of each of the  
 22 amounts allotted to the State under section  
 23 127(b)(1)(C) and paragraphs (1)(B) and (2)(B)  
 24 of section 132(b) for a fiscal year to establish

1 and administer any one, or both, of the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 “(i) A critical industry skills fund de-  
4 scribed in section 134(a)(4).

5 “(ii) An industry or sector partner-  
6 ship and career pathways development  
7 fund described in section 134(a)(5).

8 “(B) MATCHING FUNDS.—

9 “(i) REQUIREMENT.—The amount of  
10 funds reserved by a Governor under sub-  
11 paragraph (A) for a fiscal year may not ex-  
12 ceed the amount of funds that such Gov-  
13 ernor commits to using from any of the  
14 funds listed in clause (ii) of this subpara-  
15 graph for the purposes of establishing and  
16 administering the funds described in  
17 clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) for  
18 such fiscal year.

19 “(ii) SOURCES OF MATCHING  
20 FUNDS.—The funds listed in this clause  
21 are as follows:

22 “(I) Funds reserved by the Gov-  
23 ernor under paragraph (1) of this  
24 subsection.

1 “(II) Other Federal funds not  
2 described in subclause (I).

3 “(III) State funds.”.

4 (b) REALLOCATION AMONG LOCAL AREAS.—Section  
5 128(c) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
6 (29 U.S.C. 3173(c)) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting the following  
8 before the period at the end: “as performance-based  
9 incentive payments”; and

10 (2) in paragraph (4)—

11 (A) by striking “that does not” and insert-  
12 ing the following: “that—

13 “(A) does not”;

14 (B) by striking the period at the end and  
15 inserting a semicolon; and

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

17 “(B) has met or exceeded an average of  
18 100 percent of the local level of performance  
19 described in section 116(c)(1)(B) for the local  
20 area across all indicators for the youth program  
21 authorized under this chapter for the most re-  
22 cent program year for which performance data  
23 is available; and

24 “(C) was not subject to corrective action  
25 by the Governor under section 184(a)(5)(A) for

a determination of non-compliance with the uniform administrative requirements described in section 184(a)(3) for the program year for which the determination under paragraph (2) is made.”.

**SEC. 132. USE OF FUNDS FOR YOUTH WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES.**

**(a) YOUTH PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY.—**

**(1) ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION.—**

**(A) ELIGIBILITY.—**Subparagraph (A) of section 129(a)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

**“(A) ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION.—**

**“(i) IN GENERAL.—**To be eligible to participate in activities carried out under this chapter during any program year, an individual shall, at the time the eligibility determination is made, be an out-of-school youth or an in-school youth.

**“(ii) ENROLLMENT.—**If a one-stop operator or eligible provider of youth workforce activities carrying out activities under this chapter reasonably believes that an individual is eligible to participate in such

1 activities, the operator or provider may  
2 allow such individual to participate in such  
3 activities for not more than a 40-day pe-  
4 riod during which the operator or provider  
5 shall obtain the necessary information to  
6 make an eligibility determination with re-  
7 spect to such individual (which may involve  
8 working with such individual and other en-  
9 tities in the local area, and using available  
10 sources of administrative data, to obtain  
11 the necessary information).

12 “(iii) DETERMINATION OF INELIGI-  
13 BILITY.—With respect to an individual who  
14 is determined to be ineligible for activities  
15 under this chapter by a one-stop operator  
16 or an eligible provider of youth workforce  
17 activities during the period described in  
18 clause (ii) and who does not qualify for an  
19 exception under paragraph (3)(A)(ii) appli-  
20 cable to the local area involved, such oper-  
21 ator or service provider—

22 “(I) may—

23 “(aa) continue serving such  
24 individual using non-Federal  
25 funds; or

1 “(bb) end the participation  
2 of such individual in activities  
3 under this chapter and refer the  
4 individual to other services that  
5 may be available in the local area  
6 for which the individual may be  
7 eligible; and

8 “(II) shall be paid for any serv-  
9 ices provided to such individual under  
10 this chapter during the period de-  
11 scribed in clause (ii) by the local area  
12 involved using funds allocated to such  
13 area under section 128(b).

14 “(iv) DETERMINATION PROCESS FOR  
15 HOMELESS YOUTH AND FOSTER YOUTH.—  
16 In determining whether an individual is eli-  
17 gible to participate in activities carried out  
18 under this chapter on the basis of being an  
19 individual who is a homeless youth, or a  
20 youth in foster care, as described in sub-  
21 paragraph (B)(iii)(V), the one-stop oper-  
22 ator or service provider involved may—

23 “(I) if determining whether the  
24 individual is a homeless youth, use a  
25 process that is in compliance with the

requirements of subsection (a) of section 479D of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087uu–2) for financial aid administrators; and

“(II) if determining whether the individual is a youth in foster care, use a process that is in compliance with the requirements of subsection (b) of section 479D of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087uu–2) for financial aid administrators.”.

(B) DEFINITION OF OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH.—Subparagraph (B) of section 129(a)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(1)) is amended—

(i) in clause (i), by inserting “, except that an individual described in subparagraph (IV) or (V) of clause (iii) may be attending school (as defined under State law)” after “(as defined under State law)”;

(ii) in clause (ii), by inserting before the semicolon at the end, the following : “, except that an individual described in sub-

1 paragraph (IV) or (V) of clause (iii) may  
2 be not younger than age 14 or older than  
3 age 24”; and

4 (iii) in clause (iii)—

5 (I) in subclause (III)—

6 (aa) in the matter preceding  
7 item (aa)—

8 (AA) by striking “sec-  
9 ondary school diploma or its  
10 recognized equivalent” and  
11 inserting “regular high  
12 school diploma or its recog-  
13 nized equivalent”; and

14 (BB) by striking “and  
15 is” and inserting “and”;

16 (bb) in item (aa), by striking  
17 “basic skills deficient;” and in-  
18 serting “has foundational skill  
19 needs;”; and

20 (cc) in item (bb), by striking  
21 “an English language learner”  
22 and inserting “is an English  
23 learner”; and



1 (II) in subclause (V), by striking  
 2 “(42 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6))” and in-  
 3 serting “(34 U.S.C. 12473(6))”.

4 (C) DEFINITION OF IN-SCHOOL YOUTH.—  
 5 Clause (iv) of section 129(a)(1)(C) of the Work-  
 6 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
 7 U.S.C. 3164(a)(1)(C)) is amended—

8 (i) in subclause (I), by striking “Basic  
 9 skills deficient.” and inserting “An indi-  
 10 vidual who has foundational skill needs.”;

11 (ii) in subclause (II), by striking “lan-  
 12 guage”;

13 (iii) by striking subclauses (III) and  
 14 (IV); and

15 (iv) by redesignating subclauses (V),  
 16 (VI), and (VII) as subclauses (III), (IV),  
 17 and (V), respectively.

18 (D) RULE FOR CERTAIN OUT-OF-SCHOOL  
 19 YOUTH.—Section 129(a)(1) of the Workforce  
 20 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
 21 3164(a)(1)) is amended by adding at the end  
 22 the following:

23 “(D) RULE FOR CERTAIN OUT-OF-SCHOOL  
 24 YOUTH.—An out-of-school youth described in  
 25 subclause (IV) or (V) of subparagraph (B)(iii)

1           who is attending any school (as defined under  
 2           State law) shall be eligible to participate in any  
 3           activity for in-school youth carried out under  
 4           this chapter.”.

5           (2) EXCEPTION AND LIMITATION.—Section  
 6           129(a)(3) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 7           tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(3)) is amended—

8                   (A) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking  
 9                   “5” and inserting “10”; and

10                  (B) in subparagraph (B)—

11                           (i) by striking “5” and inserting  
 12                           “10”; and

13                           (ii) by striking “paragraph  
 14                           (1)(C)(iv)(VII)” and inserting “paragraph  
 15                           (1)(C)(iv)(V)”.

16           (3) OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH PRIORITY.—Section  
 17           129(a)(4) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 18           tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(4)) is amended—

19                   (A) in subparagraph (A)—

20                           (i) by striking “75” each place it ap-  
 21                           pears and inserting “70”;

22                           (ii) by inserting “the total amount of”  
 23                           before “funds available”; and

24                           (iii) by inserting “in the State” after  
 25                           “subsection (c)”;

1 (B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking  
2 “75” and inserting “70”;

3 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (B), as  
4 so amended, as subparagraph (C); and

5 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (A)  
6 the following:

7 “(B) LOCAL AREA TARGETS.—The local  
8 board, the chief elected official, and the Gov-  
9 ernor shall negotiate and reach agreement on  
10 the minimum amount of funds provided to a  
11 local area under subsection (c) that shall be  
12 used to provide youth workforce investment ac-  
13 tivities for out-of-school youth based on the  
14 needs of the youth in the local area, which—

15 “(i) may not be an amount that is less  
16 than 45 percent of the funds provided to  
17 such local area under subsection (c); and

18 “(ii) shall be the amount that is nec-  
19 essary for the State to meet the require-  
20 ments of subparagraph (A) with respect to  
21 the total amount of funds available for  
22 local areas under subsection (c).”.

23 (b) REQUIRED STATEWIDE YOUTH ACTIVITIES.—  
24 Section 129(b)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
25 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(b)(1)) is amended—

1           (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),  
2       by striking “sections 128(a)” and inserting “sections  
3       128(a)(1)”;

4           (2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “through  
5       a website that is consumer-tested to ensure that the  
6       website is easily understood, searchable, and navi-  
7       gable and allows for comparison of eligible providers  
8       based on the program elements offered by such pro-  
9       viders and the performance of such providers on the  
10      primary indicators of performance for the youth pro-  
11      gram as described in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii)” after  
12      “under section 123”; and

13          (3) in subparagraph (D), by striking “section  
14       116(i)” and inserting “section 116(j)”.

15       (c) ALLOWABLE STATEWIDE YOUTH ACTIVITIES.—  
16   Section 129(b)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
17   tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(b)(2)) is amended—

18          (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),  
19       by striking “sections 128(a)” and inserting “sections  
20       128(a)(1)”;

21          (2) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “, which  
22       may include providing guidance on career options in  
23       in-demand industry sectors or occupations” after “in  
24       the State”;

25          (3) in subparagraph (D)—

1           (A) in clause (iv), by striking “and” at the  
2           end; and

3           (B) by inserting after clause (v) the fol-  
4           lowing:

5                   “(vi) supporting the ability to under-  
6                   stand relevant tax information and obliga-  
7                   tions;”;

8           (4) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period  
9           at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

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

11                   “(F) establishing, supporting, and expand-  
12                   ing work-based learning opportunities (includ-  
13                   ing transitional jobs and work-based learning  
14                   opportunities designed for youth to develop and  
15                   gain experience using emerging technologies, in-  
16                   cluding artificial intelligence, in the workplace)  
17                   that are aligned with career pathways;

18                   “(G) raising public awareness (including  
19                   through public service announcements, such as  
20                   social media campaigns and elementary and  
21                   secondary school showcases and school visits)  
22                   about career and technical education programs  
23                   and community-based and youth services orga-  
24                   nizations, and other endeavors focused on pro-

1           grams that prepare students for in-demand in-  
2           dustry sectors or occupations;

3           “(H) developing partnerships between edu-  
4           cational institutions (including area career and  
5           technical schools and institutions of higher edu-  
6           cation) and employers to create or improve  
7           workforce development programs to address the  
8           identified education and skill needs of the work-  
9           force (including the skills needed to use emerg-  
10          ing technology tools and systems in the work-  
11          place) and the employment needs of employers  
12          in the regions or local areas of the State, as de-  
13          termined based on the most recent analysis con-  
14          ducted under subparagraphs (B) and (C) of  
15          section 102(b)(1);

16          “(I) coordinating activities with providers  
17          of a pre-apprenticeship program or apprentice-  
18          ship program for youth in the State to estab-  
19          lish, support, or expand the program described  
20          in this subparagraph, including any such pro-  
21          gram in the State receiving assistance under  
22          section 173;

23          “(J) coordinating activities with entities  
24          implementing reentry projects in the State fo-  
25          cused on establishing or improving workforce

1 development programs for juvenile offenders,  
2 including any such reentry projects in the State  
3 receiving assistance under section 172; and

4 “(K) coordinating activities with agencies  
5 implementing corrections education and other  
6 education programs in the State focused on  
7 providing incarcerated youth with education  
8 and skills development programs, including any  
9 such programs in the State receiving assistance  
10 under section 225.”.

11 (d) LOCAL ELEMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS.—

12 (1) PROGRAM DESIGN.—Section 129(c)(1) of  
13 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
14 U.S.C. 3164(c)(1)) is amended—

15 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
16 “basic skills” and inserting “foundational skill  
17 needs”;

18 (B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting  
19 “(which, in the case of a participant 18 years  
20 or older, may include co-enrollment in any em-  
21 ployment or training activity provided under  
22 section 134 for adults)” after “services for the  
23 participant”;

24 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

1 (i) in clause (i), by striking “sec-  
 2 ondary school diploma or its recognized  
 3 equivalent” and inserting “regular high  
 4 school diploma or its recognized equiva-  
 5 lent”; and

6 (ii) in clause (v), by inserting “high-  
 7 skill, high-wage, or” after “small employ-  
 8 ers, in”; and

9 (D) in subparagraph (D), by striking “10”  
 10 and inserting “30”.

11 (2) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—Section 129(c)(2)  
 12 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
 13 (29 U.S.C. 3164(c)(2)) is amended—

14 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
 15 (A), by striking “secondary school diploma or  
 16 its recognized equivalent” and inserting “reg-  
 17 ular high school diploma or its recognized  
 18 equivalent”;

19 (B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sec-  
 20 ondary school diploma or its recognized equiva-  
 21 lent” and inserting “regular high school di-  
 22 ploma or its recognized equivalent”;

23 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

24 (i) in clause (i)—



1 (I) by striking “other” and in-  
2 serting “year-round”; and

3 (II) by inserting “that meet the  
4 requirements of paragraph (10)” after  
5 “school year”;

6 (ii) in clause (ii), by inserting “and  
7 apprenticeship programs that serve youth”  
8 after “programs”;

9 (iii) by amending clause (iii) to read  
10 as follows:

11 “(iii) internships that—

12 “(I) are paid internships or are  
13 unpaid internships for which academic  
14 credit may be awarded;

15 “(II) are, to the extent prac-  
16 ticable, aligned with in-demand indus-  
17 try sectors or occupations in the State  
18 or local area; and

19 “(III) for which participants  
20 shall be paid (by the entity providing  
21 the internship, through funds allo-  
22 cated to the local area pursuant to  
23 paragraph (1) for the program, or by  
24 another entity) if such internships are  
25 longer than—

1                   “(aa) 4 weeks in the sum-  
2                   mer or 8 weeks during the school  
3                   year for in-school youth and out-  
4                   of-school youth who are enrolled  
5                   in school; or

6                   “(bb) 8 weeks for out-of-  
7                   school youth who are not enrolled  
8                   in school;”;

9                   (iv) by redesignating clause (iv) as  
10                  clause (v);

11                  (v) by inserting after clause (iii), as so  
12                  amended, the following:

13                   “(iv) job shadowing;”;

14                   (vi) in clause (v), as so redesignated,  
15                  by inserting “and” at the end; and

16                   (vii) by adding at the end the fol-  
17                  lowing:

18                   “(vi) work-based learning;”;

19                  (D) in subparagraph (H), by striking  
20                  “adult mentoring” and inserting “coaching and  
21                  adult mentoring services”;

22                  (E) in subparagraph (I), by inserting “(in-  
23                  cluding case management)” after “services”;

24                  (F) in subparagraph (M)—

1 (i) by inserting “high-skill, high-wage,  
2 or” before “in-demand industry”; and

3 (ii) by striking the “and” at the end;

4 (G) in subparagraph (N), by striking the  
5 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

6 (H) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(O) activities to develop fundamental  
8 workforce readiness, which may include cre-  
9 ativity, collaboration, critical thinking, digital  
10 literacy, persistence, and other relevant skills.”.

11 (3) PRIORITY.—Section 129(c)(4) of the Work-  
12 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
13 3164(c)(4)) is amended to read as follows:

14 “(4) PRIORITY.—

15 “(A) WORK EXPERIENCES.—Not less than  
16 40 percent of the funds allocated to the local  
17 area as described in paragraph (1) shall be  
18 used to provide in-school youth and out-of-  
19 school youth with activities under paragraph  
20 (2)(C).

21 “(B) APPRENTICESHIPS AND PRE-APPREN-  
22 TICESHIPS FOR YOUTH.—Not less than 12 and  
23 1/2 percent of the funds used for the purposes  
24 described in subparagraph (A) shall be used to

1 provide in-school youth and out-of-school youth  
2 with activities under paragraph (2)(C)(ii).”.

3 (4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Section  
4 129(c)(5) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
5 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(c)(5)) is amended by in-  
6 serting “or local area” after “youth services”.

7 (5) LINKAGES.—Section 129(c)(7) of the Work-  
8 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
9 3164(c)(7)) is amended by inserting “, secondary  
10 schools, and area career and technical schools” after  
11 “agencies”.

12 (6) INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNTS.—Section  
13 129(c) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
14 Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(c)) is amended by adding at  
15 the end the following:

16 “(9) INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNTS.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
18 graph (B), funds allocated pursuant to para-  
19 graph (1) to a local area may be used to pay,  
20 through an individual training account, an eligi-  
21 ble provider of training services described in  
22 section 122(d) for training services described in  
23 section 134(c)(3) provided to in-school youth  
24 who are not younger than age 16 and not older  
25 than age 21 and out-of-school youth, in the

1 same manner that an individual training ac-  
2 count is used to pay an eligible provider of  
3 training services under section 134(c)(3)(F)(iii)  
4 for training services provided to an adult or dis-  
5 located worker.

6 “(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR IN-SCHOOL  
7 YOUTH YOUNGER THAN AGE 18.—To use an in-  
8 dividual training account to pay for a program  
9 of training services that will take place during  
10 regular school hours for an in-school youth who  
11 is younger than the age 18, the local area shall  
12 receive written approval from the secondary  
13 school at which the in-school youth is enrolled  
14 prior to the start of the program of training  
15 services.”.

16 (7) SUMMER AND YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT  
17 OPPORTUNITIES REQUIREMENTS.—Section 129(c) of  
18 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
19 U.S.C. 3164(c)) is further amended by adding at the  
20 end the following:

21 “(10) SUMMER AND YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT  
22 OPPORTUNITIES REQUIREMENTS.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A summer employ-  
24 ment opportunity or a year-round employment  
25 opportunity referred to in paragraph (2)(C)(i)

1 shall be a program that matches eligible youth  
2 participating in such program with an appro-  
3 priate employer (based on factors including the  
4 needs of the employer and the age, skill, and in-  
5 formed aspirations of the eligible youth) that—

6 “(i) shall include—

7 “(I) a component of occupational  
8 skills education; and

9 “(II) not less than 2 of the ac-  
10 tivities described in subparagraphs  
11 (G), (H), (I), (K), (M), and (O) of  
12 paragraph (2);

13 “(ii) may not use funds allocated  
14 under this chapter to subsidize more than  
15 50 percent of the wages of each eligible  
16 youth participant in such program;

17 “(iii) in the case of a summer employ-  
18 ment opportunity, complies with the re-  
19 quirements of subparagraph (B); and

20 “(iv) in the case of a year-round em-  
21 ployment opportunity, complies with the  
22 requirements of subparagraph (C).

23 “(B) SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPOR-  
24 TUNITY.—In addition to the applicable require-

ments described in subparagraph (A), a summer employment opportunity—

“(i) may not be less than 4 weeks;  
and

“(ii) may not pay less than the highest applicable wage required by the applicable Federal, State, or local minimum wage law.

“(C) YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.—In addition to the applicable requirements described in subparagraph (A), a year-round employment opportunity—

“(i) may not be shorter than 180 days or longer than 1 year;

“(ii) may not pay less than the highest applicable wage required by the applicable Federal, State, or local minimum wage law; and

“(iii) may not employ the eligible youth for less than 20 hours per week, except in instances when the eligible youth are under the age of 18 or enrolled in school.

“(D) PRIORITY.—In selecting summer employment opportunities or year-round employ-

ment opportunities for purposes of paragraph (2)(C)(i), a local area shall give priority to such opportunities that meet the requirements of this paragraph and that are in existing or emerging high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors or occupations.”.

(8) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 129(c)(3)(B) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(c)(3)(B)) is amended by striking “basic skills” and inserting “foundational skill needs”.

## **CHAPTER 3—ADULT AND DISLOCATED WORKER EMPLOYMENT AND TRAIN- ING ACTIVITIES**

### **SEC. 141. STATE ALLOTMENTS.**

Section 132(a)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3172(a)(2)(A)) is amended by—

(1) striking “, 169(c) (relating to dislocated worker projects),”; and

(2) by inserting “, and under subsections (c) (related to dislocated worker projects) and (d) (related to workforce data quality initiatives) of section 169” before “; and”



1 **SEC. 142. RESERVATIONS FOR STATE ACTIVITIES; WITHIN**  
2 **STATE ALLOCATIONS; REALLOCATION.**

3 (a) RESERVATIONS FOR STATE ACTIVITIES.—Section  
4 133(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
5 (29 U.S.C. 3173(a)) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “section  
7 128(a)” and inserting “section 128(a)(1)”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(3) CRITICAL INDUSTRY SKILLS FUND, AND  
10 INDUSTRY OR SECTOR PARTNERSHIP AND CAREER  
11 PATHWAYS FUND.—In addition to the reservations  
12 required under paragraphs (1) and (2), the Gov-  
13 ernor may make the reservation authorized under  
14 section 128(a)(3).”.

15 (b) WITHIN STATE ALLOCATIONS.—Section  
16 133(b)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
17 Act (29 U.S.C. 3173(b)) is amended—

18 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sub-  
19 section (a)(1)” and inserting “paragraph (1) or (3)  
20 of subsection (a)”; and

21 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “para-  
22 graph (1) or (2) of subsection (a)” and inserting  
23 “paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (a)”.

24 (c) REALLOCATION AMONG LOCAL AREAS.—Section  
25 133(c) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
26 (29 U.S.C. 3173(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting before the period at the end, the following: “as performance-based incentive payments”;

(2) in paragraph (4)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “that does not” and inserting the following: “that—

“(i) does not”;

(ii) by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) has met or exceeded an average of 100 percent of the local level of performance described in section 116(c)(1)(B) for the local area across all indicators for the adult program authorized under this chapter for the most recent program year for which performance data is available; and

“(iii) was not subject to corrective action by the Governor under section 184(a)(5)(A) for a determination of non-compliance with the uniform administrative requirements described in section

184(a)(3) for the program year for which the determination under paragraph (2) is made; and”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “that does not” and inserting the following: “that—

“(i) does not”;

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) has met or exceeded an average of 100 percent of the local level of performance described in section 116(c)(1)(B) for the local area across all indicators for the dislocated worker program authorized under this chapter for the most recent program year for which performance data is available; and

“(iii) was not subject to corrective action by the Governor under section 184(a)(5)(A) for a determination of non-compliance with the uniform administrative requirements described in section 184(a)(3) for the program year for which

1 the determination under paragraph (2) is  
 2 made; and”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(5) USE OF INCENTIVE FUNDS.—Any amounts  
 5 provided to a local area as a performance incentive  
 6 payment under this subsection shall not be subject  
 7 to the requirements described in section  
 8 134(c)(1)(B).”.

9 **SEC. 143. USE OF FUNDS FOR EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**  
 10 **ACTIVITIES.**

11 (a) STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AC-  
 12 TIVITIES.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 134(a)(1) of the  
 14 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
 15 U.S.C. 3174(a)(1))—

16 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
 17 “and” at the end;

18 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

19 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),  
 20 by striking “128(a)” and inserting  
 21 “128(a)(1)”; and

22 (ii) by amending clause (ii) to read as  
 23 follows:

24 “(ii) may be used to carry out any of  
 25 the statewide employment and training ac-

activities described in paragraph (3) (including establishing and administering any one, or both, of the funds referred to in subparagraph (C));” and

(C) by inserting before the flush left text at the end the following:

“(C) as described in section 128(a)(3), shall be used to establish and administer any one, or both, of the following:

“(i) a critical industry skills fund described in paragraph (4); or

“(ii) an industry or sector partnership and career pathways development fund described in paragraph (5),”.

(2) REQUIRED STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES.—

(A) STATEWIDE RAPID RESPONSE ACTIVITIES.—Section 134(a)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

(i) in clause (i)—

(I) in subclause (I)—

(aa) by striking “working” and inserting “as a rapid response unit working”; and

1 (bb) by striking “and” at  
2 the end;

3 (II) in subclause (II), by striking  
4 the period at the end and inserting “;  
5 and”; and

6 (III) by adding at the end the  
7 following:

8 “(III) provision of additional as-  
9 sistance to any local area that has ex-  
10 cess demand for individual training  
11 accounts for dislocated workers in  
12 such local area and requests such ad-  
13 ditional assistance under this sub-  
14 clause in accordance with paragraph  
15 (4) of section 414(c) of the American  
16 Competitiveness and Workforce Im-  
17 provement Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.  
18 3224a(5)), upon a determination by  
19 the State that, in using funds allo-  
20 cated to such local area pursuant to  
21 paragraph (1) of such section 414(c)  
22 and in using funds as required under  
23 subsection (c)(1)(B) of this section for  
24 the purpose described in paragraph  
25 (2)(A) of such section 414(c)), the

1 local area is in compliance with the  
2 requirements of such section 414(c).”;  
3 and

4 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 “(iii) INSUFFICIENT FUNDS TO MEET  
7 EXCESS DEMAND.—If a State determines  
8 that a local area with excess demand as  
9 described in clause (i)(III) has met the  
10 compliance requirements described in such  
11 clause, but the State does not have suffi-  
12 cient funds reserved under section  
13 133(a)(2) to meet such excess demand, the  
14 State—

15 “(I) shall notify the Secretary of  
16 such excess demand; and

17 “(II) if eligible, may apply for a  
18 national dislocated worker grant  
19 under section 170 of this Act.”.

20 (B) STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAIN-  
21 ING ACTIVITIES.—Section 134(a)(2)(B) of the  
22 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
23 U.S.C. 3174(a)(2)(B) is amended—

24 (i) in clause (i)—

1 (I) in subclause (III), by striking  
2 “and” at the end;

3 (II) by amending subclause (IV)  
4 to read as follows:

5 “(IV) local areas, one-stop opera-  
6 tors, one-stop partners, and eligible  
7 providers, including the development  
8 and training of staff, which may in-  
9 clude—

10 “(aa) the development and  
11 training of staff to provide infor-  
12 mation about wage levels and  
13 available benefits across in-de-  
14 mand industry sectors or occupa-  
15 tions, and information about op-  
16 portunities for individuals with  
17 barriers to employment to enter  
18 in-demand industry sectors or oc-  
19 cupations and nontraditional oc-  
20 cupations;

21 “(bb) providing capacity  
22 building and technical assistance  
23 to State board and local board  
24 members on the development of  
25 exemplary program activities;



1 “(cc) the development and  
2 education of staff to increase ex-  
3 pertise in providing opportunities  
4 for covered veterans (as defined  
5 in section 4212(a)(3)(A) of title  
6 38, United States Code) to enter  
7 in-demand industry sectors or oc-  
8 cupations and nontraditional oc-  
9 cupations: and

10 “(dd) the provision of tech-  
11 nical assistance to local areas  
12 that fail to meet local perform-  
13 ance accountability measures de-  
14 scribed in section 116(c); and”;  
15 and

16 (III) by adding at the end the  
17 following:

18 “(V) local boards and eligible  
19 providers of training services in car-  
20 rying out the performance reporting  
21 required under section 116(d), includ-  
22 ing facilitating data matches for pro-  
23 gram participants—

24 “(aa) using quarterly wage  
25 record information (including the

1 wage records made available by  
2 any other State and information  
3 provided from the National Di-  
4 rectory of New Hires in accord-  
5 ance with section 453(j)(8) of the  
6 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
7 653(j)(8)); and

8 “(bb) other sources of infor-  
9 mation, as necessary to measure  
10 the performance of programs and  
11 activities conducted under this  
12 chapter or chapter 2 of this sub-  
13 title;”;

14 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “section  
15 106(b)(7)” and inserting “section  
16 106(b)(6)”;

17 (iii) in clause (iii), by striking “section  
18 116(i)” and inserting “section 116(j)”;  
19 and

20 (iv) in clause (v)—

21 (I) in subclause (II)—

22 (aa) by striking “customized  
23 training” and inserting “em-  
24 ployer-directed skills develop-  
25 ment”; and

1 (bb) by striking “transi-  
2 tional jobs” and inserting “tran-  
3 sitional jobs, or sponsors of ap-  
4 prenticeships and pre-apprentice-  
5 ships”;

6 (II) in subclause (III), by insert-  
7 ing “, including business engaged in  
8 joint labor-management partnerships”  
9 before the semicolon;

10 (III) by redesignating subclauses  
11 (V) and (VI) as subclauses (VI) and  
12 (VII), respectively;

13 (IV) by inserting after subclause  
14 (IV) the following:

15 “(V) information on effective co-  
16 ordination of supportive services for  
17 workers and jobseekers;”;

18 (V) in subclause (VI), as so re-  
19 designated—

20 (aa) by striking “subsections  
21 (d) and (h) of section 122” and  
22 inserting “subsections (d) and (i)  
23 of section 122”; and

24 (bb) by striking “and” at  
25 the end; and

1 (VI) by adding at the end the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 “(VIII) information to partici-  
4 pants on understanding and accessing  
5 State-administered programs and  
6 services available to jobseekers;”;

7 (v) by redesignating clause (vi) as  
8 clause (vii);

9 (vi) by inserting after clause (v) the  
10 following:

11 “(vi) notifying participants of an eligi-  
12 ble program of training services whose par-  
13 ticipation is funded under this Act, if such  
14 program’s status as an eligible program of  
15 training services is revoked under section  
16 122(c)(4);”;

17 (vii) in clause (vii), as so redesign-  
18 ated, by striking the period at the end  
19 and inserting a semicolon; and

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

22 “(viii) coordinating (which may be  
23 done in partnership with other States) with  
24 industry organizations, employers (includ-  
25 ing small and mid-sized employers), indus-

1 try or sector partnerships, training pro-  
2 viders, local boards, and institutions of  
3 higher education to identify or develop  
4 competency-based assessments that are a  
5 valid and reliable method of collecting in-  
6 formation with respect to, and measuring,  
7 the prior knowledge, skills, and abilities of  
8 individuals who are adults or dislocated  
9 workers for the purpose of—

10 “(I) awarding, based on the  
11 knowledge, skills, and abilities of such  
12 an individual validated by such assess-  
13 ments—

14 “(aa) a recognized postsec-  
15 ondary credential that is used by  
16 employers in the State for re-  
17 cruitment, hiring, retention, or  
18 advancement purposes;

19 “(bb) postsecondary credit  
20 toward a recognized postsec-  
21 ondary credential aligned with in-  
22 demand industry sectors and oc-  
23 cupations in the State for the  
24 purpose of accelerating attain-  
25 ment of such credential; and

1 “(cc) postsecondary credit  
2 for progress along a career path-  
3 way developed by the State or a  
4 local area within the State;

5 “(II) developing individual em-  
6 ployment plans under subsection  
7 (c)(2)(B)(vii)(II) that incorporate the  
8 knowledge, skills, and abilities of such  
9 an individual to identify—

10 “(aa) in-demand industry  
11 sectors or occupations that re-  
12 quire similar knowledge, skills,  
13 and abilities; and

14 “(bb) any upskilling needed  
15 for the individual to secure em-  
16 ployment in such a sector or oc-  
17 cupation; and

18 “(III) helping such an individual  
19 communicate such knowledge, skills,  
20 and abilities to prospective employers  
21 through a skills-based resume, profile,  
22 or portfolio; and

23 “(ix) disseminating to local areas and  
24 employers information relating to the com-  
25 petency-based assessments identified or de-

veloped pursuant to clause (viii), including—

“(I) any credential or credit awarded pursuant to items (aa) through (cc) of clause (viii)(I);

“(II) the industry organizations, employers, training providers, and institutions of higher education located within the State that recognize the knowledge, skills, and abilities of an individual validated by such assessments;

“(III) how such assessments may be provided to, and accessed by, individuals through the one-stop delivery system; and

“(IV) information on the extent to which such assessments are being used by employers and local areas in the State.”.

(3) ALLOWABLE STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES.—Section 134(a)(3)(A) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(a)(3)(A))—

(A) in clause (i)—

1 (i) by inserting “or evidence-based”  
2 after “innovative”;

3 (ii) by inserting “local communities  
4 and” after “needs of”;

5 (iii) by striking “customized training”  
6 and inserting “employer-directed skills de-  
7 velopment”;

8 (iv) by inserting “and partnerships  
9 with” after “utilization of”;

10 (v) by inserting “and labor-manage-  
11 ment partnerships” after “business inter-  
12 mediaries”; and

13 (vi) by inserting “and medium-sized”  
14 before “employers) in the State, and”;

15 (B) in clause (ii)—

16 (i) by inserting “, or bringing evi-  
17 dence-based strategies to scale,” after  
18 “strategies”; and

19 (ii) by inserting “supporting such in-  
20 dividuals in achieving economic self-suffi-  
21 ciency and mobility, and” after “employ-  
22 ment and”;

23 (C) in clause (iii)—

24 (i) by striking “ and prior learning as-  
25 sessment to” and inserting “, prior learn-



1 ing assessment, or a competency-based as-  
2 sessment identified or developed by the  
3 State under paragraph (2)(B)(viii), to”;  
4 and

5 (ii) by striking “stackable” and insert-  
6 ing “permit articulation into higher level  
7 degree or other credential programs”;

8 (D) in clause (iv), by inserting “, which  
9 may include on-the job training, employer-di-  
10 rected skills development, transitional jobs, in-  
11 dustry or sector partnerships, apprenticeships,  
12 and other programs” after “employment”;

13 (E) in clause (viii)—

14 (i) in subclause (I), by inserting “, in-  
15 cluding such activities funded through  
16 other Federal and State laws” after “de-  
17 velopment activities”; and

18 (ii) in subclause (II)—

19 (I) in item (cc), by inserting “ac-  
20 tivities carried out by comprehensive  
21 transition and postsecondary pro-  
22 grams for students with intellectual  
23 disabilities established under section  
24 767 of the Higher Education Act of

1 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1140g),” after “de-  
2 velopmental disabilities,”;

3 (II) in item (dd), by striking “ac-  
4 tivities, including those” and inserting  
5 “activities and services to promote  
6 digital literacy skills, including activi-  
7 ties and services”;

8 (III) by adding at the end the  
9 following:

10 “(gg) programs under the  
11 Older Americans Act of 1965 (42  
12 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) that support  
13 employment and economic secu-  
14 rity; and”;

15 (F) in clause (xi), by inserting “that ex-  
16 ceed the local levels of performance” after  
17 “local areas”;

18 (G) in clause (xiii), by striking “and” at  
19 the end;

20 (H) in clause (xiv)—

21 (i) by inserting “conducting feasibility  
22 studies for the effectiveness of such strate-  
23 gies in meeting the employment and skills  
24 development needs of target populations in

1 the local areas that are using such feasi-  
2 bility studies,” after “data collection,”; and

3 (ii) by striking the period at the end  
4 and inserting a semicolon; and

5 (I) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(xv) supporting employers seeking to  
7 implement skills-based hiring practices,  
8 which may include technical assistance on  
9 the use and validation of employment as-  
10 sessments (including competency-based as-  
11 sessments developed or identified by the  
12 State pursuant to paragraph (2)(B)(viii)),  
13 and support in the creation of skills-based  
14 job descriptions;

15 “(xvi) developing partnerships be-  
16 tween educational institutions (including  
17 area career and technical education  
18 schools, local educational agencies, and in-  
19 stitutions of higher education) and employ-  
20 ers to create or improve workforce develop-  
21 ment programs to address the identified  
22 education and skill needs of the workforce  
23 and the employment needs of employers in  
24 regions of the State, as determined by the  
25 most recent analysis conducted under sub-

paragraphs (A), (B), and (D) of section 102(b)(1);

“(xvii) identifying and making available to residents of the State, free or reduced cost access to online skills development programs that are aligned with in-demand industries or occupations in the State and lead to attainment of a recognized postsecondary credential valued by employers in such industries or occupations;

“(xviii) establishing and administering a critical industry skills fund described in paragraph (4); and

“(xix) establishing and administering an industry or sector partnership and career pathways development fund described in paragraph (5).”.

(4) CRITICAL INDUSTRY SKILLS FUND.—Section 134(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(a)), as amended, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) CRITICAL INDUSTRY SKILLS FUND.—

“(A) PERFORMANCE-BASED PAYMENTS.—

In addition to the funds described in paragraph

(3)(A), a State may use any funds reserved under paragraph (3)(A) of section 128(a) to establish and administer a critical industry skills fund to award performance-based payments on a per-worker basis to eligible entities that provide, to prospective workers or incumbent workers (which may include youth age 18 through age 24), eligible skills development programs that are in any of the industries and occupations identified by the Governor (in consultation with the State board) for purposes of this paragraph, and that will result in employment or retention with an employer in such an industry or occupation (in this paragraph referred to as a ‘participating employer’).

“(B) OPTIONAL PRIORITY.—The Governor (in consultation with the State board) may select the industries and occupations identified under subparagraph (A) that should be prioritized under this paragraph.

“(C) SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS.—To be eligible to receive a payment under the critical industry skills fund established under this paragraph by a State, an eligible entity shall submit to the Governor, a proposal describing the eligi-

1           ble skills development program to be provided  
2           by the eligible entity under this paragraph, in  
3           such form, at such time, and containing such  
4           information, as the Governor may reasonably  
5           require.

6                   “(D) REIMBURSEMENT FOR APPROVED  
7           PROPOSALS.—

8                           “(i) STATE REQUIREMENTS.—

9                                   “(I) IN GENERAL.—With respect  
10                           to each eligible entity whose proposal  
11                           under subparagraph (C) has been ap-  
12                           proved by the Governor, the Governor  
13                           shall make payments (in an amount  
14                           determined by the Governor and sub-  
15                           ject to the requirements of subclause  
16                           (II) of this clause, subparagraph (E),  
17                           and any other limitations determined  
18                           necessary by the State) from the crit-  
19                           ical industry skills fund established  
20                           under this paragraph to such eligible  
21                           entity for each participant of the eligi-  
22                           ble skills development program de-  
23                           scribed in such proposal and with re-  
24                           spect to whom the eligible entity  
25                           meets the requirements of clause (ii).

1                   “(II) PAYMENTS.—In making  
2                   payments to an eligible entity under  
3                   subclause (I) with respect to a partici-  
4                   pant—

5                   “(aa) a portion of the total  
6                   payment shall be made after the  
7                   participant successfully completes  
8                   the eligible skills development  
9                   program offered by the eligible  
10                  entity; and

11                  “(bb) the remainder of such  
12                  total payment shall be made after  
13                  the participant has been em-  
14                  ployed by the participating em-  
15                  ployer of the eligible entity for  
16                  the 6-month period after success-  
17                  ful completion of the program.

18                  “(ii) ELIGIBLE ENTITY REQUIRE-  
19                  MENTS.—To be eligible to receive the pay-  
20                  ments described in clause (i) with respect  
21                  to a participant, an eligible entity shall  
22                  submit such documentation as the Gov-  
23                  ernor determines necessary to verify  
24                  whether the participant meets the require-  
25                  ments of items (aa) and (bb) of clause

1 (i)(II), and to comply with the perform-  
2 ance reporting described in subparagraph  
3 (F).

4 “(E) NON-FEDERAL COST SHARING.—

5 “(i) LIMITS ON FEDERAL SHARE.—An  
6 eligible entity may not receive funds under  
7 subparagraph (D) with respect to a partici-  
8 pant of the eligible skills development pro-  
9 gram offered by the eligible entity in ex-  
10 cess of the following costs of such program  
11 with respect to such participant:

12 “(I) In the case of a partici-  
13 pating employer of such eligible entity  
14 with 25 or fewer employees, 90 per-  
15 cent of the costs.

16 “(II) In the case of a partici-  
17 pating employer of such eligible entity  
18 with more than 25 employees, but  
19 fewer than 100 employees, 75 percent  
20 of the costs.

21 “(III) In the case of a partici-  
22 pating employer of such eligible entity  
23 with 100 or more employees, 50 per-  
24 cent of the costs.

25 “(ii) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—



1           “(I) IN GENERAL.—Any costs of  
2           the eligible skills development pro-  
3           gram offered to a participant by such  
4           eligible entity that are not covered by  
5           the funds received under subpara-  
6           graph (D) shall be the non-Federal  
7           share provided by the eligible entity  
8           (in cash or in-kind).

9           “(II) EMPLOYER COST SHAR-  
10          ING.—If the eligible skills develop-  
11          ment program is being provided on-  
12          the-job, the non-Federal share pro-  
13          vided by an eligible entity may include  
14          the amount of the wages paid by the  
15          participating employer of the eligible  
16          entity to a participant while such par-  
17          ticipant is receiving the training.

18          “(F) PERFORMANCE REPORTING.—Using  
19          the participant information provided by eligible  
20          entities under subparagraph (D)(ii), the State  
21          shall submit to the Secretary a report, on an  
22          annual basis, with respect to all participants for  
23          which the eligible entities received funds under  
24          this paragraph for the most recent program  
25          year, which shall include—

1 “(i) the number of individuals who  
2 participated in eligible skills development  
3 programs provided by such eligible entities  
4 through the critical industry skills fund  
5 under this paragraph; and

6 “(ii) the performance of such partici-  
7 pants on the primary indicators of per-  
8 formance described in subclauses (I)  
9 through (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i).

10 “(G) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

11 “(i) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘el-  
12 igible entity’ means—

13 “(I) a participating employer or  
14 a group of participating employers;

15 “(II) an industry or sector part-  
16 nership that includes a participating  
17 employer; or

18 “(III) another entity serving as  
19 an intermediary (such as a local  
20 board) that is in partnership with a  
21 participating employer.

22 “(ii) ELIGIBLE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT  
23 PROGRAM.—The term ‘eligible skills devel-  
24 opment program’, when used with respect  
25 to an eligible entity—

1           “(I) means a program with re-  
2           spect to which a State may set a max-  
3           imum and minimum length (in  
4           weeks);

5           “(II) includes work-based edu-  
6           cation or related occupational skills  
7           instruction that—

8                   “(aa) develops the specific  
9                   technical skills necessary for suc-  
10                  cessful performance of the occu-  
11                  pations in which participants are  
12                  to be employed upon completion;  
13                  and

14                  “(bb) may be provided—

15                   “(AA) by the eligible  
16                   entity; or

17                   “(BB) by any training  
18                   provider that is selected by  
19                   the eligible entity and with-  
20                   out regard to whether such  
21                   provider is on a list of eligi-  
22                   ble providers of training  
23                   services described in section  
24                   122(d); and

1 “(III) does not include employee  
2 onboarding, orientation, or profes-  
3 sional development generally provided  
4 to employees.”.

5 (5) INDUSTRY OR SECTOR PARTNERSHIP AND  
6 CAREER PATHWAYS DEVELOPMENT FUND.—Section  
7 134(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
8 Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(a)), as amended, is further  
9 amended by adding at the end the following:

10 “(5) INDUSTRY OR SECTOR PARTNERSHIP AND  
11 CAREER PATHWAYS DEVELOPMENT FUND.—

12 “(A) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this para-  
13 graph is to establish new or expand existing in-  
14 dustry or sector partnerships and career path-  
15 way programs to encourage regional economic  
16 growth and competitiveness, and improve work-  
17 er training, retention, and advancement.

18 “(B) DESCRIPTION OF FUND.—In addition  
19 to the funds described in paragraph (3)(A), a  
20 State may use any funds reserved under para-  
21 graph (3)(A) of section 128(a) to establish and  
22 administer an industry or sector partnership  
23 and career pathways development fund to  
24 award grants to eligible partnerships to estab-  
25 lish or expand industry or sector partnerships

1           that include employers in a high-growth or  
2           high-wage industry of the State in order to  
3           meet the following objectives:

4                   “(i) Build capacity among such part-  
5                   nerships to prepare jobseekers and incum-  
6                   bent workers participating in such partner-  
7                   ships for careers in such a high-growth or  
8                   high-wage industry.

9                   “(ii) Leverage the capacity of such  
10                  partnerships to develop, improve, expand,  
11                  or implement education, employment, and  
12                  training opportunities for individuals with  
13                  barriers to employment.

14                  “(iii) Strengthen coordination between  
15                  such industry or sector partnerships and  
16                  one-stop partners for the local areas in-  
17                  volved that are described in paragraphs (1)  
18                  and (2) of section 121(b).

19                  “(iv) Develop or expand a career  
20                  pathway program that utilizes integrated  
21                  education and training strategies and sup-  
22                  ports multiple points of entry and exit for  
23                  working learners.

1           “(C) DURATION.—Each grant awarded  
2           under this paragraph shall be for a period of  
3           not more than 2 years.

4           “(D) AWARD BASIS.—

5           “(i) GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY.—The  
6           Governor shall award grants under this  
7           paragraph in a manner that ensures geo-  
8           graphic diversity in the areas in the State  
9           in which activities will be carried out under  
10          the grants.

11          “(ii) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants  
12          under this paragraph, the Governor shall  
13          give priority consideration to eligible part-  
14          nerships that—

15               “(I) include (or will include) as a  
16               partner in the industry or sector part-  
17               nership to be established or expanded  
18               under this paragraph, a 2-year public  
19               institution of higher education;

20               “(II) demonstrate long-term sus-  
21               tainability of such industry or sector  
22               partnership; and

23               “(III) demonstrate the ability of  
24               such industry or sector partnership to  
25               serve individuals who—

1           “(aa) are individuals with a  
2           barrier to employment, including  
3           individuals with disabilities;

4           “(bb) are facing significant  
5           worker dislocation due to a dis-  
6           ruption or change in the regional  
7           or State economy or labor mar-  
8           ket;

9           “(cc) have traditionally been  
10          underserved by regional economic  
11          development and sector partner-  
12          ship activities (including rural  
13          areas in the State); or

14          “(dd) are—

15               “(AA)       out-of-school  
16               youth, disadvantaged youth,  
17               or disadvantaged adults; or

18               “(BB) unemployed in-  
19               dividuals, within the mean-  
20               ing of section 6(b)(1)(B) of  
21               the Wagner-Peyser Act (29  
22               U.S.C. 49e(b)(1)(B)).

23           “(iii) ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL PRI-  
24           ORITY.—In awarding grants under this  
25           paragraph, in addition to the priority con-

1           sideration required under clause (ii), the  
2           Governor may give priority consideration  
3           to eligible partnerships that include, or will  
4           include, as a partner in the industry or  
5           sector partnership to be established or ex-  
6           panded under this section—

7                       “(I) a 4-year public institution of  
8                       higher education at which the highest  
9                       degree that is predominantly awarded  
10                      to students is an associate degree; or

11                     “(II) a 2-year Tribal College or  
12                     University (as defined in section  
13                     316(b) of the Higher Education Act  
14                     of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)).

15           “(E) APPLICATION.—

16                       “(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible part-  
17                       nership seeking a grant under this para-  
18                       graph shall submit an application to the  
19                       Governor at such time, in such manner,  
20                       and containing such information as the  
21                       Governor may reasonably require, includ-  
22                       ing the contents described in clause (ii).

23                     “(ii) CONTENTS.—An eligible partner-  
24                     ship seeking a grant under this paragraph



1 shall submit an application to the Governor  
2 under clause (i) containing, at minimum—

3 “(I) a description of the eligible  
4 partnership, and the industry or sec-  
5 tor partnership that will be estab-  
6 lished or expanded with such grant;

7 “(II) the expected participation  
8 and responsibilities of each of the  
9 partners that will be included in such  
10 industry or sector partnership;

11 “(III) a description of the high-  
12 growth or high-wage industry sector  
13 to be served by such industry or sec-  
14 tor partnership, and a description of  
15 how such industry sector was identi-  
16 fied;

17 “(IV) a description of the work-  
18 ers and other individuals who will be  
19 targeted or recruited by such industry  
20 or sector partnership, including the  
21 number of workers and other individ-  
22 uals who will be served by the part-  
23 nership;

24 “(V) an analysis of the existing  
25 labor market to be served by such in-

1 industry or sector partnership, which in-  
2 cludes—

3 “(aa) a description of poten-  
4 tial barriers to employment for  
5 the targeted workers and other  
6 individuals;

7 “(bb) the estimated share of  
8 such workers and other individ-  
9 uals who are individuals with a  
10 barrier to employment; and

11 “(cc) a description of strate-  
12 gies that will be developed to help  
13 such workers and other individ-  
14 uals overcome such barriers;

15 “(VI) a description of the Fed-  
16 eral and non-Federal resources, avail-  
17 able under provisions of law other  
18 than this paragraph, that will be le-  
19 veraged in support of such industry or  
20 sector partnership and the activities  
21 carried out by the partnership under  
22 this paragraph;

23 “(VII) a description, using com-  
24 mon, linked, open-data descriptive  
25 language, of the recognized postsec-

1           ondary credential that will be provided  
2           to individuals who successfully com-  
3           plete the education and training pro-  
4           gram provided through an education  
5           provider in such industry or sector  
6           partnership;

7                   “(VIII) an assurance that any el-  
8           igible provider of training services in  
9           such industry or sector partnership is  
10          on a list of eligible providers of train-  
11          ing services described in section  
12          122(d); and

13                   “(IX) a commitment from a par-  
14          ticipating employer in such industry  
15          or sector partnership to employ each  
16          participant of such education and  
17          training program (which may be a ca-  
18          reer pathway program) for not less  
19          than a 1-year period, in accordance  
20          with the employment policies of such  
21          employer, after successful completion  
22          of the training portion of the edu-  
23          cation and training program operated  
24          by such participating employer.

25                   “(F) USES OF FUNDS.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible part-  
2 nership awarded a grant under this para-  
3 graph shall use such grant funds to estab-  
4 lish a new industry or sector partnership  
5 or expand the industry or sector partner-  
6 ship of the eligible partnership to meet the  
7 objectives listed in subparagraph (B)—

8 “(I) by engaging businesses in  
9 accordance with clause (iii); and

10 “(II) by carrying out an edu-  
11 cation and training program that—

12 “(aa) leads to the recognized  
13 postsecondary credential de-  
14 scribed in the eligible partner-  
15 ship’s application in subpara-  
16 graph (E)(ii)(VII);

17 “(bb) includes an appren-  
18 ticeship, work-based learning, or  
19 on-the-job training program that  
20 leads to an employment commit-  
21 ment described in subparagraph  
22 (E)(ii)(IX) with a participating  
23 employer of the industry or sec-  
24 tor partnership;

1                   “(cc) may include the devel-  
2                   opment or expansion of a new or  
3                   existing career pathway program  
4                   as described in clause (iv); and

5                   “(dd) may include the provi-  
6                   sion of supportive services as de-  
7                   scribed in clause (v).

8                   “(ii) PLANNING ACTIVITIES.—An eli-  
9                   gible partnership receiving a grant under  
10                  this paragraph may use not more than 20  
11                  percent of the grant funds to carry out  
12                  planning activities during the first year of  
13                  the grant period that are necessary to es-  
14                  tablish a new industry or sector partner-  
15                  ship or expand the industry or sector part-  
16                  nership of the eligible partnership, which  
17                  may include—

18                  “(I) recruiting key stakeholders  
19                  in the high-growth or high-wage in-  
20                  dustry to be served by such industry  
21                  or sector partnership;

22                  “(II) conducting outreach to local  
23                  businesses, employers, labor organiza-  
24                  tions, local boards, education and

1 training providers, and business and  
2 employer associations;

3 “(III) identifying, through an  
4 evaluation, the training needs of mul-  
5 tiple businesses in the high-growth or  
6 high-wage industry, including identi-  
7 fying any needs for—

8 “(aa) skills critical to com-  
9 petitiveness and innovation in the  
10 high-growth or high-wage indus-  
11 try;

12 “(bb) an education and  
13 training program, including any  
14 apprenticeship program or other  
15 work-based learning program  
16 supported by the grant; and

17 “(cc) the usage of career  
18 pathways to align education and  
19 training with job openings in the  
20 high-growth or high-wage indus-  
21 try; and

22 “(IV) recruiting individuals with  
23 barriers to employment to participate  
24 in the education and training pro-  
25 gram.

1           “(iii) BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT.—An  
2           industry or sector partnership established  
3           or expanded with a grant under this para-  
4           graph shall use the grant funds to engage  
5           businesses (including small and medium-  
6           sized businesses that are in the high-  
7           growth or high-wage industry and that  
8           may be a participating employer of the  
9           partnership) in the establishment and im-  
10          plementation of an apprenticeship, work-  
11          based learning, or on-the-job training pro-  
12          gram offered through the education and  
13          training program of the partnership, and  
14          which may include—

15                 “(I) the navigation of the reg-  
16                 istration process for a sponsor of such  
17                 an apprenticeship program;

18                 “(II) the connection of the busi-  
19                 ness with an education provider in the  
20                 industry or sector partnership to de-  
21                 velop classroom instruction to com-  
22                 plement learning through such an ap-  
23                 prenticeship, work-based learning, or  
24                 on-the-job training program;

1 “(III) the development of such a  
2 work-based learning program;

3 “(IV) the provision of career  
4 awareness activities for participants of  
5 such an apprenticeship, work-based  
6 learning, or on-the-job training pro-  
7 gram, such as career guidance and  
8 academic counseling;

9 “(V) the recruitment of individ-  
10 uals with barriers to employment to  
11 participate in such an apprenticeship,  
12 work-based learning, or on-the-job  
13 training program; and

14 “(VI) other evidence-based ap-  
15 proaches to connecting businesses  
16 with workers and establishing path-  
17 ways to unsubsidized employment for  
18 individuals participating in the edu-  
19 cation and training program and  
20 other programs funded under this  
21 title.

22 “(iv) CAREER PATHWAY PROGRAMS.—

23 “(I) IN GENERAL.—An industry  
24 or sector partnership established or  
25 expanded with a grant under this



1 paragraph may use such grant funds  
2 for the development or expansion of a  
3 new or existing career pathway pro-  
4 gram that utilizes integrated edu-  
5 cation and training strategies and  
6 supports multiple entry and exit  
7 points for working students and other  
8 working participants, which may in-  
9 clude—

10 “(aa) dual-enrollment ap-  
11 proaches for participants, includ-  
12 ing youth, seeking to participate  
13 in a career pathway program;  
14 and

15 “(bb) strategies that help  
16 working students and other non-  
17 traditional and adult student  
18 populations access skills and the  
19 recognized postsecondary creden-  
20 tials described in subparagraph  
21 (E)(ii)(VII) of the eligible part-  
22 nership’s application.

23 “(II) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—

24 In establishing or expanding such new  
25 or existing career pathway program,

1 the industry or sector partnership  
2 may use a grant under this paragraph  
3 for—

4 “(aa) the provision of evi-  
5 dence-based professional develop-  
6 ment for faculty and other staff  
7 of an education provider in the  
8 industry or sector partnership;

9 “(bb) the acquisition of  
10 equipment necessary to support  
11 the delivery of the career path-  
12 way program; and

13 “(cc) any other evidence-  
14 based activities to support the  
15 development or implementation  
16 of the career pathway program.

17 “(v) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—In ac-  
18 cordance with section 181(h), an industry  
19 or sector partnership established or ex-  
20 panded with a grant under this paragraph  
21 may use such grant funds to provide sup-  
22 portive services to support the success of  
23 individuals, including individuals with bar-  
24 riers to employment, who are participating  
25 in training services, as described in sub-

1           section (c)(3)(D), which are offered  
2           through such partnership.

3           “(G) DESIGNATION OF A FISCAL AGENT.—

4           An eligible partnership receiving a grant under  
5           this paragraph shall designate an entity of the  
6           eligible partnership as the fiscal agent for the  
7           receipt, management, and expenditure of the  
8           grant funds.

9           “(H) NON-FEDERAL COST SHARING.—

10           “(i) LIMITS ON FEDERAL SHARE.—An  
11           industry or sector partnership established  
12           or expanded with a grant under this para-  
13           graph may not receive such grant funds  
14           for purposes of funding the education and  
15           training program offered through such  
16           partnership in excess of the following costs  
17           of establishing, operating, and sustaining  
18           such program:

19           “(I) In the case in which the par-  
20           ticipating employers in such eligible  
21           partnership employ 25 or fewer em-  
22           ployees, 70 percent of the costs.

23           “(II) In the case in which the  
24           participating employers in such eligi-  
25           ble partnership employ more than 25

1 employees, but fewer than 100 em-  
2 ployees, 55 percent of the costs.

3 “(III) In the case in which the  
4 participating employers in such eligi-  
5 ble partnership employ 100 or more  
6 employees, 40 percent of the costs.

7 “(ii) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—Any  
8 costs of establishing, operating, and sus-  
9 taining such program that are not covered  
10 by the grant received under this paragraph  
11 shall be the non-Federal share provided by  
12 the industry or sector partnership.

13 “(I) PERFORMANCE REPORTING.—Not  
14 later than 2 years after the first award of funds  
15 under this paragraph is made by the Governor  
16 and on an annual basis thereafter, the Governor  
17 shall prepare and submit to the Secretary a re-  
18 port with respect to the participants served by  
19 each eligible partnership receiving funds under  
20 this paragraph in the most recent program  
21 year, which report shall include—

22 “(i) levels of performance achieved by  
23 the eligible partnership, with respect to the  
24 primary indicators of performance under  
25 clause (i) or (ii) of section 116(b)(2)(A), as

1 applicable, for all individuals served by the  
2 eligible partnership, disaggregated by race,  
3 ethnicity, sex, disability status, and age;  
4 and

5 “(ii) levels of performance achieved by  
6 the eligible partnership with respect to the  
7 primary indicators of performance under  
8 clause (i) or (ii) of section 116(b)(2)(A), as  
9 applicable, for individuals with barriers to  
10 employment served by the eligible partner-  
11 ship, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, sex,  
12 disability status, and age.

13 “(J) AVAILABILITY OF REPORT.—The re-  
14 port submitted by eligible partnerships under  
15 subparagraph (I) shall—

16 “(i) be made digitally available by the  
17 Secretary using linked, open, and inter-  
18 operable data; and

19 “(ii) include the number of individuals  
20 who were served by each such eligible part-  
21 nership.

22 “(K) LIMIT ON ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—  
23 An eligible partnership receiving a grant under  
24 this paragraph may not use more than 10 per-  
25 cent of the grant funds for administrative costs.

1 “(L) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

2 “(i) ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.—The  
3 term ‘eligible partnership’ means—

4 “(I) an industry or sector part-  
5 nership that—

6 “(aa) includes a partici-  
7 pating employer; and

8 “(bb) is seeking to further  
9 implement or expand such indus-  
10 try or sector partnership; or

11 “(II) a workforce collaborative  
12 that is seeking to become an industry  
13 or sector partnership that includes a  
14 participating employer.

15 “(ii) HIGH-GROWTH OR HIGH-WAGE  
16 INDUSTRY.—The term ‘high-growth or  
17 high-wage industry’, when used with re-  
18 spect to an eligible partnership, means an  
19 industry that—

20 “(I) has, or is expected to have,  
21 a high rate of growth and an unmet  
22 demand for skilled workers, as deter-  
23 mined by the Governor of the State in  
24 which the eligible partnership is lo-  
25 cated;

1 “(II) has been designated by the  
2 Governor as an in-demand industry  
3 experiencing high growth in such  
4 State; and

5 “(III) includes occupations deter-  
6 mined by the Governor—

7 “(aa) with wages that are  
8 significantly higher than an occu-  
9 pation of similar level of skill or  
10 needed skill development; or

11 “(bb) that are aligned with  
12 career pathways into higher wage  
13 occupations.

14 “(iii) PARTICIPATING EMPLOYER.—  
15 The term ‘participating employer’, when  
16 used with respect to an eligible partner-  
17 ship, means an employer in a high-growth  
18 or high-wage industry that is (or will be)  
19 part of the industry or sector partnership  
20 that will be expanded (or established) by  
21 the eligible partnership under this para-  
22 graph.”.

23 (b) REQUIRED LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING  
24 ACTIVITIES.—

(1) MINIMUM AMOUNT FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT.—Section 134(c)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(c)(1)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(iv), by striking “to” and inserting “to provide business services described in paragraph (4) and”;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A), as so amended, the following:

“(B) MINIMUM AMOUNT FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), not less than 50 percent of the funds described in subparagraph (A) shall be used by the local area—

“(I) for the payment of training services—

“(aa) provided to adults under paragraph (3)(F)(iii); and

“(bb) provided to adults and dislocated workers under paragraph (3)(G)(ii); and



1 “(II) for the payment of training  
2 services under paragraph (2)(A) of  
3 section 414(c) of the American Com-  
4 petitiveness and Workforce Improve-  
5 ment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.  
6 3224a(c)) after funds allocated to  
7 such local area under paragraph (1)  
8 of such section 414(c) have been ex-  
9 hausted.

10 “(ii) EXCEPTION.—With respect to a  
11 local area that uses any funds described in  
12 subparagraph (A) to provide supportive  
13 services, in accordance with subsection  
14 (d)(2) of this section, for adults and dis-  
15 located workers who are participating in  
16 training services, or individualized career  
17 services described in clauses (iii) and (vii)  
18 of paragraph (2)(B) that enable participa-  
19 tion in training services, each percentage  
20 of such funds so used shall reduce, by one  
21 percentage point, the percentage of such  
22 funds required to be used by such local  
23 area in accordance with clause (i), except  
24 that such percentage of funds may not be

1 reduced by more than 10 percentage points  
2 pursuant to this clause.”; and

3 (D) in subparagraph (C), as so redesign-  
4 nated, by striking “and (ii)” and inserting “,  
5 (ii), and (iv)”.

6 (2) CAREER SERVICES.—Section 134(c)(2) of  
7 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
8 U.S.C. 3174(c)(2)) is amended—

9 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)  
10 through (C) as subparagraphs (B) through (D),  
11 respectively;

12 (B) by inserting before subparagraph (B),  
13 as so redesignated, the following:

14 “(A) BASIC CAREER SERVICES.—

15 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The one-stop de-  
16 livery system—

17 “(I) shall coordinate with the  
18 Employment Service office colocated  
19 with the one-stop delivery system for  
20 such Employment Service office to  
21 provide, using the funds allotted to  
22 the State under section 6 of the Wag-  
23 ner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49e), basic  
24 career services, which—

25 “(aa) shall—

1 “(AA) include, at a  
2 minimum, the services listed  
3 in clause (ii); and

4 “(BB) be available to  
5 individuals who are adults or  
6 dislocated workers in an in-  
7 tegrated manner to stream-  
8 line access to assistance for  
9 such individuals, to avoid  
10 duplication of services, and  
11 to enhance coordination of  
12 services; and

13 “(bb) may include access to  
14 talent marketplaces; and

15 “(II) may use funds allocated  
16 under paragraph (1), as necessary, to  
17 supplement the services that are pro-  
18 vided pursuant to subclause (I) to in-  
19 dividuals who are adults or dislocated  
20 workers.

21 “(ii) SERVICES.—The basic career  
22 services provided pursuant to clause (i)  
23 shall include—

24 “(I) provision of workforce and  
25 labor market employment statistics in-

1 formation, including the provision of  
2 accurate (and, to the extent prac-  
3 ticable, real-time) information relating  
4 to local, regional, and national labor  
5 market areas, including—

6 “(aa) job vacancy listings in  
7 such labor market areas;

8 “(bb) information on job  
9 skills necessary to obtain the jobs  
10 included on such listings; and

11 “(cc) information relating to  
12 local occupations in demand  
13 (which may include entrepreneur-  
14 ship opportunities), and the earn-  
15 ings, skill requirements, and op-  
16 portunities for advancement for  
17 such occupations;

18 “(II) labor exchange services, in-  
19 cluding job search and placement as-  
20 sistance and, in appropriate cases, ca-  
21 reer counseling, including—

22 “(aa) provision of informa-  
23 tion on in-demand industry sec-  
24 tors and occupations;

1                   “(bb) provision of informa-  
2                   tion on nontraditional employ-  
3                   ment; and

4                   “(cc) provision of informa-  
5                   tion on entrepreneurship, as ap-  
6                   propriate;

7                   “(III)(aa) provision of informa-  
8                   tion, in formats that are usable by  
9                   and understandable to one-stop center  
10                  customers, relating to the availability  
11                  of supportive services or assistance,  
12                  including child care, child support,  
13                  medical or child health assistance  
14                  under title XIX or XXI of the Social  
15                  Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.  
16                  and 1397aa et seq.), benefits under  
17                  the supplemental nutrition assistance  
18                  program established under the Food  
19                  and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.  
20                  2011 et seq.), assistance through the  
21                  earned income tax credit under sec-  
22                  tion 32 of the Internal Revenue Code  
23                  of 1986, and assistance under a State  
24                  program for temporary assistance for  
25                  needy families funded under part A of

1 title IV of the Social Security Act (42  
2 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) and other sup-  
3 portive services and transportation  
4 provided through funds made avail-  
5 able under such part, available in the  
6 local area; and

7 “(bb) referral to the services or  
8 assistance described in item (aa), as  
9 appropriate;

10 “(IV) provision of information  
11 and assistance regarding filing claims  
12 for unemployment compensation; and

13 “(V) assistance in establishing  
14 eligibility for programs of financial aid  
15 assistance for training and education  
16 programs that are not funded under  
17 this Act.”;

18 (C) in subparagraph (B), as so redesign-  
19 nated—

20 (i) in the heading, by striking the  
21 heading and inserting “INDIVIDUALIZED  
22 CAREER”;

23 (ii) in the matter preceding clause  
24 (i)—

1 (I) by inserting “individualized”  
2 before “career services”; and

3 (II) by inserting “shall, to the ex-  
4 tent practicable, be evidence-based,”  
5 before “and shall”;

6 (iii) in clause (iii), by inserting “, and  
7 a determination (considering factors in-  
8 cluding prior work experience, military  
9 service, education, and the in-demand in-  
10 dustry sectors and occupations in the local  
11 area) of whether such an individual would  
12 benefit from a competency-based assess-  
13 ment developed or identified by the State  
14 pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(B)(viii) to  
15 accelerate the time to obtaining employ-  
16 ment that leads to economic self-sufficiency  
17 or career advancement” before the semi-  
18 colon at the end;

19 (iv) by striking clauses (iv), (vi), (ix),  
20 (x), and (xi);

21 (v) by redesignating clauses (v), (vii),  
22 (viii), (xii), and (xiii) as clauses (iv), (v),  
23 (vi), (vii), and (viii), respectively;

1 (vi) in clause (v), as so redesignated,  
2 by inserting “and credential” after “by  
3 program”;

4 (vii) in clause (vi), as so redesignated,  
5 by inserting “and in multiple languages, to  
6 the extent practicable,” after “customers,”;  
7 and

8 (viii) in clause (vii), as so redesign-  
9 nated—

10 (I) in subclause (I)(aa), as so re-  
11 designated, by inserting “, including a  
12 competency-based assessment devel-  
13 oped or identified by the State pursu-  
14 ant to subsection (a)(2)(B)(viii)” after  
15 “tools”;

16 (II) in subclause (VI), by insert-  
17 ing “digital literacy skills,” after  
18 “learning skills,”;

19 (III) in subclause (X), by strik-  
20 ing “or” at the end;

21 (IV) in subclause (XI)—

22 (aa) by striking “language”;

23 and

24 (bb) by striking “and” at  
25 the end and inserting “or”;



1 (V) by adding at the end the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 “(XII) review or creation of a re-  
4 sume or similar document showcasing  
5 the skills, experience, relevant creden-  
6 tials, and education of the individual;  
7 and”.

8 (D) by amending subparagraph (C), as so  
9 redesignated, to read as follows:

10 “(C) USE OF PREVIOUS ASSESSMENTS.—A  
11 one-stop operator or one-stop partner shall not  
12 be required to conduct a new interview, evalua-  
13 tion, or assessment of a participant under sub-  
14 paragraph (B)(vii) if the one-stop operator or  
15 one-stop partner determines that—

16 “(i) it is appropriate to use a recent  
17 interview, evaluation, or assessment of the  
18 participant conducted pursuant to another  
19 education or training program; and

20 “(ii) using such recent interview, eval-  
21 uation, or assessment will accelerate an eli-  
22 gibility determination.”; and

23 (E) in subparagraph (D), as so redesign-  
24 nated—

1 (i) in the matter preceding clause

2 (i)—

3 (I) by inserting “individualized”

4 before “career”; and

5 (II) by striking “subparagraph

6 (A)” and inserting “subparagraph

7 (B)”;

8 (ii) in clause (ii), by inserting “, li-

9 braries, and community-based organiza-

10 tions” after “nonprofit service providers”.

11 (3) TRAINING SERVICES.—Section 134(c)(3) of

12 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29

13 U.S.C. 3174(c)(3)) is amended—

14 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

15 (i) in clause (i), in the matter pre-

16 ceding subclause (I), by striking “clause

17 (ii)” and inserting “clause (ii) or (iii)”;

18 (ii) by amending clause (i)(II) to read

19 as follows:

20 “(II) who select programs of

21 training services that are directly

22 linked to the employment opportuni-

23 ties—

24 “(aa) in the local area or the

25 planning region;

1 “(bb) in another area to  
2 which the adults or dislocated  
3 workers are willing to commute  
4 or relocate; or

5 “(cc) that may be performed  
6 remotely;”.

7 (iii) by redesignating clause (iii) as  
8 clause (iv);

9 (iv) by inserting after clause (ii) the  
10 following:

11 “(iii) EMPLOYER REFERRAL.—

12 “(I) IN GENERAL.—A one-stop  
13 operator or one-stop partner shall not  
14 be required to conduct an interview,  
15 evaluation, or assessment of an indi-  
16 vidual under clause (i) if such indi-  
17 vidual—

18 “(aa) is referred by an em-  
19 ployer to receive on-the-job train-  
20 ing or employer-directed skills de-  
21 velopment in connection with  
22 that employer; and

23 “(bb) has been certified by  
24 the employer as being an indi-  
25 vidual who is in need of training

1 services to obtain unsubsidized  
2 employment with such employer  
3 and who has the skills and quali-  
4 fications to successfully partici-  
5 pate in the selected program of  
6 training services.

7 “(II) PRIORITY.—A one-stop op-  
8 erator or one-stop partner shall follow  
9 the priority system in effect under  
10 subparagraph (E) to determine wheth-  
11 er an individual who meets the re-  
12 quirements of subclause (I) of this  
13 clause is eligible to receive training  
14 services.”; and

15 (v) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(v) ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY  
17 LITERACY ACTIVITIES.—In the case of an  
18 individual who, after an interview, evalua-  
19 tion, or assessment under clause (i)(I), is  
20 determined to not have the skills and  
21 qualifications to successfully participate in  
22 the selected program of training services  
23 under clause (i)(I)(cc), the one-stop oper-  
24 ator or one-stop partner shall refer such  
25 individual to adult education and literacy

activities under title II, including for co-enrollment in such activities, as appropriate.”;

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (i)—

(I) in subclause (I), by striking “other grant assistance for such services, including” and inserting “assistance for such services under”; and

(II) by striking “under other grant assistance programs, including” and inserting “under”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) PARTICIPATION DURING ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION.—An individual may participate in a program of training services during the period during which such individual’s eligibility for training services under subparagraph (A)(i) is being determined, except that the provider of such a program shall receive reimbursement under this Act for the individual’s participation during such period only if

1           such individual is determined to be eligible  
2           under subparagraph (A)(i).”;

3           (C) in subparagraph (D)(xi), by striking  
4           “customized training” and inserting “employer-  
5           directed skills development”;

6           (D) in subparagraph (E)—

7                 (i) by striking “are basic skills defi-  
8                 cient” and inserting “have foundational  
9                 skill needs”; and

10                (ii) by striking “paragraph  
11                (2)(A)(xii)” and inserting “paragraph  
12                (2)(B)(vii)”;

13           (E) in subparagraph (F)(ii), by inserting  
14           “and the levels of performance for such pro-  
15           viders on the performance criteria described in  
16           section 122(b) for the 2 most recent program  
17           years” after “in section 122(d)”;

18           (F) in subparagraph (G)(ii)—

19                 (i) in subclause (II), by striking “cus-  
20                 tomized training” and inserting “employer-  
21                 directed skills development”; and

22                 (ii) in subclause (IV)—

23                         (I) by striking “is a” and insert-  
24                         ing “is an evidence-based”; and

1 (II) by inserting “and to support  
2 such individuals in gaining requisite  
3 skills for in-demand industry sectors  
4 or occupations in the local area, ob-  
5 taining recognized postsecondary cre-  
6 dentials, and entering unsubsidized  
7 employment” after “employment”;

8 (G) in subparagraph (H)—

9 (i) in clause (i), in the matter pre-  
10 ceding subclause (I), by striking “reim-  
11 bursement described in section 3(44)” and  
12 inserting “reimbursement described in sec-  
13 tion 3(48)”; and

14 (ii) in clause (ii)—

15 (I) in subclause (I), by inserting  
16 “, such as the extent to which partici-  
17 pants are individuals with barriers to  
18 employment” after “participants”;  
19 and

20 (II) in subclause (III), by insert-  
21 ing “in an occupation or industry sec-  
22 tor, including whether the skills a par-  
23 ticipant will obtain are transferable to  
24 other employers, occupations, or in-

1 dustries in the local area or the  
2 State” after “opportunities”; and

3 (H) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(I) EMPLOYER-DIRECTED SKILLS DEVEL-  
5 OPMENT.—An employer may receive a contract  
6 from a local board to provide employer-directed  
7 skills development to a participant or group of  
8 participants if the employer submits to the local  
9 board an agreement that establishes—

10 “(i) the provider of the skills develop-  
11 ment program, which may be the employer;

12 “(ii) the length of the skills develop-  
13 ment program;

14 “(iii) the recognized postsecondary  
15 credentials that will be awarded to, or the  
16 occupational skills that will be gained by,  
17 program participants;

18 “(iv) the cost of the skills development  
19 program;

20 “(v) the estimated earnings of pro-  
21 gram participants upon successful comple-  
22 tion of the program;

23 “(vi) the amount of such cost that will  
24 be paid by the employer, which shall not be



1 less than the amount specified in subpara-  
2 graph (C) of section 3(19); and

3 “(vii) a commitment by the employer  
4 to employ the participating individual or  
5 individuals upon successful completion of  
6 the program.”.

7 (c) BUSINESS SERVICES.—Section 134(c) of the  
8 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
9 3174(c)) is further amended by adding at the end the fol-  
10 lowing:

11 “(4) BUSINESS SERVICES.—Funds described in  
12 paragraph (1) shall be used to provide appropriate  
13 recruitment and other business services and strate-  
14 gies on behalf of employers, including small employ-  
15 ers and mid-sized employers, that meet the work-  
16 force investment needs of area employers, as deter-  
17 mined by the local board and consistent with the  
18 local plan under section 108, which services—

19 “(A) may be provided—

20 “(i) through effective business inter-  
21 mediaries working in conjunction with the  
22 local board;

23 “(ii) on a fee-for-service basis; or

24 “(iii) through the leveraging of eco-  
25 nomic development, philanthropic, and

1 other public and private resources in a  
2 manner determined appropriate by the  
3 local board; and

4 “(B) may include one or more of the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 “(i) Developing and implementing in-  
7 dustry sector strategies (including strate-  
8 gies involving industry partnerships, re-  
9 gional skills alliances, industry skill panels,  
10 and sectoral skills partnerships).

11 “(ii) Developing and delivering inno-  
12 vative workforce investment services and  
13 strategies for area employers, which may  
14 include career pathways, skills upgrading,  
15 skill standard development and certifi-  
16 cation for recognized postsecondary creden-  
17 tial or other employer use, apprenticeship,  
18 developing and offering industry-recognized  
19 credential (including short-term industry-  
20 recognized credential) programs, including  
21 those that support individuals with  
22 foundational skill needs, and other effective  
23 initiatives for meeting the workforce in-  
24 vestment needs of area employers and  
25 workers.

1           “(iii) Assistance to area employers in  
2           managing reductions in force in coordina-  
3           tion with rapid response activities provided  
4           under subsection (a)(2)(A) and developing  
5           strategies for the aversion of layoffs, which  
6           strategies may include early identification  
7           of firms at risk of layoffs, use of feasibility  
8           studies to assess the needs of and options  
9           for at-risk firms, and the delivery of em-  
10          ployment and training activities to address  
11          risk factors.

12          “(iv) The marketing of business serv-  
13          ices offered under this title to appropriate  
14          area employers, including small and mid-  
15          sized employers.

16          “(v) Technical assistance or other  
17          support to employers seeking to implement  
18          skills-based hiring practices, which may in-  
19          clude technical assistance on the use and  
20          validation of employment assessments, in-  
21          cluding competency-based assessments de-  
22          veloped or identified by the State pursuant  
23          to paragraph (2)(B)(viii), and support in  
24          the creation of skills-based job descrip-  
25          tions.

1 “(vi) Other services described in this  
2 subsection, including providing information  
3 and referral to microenterprise services, as  
4 appropriate, and specialized business serv-  
5 ices not traditionally offered through the  
6 one-stop delivery system.”.

7 (d) PERMISSIBLE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND TRAIN-  
8 ING ACTIVITIES.—

9 (1) ACTIVITIES.—Section 134(d)(1)(A) of the  
10 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
11 U.S.C. 3174(d)(1)(A)) is amended—

12 (A) in clause (iii), by striking “10 percent”  
13 and inserting “30 percent”;

14 (B) in clause (v), by inserting “case man-  
15 agement,” after “assessments,”;

16 (C) in clause (vi)—

17 (i) in subclause (III), by striking  
18 “and” at the end;

19 (ii) by redesignating subclause (IV) as  
20 subclause (VI); and

21 (iii) by inserting after subclause (III)  
22 the following:

23 “(IV) employment and training  
24 activities under subsections (d) and

1 (o) of section 6 of the Food and Nu-  
2 trition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015);

3 “(V) programs under the Older  
4 Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C.  
5 3001 et seq.) that support employ-  
6 ment and economic security; and”;

7 (D) in clause (vii)—

8 (i) in subclause (II)—

9 (I) by inserting “and providers of  
10 supportive services,” after “small em-  
11 ployers,”; and

12 (II) by striking “and” at the end;

13 (ii) in subclause (III), by inserting  
14 “and” at the end; and

15 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
16 lowing:

17 “(IV) to strengthen, through pro-  
18 fessional development activities, the  
19 knowledge and capacity of one-stop  
20 staff to use the latest digital tech-  
21 nologies, tools, and strategies to de-  
22 liver high quality services and out-  
23 comes for jobseekers, workers, and  
24 employers;”;

25 (E) by striking clause (ix);

1 (F) by redesignating clauses (x) through  
2 (xii) as clauses (ix) through (xi), respectively;

3 (G) in clause (x), as so redesignated, by  
4 striking “and” at the end;

5 (H) in clause (xi), as so redesignated, by  
6 striking the period at the end and inserting a  
7 semicolon; and

8 (I) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(xii) training programs for individ-  
10 uals who are dislocated workers as a result  
11 of advances in automation technology;

12 “(xiii) the use of competency-based  
13 assessments for individuals upon initial as-  
14 sessment of skills (pursuant to subsection  
15 (c)(2)(A)(iii)) or completion of training  
16 services or other learning experiences;

17 “(xiv) the development of partnerships  
18 between educational institutions (including  
19 area career and technical education  
20 schools, local educational agencies, and in-  
21 stitutions of higher education) and employ-  
22 ers to create or improve workforce develop-  
23 ment programs to address the identified  
24 education and skill needs of the workforce  
25 and the employment needs of employers in

1 a region, as determined based on the most  
2 recent analysis conducted by the local  
3 board under section 107(d)(2); and

4 “(xv) assistance to one or more public  
5 libraries located in the local area that has  
6 demonstrated success in leveraging addi-  
7 tional resources (such as staff, facilities,  
8 computers, and learning materials) to pro-  
9 vide free and open access to individualized  
10 career services, in order to promote and  
11 expand access to such services.”.

12 (2) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Section  
13 134(d)(2)(B) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
14 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(d)(2)(B)) is amend-  
15 ed, by inserting “, including through programs of  
16 one-stop partners, who are” after “programs”.

17 (3) NEEDS-RELATED PAYMENTS.—Section  
18 134(d)(3) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
19 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(d)(3)) is amended—

20 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or  
21 for financial assistance through a program car-  
22 ried out by a one-stop partner” after “com-  
23 pensation”; and

24 (B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or  
25 financial assistance through a program carried

1 out by a one-stop partner” after “compensa-  
2 tion”

3 (4) INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING PRO-  
4 GRAMS.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 134(d)(4)(A) of  
6 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
7 (29 U.S.C. 3174(d)(4)(A)) is amended—

8 (i) in clause (i), by striking “20” and  
9 inserting “30”;

10 (ii) by redesignating clauses (ii) and  
11 (iii) as clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively;  
12 and

13 (iii) by inserting after clause (i) the  
14 following:

15 “(ii) INCREASE IN RESERVATION OF  
16 FUNDS.—Notwithstanding clause (i)—

17 “(I) with respect to a local area  
18 that had a rate of unemployment of  
19 not more than 3 percent for not less  
20 than 6 months during the preceding  
21 program year, clause (i) shall be ap-  
22 plied by substituting ‘40 percent’ for  
23 ‘30 percent’; or

24 “(II) with respect to a local area  
25 that meets the requirement in sub-



1 clause (I) and is located in a State  
2 that had a labor force participation  
3 rate of not less than 69 percent for  
4 not less than 6 months during the  
5 preceding program year, clause (i)  
6 shall be applied by substituting ‘45  
7 percent’ for ‘30 percent’.”.

8 (B) TRAINING ACTIVITIES.—Section  
9 134(d)(4)(B) of the Workforce Innovation and  
10 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(d)(4)(B)) is  
11 amended—

12 (i) by striking “The training”, and in-  
13 serting the following:

14 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The training”;  
15 and

16 (ii) by striking “delivering training”  
17 and inserting “delivering training, such as  
18 industry or sector partnerships”.

19 (C) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—Section  
20 134(d)(4)(D)(ii)(III) of the Workforce Innova-  
21 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
22 3174(d)(4)(D)(ii)(III)) is amended by striking  
23 “50” and inserting “55”.

24 (D) INCUMBENT WORKER UPSKILLING AC-  
25 COUNTS.—Section 134(d)(4) of the Workforce

1 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
2 3174(d)(4)) is further amended by adding at  
3 the end the following:

4 “(E) INCUMBENT WORKER UPSKILLING  
5 ACCOUNTS.—

6 “(i) IN GENERAL.—To establish in-  
7 cumbent worker upskilling accounts  
8 through which an eligible provider of train-  
9 ing services under section 122 may be paid  
10 for the program of training services pro-  
11 vided to an incumbent worker, a local  
12 board—

13 “(I)(aa) may use, from the funds  
14 reserved by the local area under sub-  
15 paragraph (A)(i), an amount that  
16 does not exceed 5 percent of the funds  
17 allocated to such local area under sec-  
18 tion 133(b); or

19 “(bb) if the local area reserved funds  
20 under subparagraph (A)(ii), may use, from  
21 the funds reserved by the local area under  
22 subparagraph (A)(ii), an amount that does  
23 not exceed 10 percent of the funds allo-  
24 cated to such local area under section  
25 133(b); and

1 “(II) may use funds reserved  
2 under section 134(a)(2)(A) for state-  
3 wide rapid response activities and pro-  
4 vided by the State to local area to es-  
5 tablish such accounts.

6 “(ii) ELIGIBILITY.—

7 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to  
8 subclause (II), a local board that  
9 seeks to establish incumbent worker  
10 upskilling accounts under clause (i)  
11 shall establish criteria for determining  
12 the eligibility of an incumbent worker  
13 to receive such an account, which  
14 shall take into account factors of—

15 “(aa) the wages of the in-  
16 cumbent worker as of the date of  
17 determining such worker’s eligi-  
18 bility under this clause;

19 “(bb) the career advance-  
20 ment opportunities for the in-  
21 cumbent worker in the occupa-  
22 tion of such worker as of such  
23 date; and

24 “(cc) the ability of the in-  
25 cumbent worker to, upon comple-

tion of the program of training services selected by such worker, secure employment in an in-demand industry or occupation in the local area that will lead to economic self-sufficiency and wages higher than the current wages of the incumbent worker.

“(II) LIMITATION.—

“(aa) IN GENERAL.—An incumbent worker described in item (bb) shall be ineligible to receive an incumbent worker upskilling account under this subparagraph.

“(bb) INELIGIBILITY.—Item (aa) shall apply to an incumbent worker—

“(AA) whose total annual wages for the most recent year are greater than the median household income of the State; or

“(BB) who has earned a baccalaureate or professional degree.

1 “(iii) COST SHARING FOR CERTAIN IN-  
2 CUMBENT WORKERS.—With respect to an  
3 incumbent worker who is determined to be  
4 eligible to receive an incumbent worker  
5 upskilling account and who is not a low-in-  
6 come individual—

7 “(I) such incumbent worker shall  
8 pay not less than 25 percent of the  
9 cost of the program of training serv-  
10 ices selected by such worker; and

11 “(II) funds provided through the  
12 incumbent worker upskilling account  
13 established for such worker shall cover  
14 the remaining 75 percent of the cost  
15 of the program.”.

16 (E) TRANSITIONAL JOBS.—Section  
17 134(d)(5) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
18 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(d)(5)) is amend-  
19 ed by striking “10” and inserting “15”.

20 (e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Section 134 of the  
21 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
22 3174) is further amended by adding at the end the fol-  
23 lowing:

24 “(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
25 tion shall be construed to abrogate a collective bargaining

1 agreement that covers employees of an entity providing a  
 2 program of training services, including an incumbent  
 3 worker training program.”.

4       **CHAPTER 4—GENERAL WORKFORCE**  
 5               **INVESTMENT PROVISIONS**

6       **SEC. 145. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7           Section 136 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 8 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3181) is amended to read as follows:

9       **“SEC. 136. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10           “(a) YOUTH WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVI-  
 11 TIES.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry  
 12 out the activities described in section 127(a)  
 13 \$948,130,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027 through  
 14 2032.

15           “(b) ADULT EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACTIVI-  
 16 TIES.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry  
 17 out the activities described in section 132(a)(1)  
 18 \$875,649,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027 through  
 19 2032.

20           “(c) DISLOCATED WORKER EMPLOYMENT AND  
 21 TRAINING ACTIVITIES.—There are authorized to be ap-  
 22 propriated to carry out the activities described in section  
 23 132(a)(2) \$1,331,412,000 for each of the fiscal years  
 24 2027 through 2032.”.

## Subtitle D—Job Corps

### SEC. 151. PURPOSES.

Section 141 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3191) is amended—

(1) by striking “centers” each place it appears and inserting “campuses”; and

(2) in paragraph (1)(A)—

(A) by striking “secondary school diplomas” and inserting “regular high school diplomas or their recognized equivalents”;

(B) in clause (i), by striking “or” at the end;

(C) in clause (ii), by striking “, including an apprenticeship program; and” and inserting “; or”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) enrollment in an apprenticeship program; and”.

### SEC. 152. DEFINITIONS.

Section 142 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3192) is amended—

(1) in paragraphs (1), (7), (8), and (10), by striking “center” each place it appears and inserting “campus”;

1           (2) in paragraph (1)(B), by inserting “the com-  
2           munity in which the Job Corps campus is located or  
3           the” after “serves”;

4           (3) in paragraph (5)—

5                 (A) by striking “secondary school diploma  
6                 or” and inserting “regular high school diploma  
7                 or its”;

8                 (B) by striking “that prepares” and insert-  
9                 ing “that—

10                 “(A) prepares”;

11                 (C) in subparagraph (A), as so redesign-  
12                 ated, by striking the period at the end and in-  
13                 serting “; and”; and

14                 (D) by adding at the end the following:

15                 “(B) may lead to the attainment of a rec-  
16                 ognized postsecondary credential.”; and

17           (4) in paragraph (7), by striking “CENTER” in  
18           the heading and inserting “CAMPUS”.

19 **SEC. 153. INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR THE JOB CORPS.**

20           Section 144 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
21           tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3194) is amended—

22                 (1) in subsection (a)—

23                         (A) in paragraph (1)—

24                                 (i) by striking “21” and inserting  
25                                 “24”;



1                   (ii) by inserting “ or, if the date of  
2                   enrollment is not greater than 60 days  
3                   after the date of application, the date of  
4                   application,” after “enrollment,”;

5                   (iii) by amending subparagraph (A) to  
6                   read as follows:

7                   “(A) an individual who is age 16 or 17  
8                   shall be eligible only upon an individual deter-  
9                   mination by the director of a Job Corps campus  
10                  that such individual meets the criteria described  
11                  in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section  
12                  145(b)(1); and”;

13                  (iv) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
14                  “either”;

15                  (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting after  
16                  “individual” the following: “or a resident of a  
17                  qualified opportunity zone as defined in section  
18                  1400Z-1(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of  
19                  1986”; and

20                  (C) in paragraph (3)—

21                  (i) by amending subparagraph (A) to  
22                  read as follows:

23                  “(A) Has foundational skill needs.”; and

1 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
2 “(42 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6))” and inserting  
3 “(34 U.S.C. 12473(6))”.

4 (2) in subsection (b)—

5 (A) in the heading, by inserting “AND  
6 CERTAIN OTHER ARMED FORCES MEMBERS”  
7 after “VETERANS”; and

8 (B) by inserting “or a member of the  
9 Armed Forces eligible for preseparation coun-  
10 seling of the Transition Assistance Program  
11 under section 1142 of title 10, United States  
12 Code,” after “a veteran”; and

13 (3) by inserting at the end the following:

14 “(c) SPECIAL RULE FOR HOMELESS YOUTH AND  
15 FOSTER YOUTH.—In determining whether an individual  
16 is eligible to enroll for services under this subtitle on the  
17 basis of being a homeless youth, or a youth in foster care,  
18 as described in subsection (a)(3)(C), staff shall—

19 “(1) if determining whether the individual is a  
20 homeless youth, use a process that is in compliance  
21 with the requirements of subsection (a) of section  
22 479D of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
23 U.S.C. 1087uu-2) for financial aid administrators;  
24 and

1           “(2) if determining whether the individual is a  
 2           youth in foster care, use a process that is in compli-  
 3           ance with the requirements of subsection (b) of such  
 4           section 479D of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
 5           (20 U.S.C. 1087uu–2) for financial aid administra-  
 6           tors.”.

7   **SEC. 154. RECRUITMENT, SCREENING, SELECTION, AND AS-**  
 8                           **SIGNMENT OF ENROLLEES.**

9           Section 145 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 10          tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3195) is amended—

11                   (1) in subsection (a)(2)—

12                           (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “45”  
 13                           and inserting “55”;

14                           (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking  
 15                           “and”;

16                           (C) in subparagraph (E), by striking the  
 17                           period and inserting “; and”; and

18                           (D) by adding at the end the following:

19                                   “(F) assist applicable one-stop centers and  
 20                                   other entities identified in paragraph (3) in de-  
 21                                   veloping joint applications for Job Corps,  
 22                                   YouthBuild, and the youth activities described  
 23                                   in section 129.”; and

24                           (2) in subsections (b), (c), and (d)—

1 (A) by striking “center” each place it ap-  
2 pears and inserting “campus”; and

3 (B) by striking “centers” each place it ap-  
4 pears and inserting “campuses”.

5 **SEC. 155. JOB CORPS CAMPUSES.**

6 Section 147 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
7 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3197) is amended—

8 (1) in the heading, by striking “**CENTERS**”  
9 and inserting “**CAMPUSES**”;

10 (2) in subsection (a)—

11 (A) in paragraph (1)—

12 (i) by striking “center” each place it  
13 appears and inserting “campus”; and

14 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting  
15 after “area career and technical education  
16 school,” the following: “an institution of  
17 higher education,”;

18 (B) in paragraph (2)—

19 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

20 (I) by striking “center” each  
21 place it appears and inserting “cam-  
22 pus”; and

23 (II) by inserting after “United  
24 States Code,” the following: “and sec-  
25 tion 159(f)(2)(B)(i)(III),”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “operate a Job Corps center” and inserting “operate a Job Corps campus”;

(bb) by striking subclause (IV);

(cc) by redesignating subclauses (I), (II), (III), and (V), as subclauses (III), (IV), (V), and (VI), respectively;

(dd) by inserting before subclause (III), as so redesignated, the following:

“(I)(aa) in the case of an entity that has previously operated a Job Corps campus, a numeric metric of the past achievement on the primary indicators of performance for eligible youth described in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii); or

“(bb) in the case of an entity that has not previously operated a Job Corps campus, a comparable alternative numeric metric on the past effectiveness of the entity

1 in successfully assisting at-risk youth to  
2 connect to the labor force, based on such  
3 primary indicators of performance for eligi-  
4 ble youth;

5 “(II) in the case of an entity that  
6 has previously operated a Job Corps  
7 campus, any information regarding  
8 the entity included in any report de-  
9 veloped by the Office of Inspector  
10 General of the Department of  
11 Labor;”;

12 (ee) in subclause (III), as so  
13 redesignated, by striking “cen-  
14 ter” and inserting “campus”;

15 (ff) by amending subclause  
16 (IV), as so redesignated, to read  
17 as follows:

18 “(IV) the ability of the entity to  
19 offer career and technical education  
20 and training that has been proposed  
21 by the workforce council under section  
22 154(c), including—

23 “(aa) the degree to which  
24 such education and training re-  
25 flects employment opportunities

1 in the local areas in which enroll-  
2 ees at the campus intend to seek  
3 employment; and

4 “(bb) the degree to which  
5 such education and training leads  
6 to a recognized postsecondary  
7 credential, or postsecondary cred-  
8 it, that permits articulation into  
9 a higher level or other degree or  
10 credential program;”;

11 (gg) in subclause (V), as so  
12 redesignated, by striking “center  
13 is located;” and inserting “cam-  
14 pus is located, including agree-  
15 ments to provide off-campus  
16 work-based learning opportunities  
17 aligned with the career and tech-  
18 nical education provided to en-  
19 rollees; and”; and

20 (hh) by amending subclause  
21 (VI), as so redesignated, to read  
22 as follows:

23 “(VI) the ability of the entity to  
24 implement an effective behavior man-  
25 agement plan, as described in section

1                   152(a), and maintain a safe and se-  
2                   cure learning environment for enroll-  
3                   ees.”; and

4                   (II) in clause (ii), by striking  
5                   “center” and inserting “campus”; and  
6                   (C) in paragraph (3)—

7                   (i) by striking “center” each place it  
8                   appears and inserting “campus”;

9                   (ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting  
10                  “or postsecondary credit, which credit shall  
11                  permit articulation into a credential pro-  
12                  gram” after “program”;

13                  (iii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting  
14                  after “is located” the following: “, includ-  
15                  ing agreements to provide off-campus  
16                  work-based learning opportunities aligned  
17                  with the career and technical education  
18                  provided to enrollees”;

19                  (iv) by redesignating subparagraphs  
20                  (E), (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), and (K) as  
21                  subparagraphs (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), (K),  
22                  and (L), respectively; and

23                  (v) by inserting after subparagraph  
24                  (D) the following:



1           “(E) A description of the policies that will  
2           be implemented at the campus regarding secu-  
3           rity and access to campus facilities, including  
4           procedures to report on and respond to viola-  
5           tions of the disciplinary policy described in sec-  
6           tion 152(b) and other emergencies occurring on  
7           campus.”;

8           (3) in subsection (b)—

9                 (A) in the heading, by striking “CENTERS”  
10           and inserting “CAMPUSES”;

11                (B) by striking “center” each place it ap-  
12           pears and inserting “campus”;

13                (C) by striking “centers” each place it ap-  
14           pears and inserting “campuses”;

15                (D) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “20  
16           percent” and inserting “25 percent”; and

17                (E) in paragraph (3)(A)(iv), by striking  
18           “secondary school diplomas” and inserting  
19           “regular high school diplomas”;

20           (4) in subsection (c)—

21                 (A) by striking “centers” and inserting  
22           “campuses”; and

23                 (B) by striking “20 percent” and inserting  
24           “30 percent”;

25           (5) in subsection (d)—

1 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “cen-  
2 ters” and inserting “campuses”; and

3 (B) in the second sentence, by striking  
4 “centers” and inserting “Centers”;

5 (6) in subsection (e)—

6 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “centers”  
7 and inserting “campuses”; and

8 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “450b)”  
9 and inserting “5304”;

10 (7) in subsection (f), by striking “2-year pe-  
11 riod” and inserting “3-year period”; and

12 (8) in subsection (g)—

13 (A) by striking “center” each place it ap-  
14 pears and inserting “campus”;

15 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking subpara-  
16 graphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

17 “(A) failed to achieve an average of 80  
18 percent or higher of the expected level of per-  
19 formance under section 159(c)(1) across all of  
20 the primary indicators of performance for eligi-  
21 ble youth described in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii);

22 or

23 “(B) failed to—

24 “(i) take reasonable measures to  
25 achieve an average of 80 percent of the

1 planned average onboard strength that was  
2 agreed to in the agreement described in  
3 subsection (a)(1)(A); or

4 “(ii) achieve an average of 60 percent  
5 of the planned average onboard strength  
6 that was agreed to in the agreement de-  
7 scribed in subsection (a)(1)(A).”;

8 (C) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “or  
9 onboard strength or enrollment” after “per-  
10 formance”;

11 (D) in paragraph (3), by striking “shall  
12 provide” and inserting “shall provide, at least  
13 30 days prior to renewing the agreement”; and

14 (E) in paragraph (4)—

15 (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
16 “and” after the semicolon;

17 (ii) by redesignating subparagraph  
18 (D) as subparagraph (E); and

19 (iii) by inserting after subparagraph  
20 (C) the following:

21 “(D) has maintained a safe and secure  
22 campus environment; and”.

23 **SEC. 156. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.**

24 Section 148 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
25 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3198) is amended—

1           (1) by striking “center” each place it appears  
2           and inserting “campus”;

3           (2) by striking “centers” each place it appears  
4           and inserting “campuses”;

5           (3) in subsection (a)—

6                 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking  
7                 “CENTERS” and inserting “CAMPUSES”;  
8                 and

9                 (B) in paragraph (1)—

10                     (i) by inserting before the period at  
11                     the end the following: “, and productive ac-  
12                     tivities, such as tutoring or other skills de-  
13                     velopment opportunities, for enrollees to  
14                     participate in outside of regular class time  
15                     and work hours”; and

16                     (ii) by striking “clauses (i) through  
17                     (xi) of section 134(c)(2)(A)” and inserting  
18                     “subclauses (I) through (V) of section  
19                     134(c)(2)(A)(ii) or in clauses (i) through  
20                     (viii) of section 134(c)(2)(B)”;

21           (4) in subsection (b), by striking “career and  
22           technical educational institutions” and inserting  
23           “area career and technical education schools”;

24           (5) in subsection (c)(1)—

1 (A) by striking “the eligible providers” and  
2 inserting “any eligible provider”; and

3 (B) by inserting after “under section 122”  
4 the following: “that is aligned with the career  
5 and technical education an enrollee has com-  
6 pleted”; and

7 (6) in subsection (d), by inserting “, in coordi-  
8 nation with the operator of the Job Corps program  
9 in which a graduate was enrolled,” after “Sec-  
10 retary”.

11 **SEC. 157. COUNSELING AND JOB PLACEMENT.**

12 Section 149(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
13 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3199(b)) is amended—

14 (1) by inserting “, in coordination with the op-  
15 erator of a Job Corps campus,” after “The Sec-  
16 retary”;

17 (2) by inserting “assigned to such campus”  
18 after “for enrollees”; and

19 (3) by inserting “, in coordination with the op-  
20 erator,” after “, the Secretary”.

21 **SEC. 158. SUPPORT.**

22 Section 150 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
23 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3200) is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “centers” and  
25 inserting “campuses”; and

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

2 “(d) PERIOD OF TRANSITION.—Notwithstanding the  
3 requirements of section 146(b), a Job Corps graduate may  
4 remain an enrollee and a resident of a Job Corps campus  
5 for not more than one month after graduation as such  
6 graduate transitions into independent living and employ-  
7 ment if such graduate receives written approval from the  
8 director of the Job Corps campus to remain such a resi-  
9 dent.”.

10 **SEC. 159. OPERATIONS.**

11 Section 151 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
12 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3201) is amended—

13 (1) by striking “center” each place it appears  
14 and inserting “campus”; and

15 (2) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(d) LOCAL AUTHORITY.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitations  
18 of the budget approved by the Secretary for a Job  
19 Corps campus, the operator of a Job Corps campus  
20 shall have the authority, without prior approval from  
21 the Secretary, to—

22 “(A) hire staff and provide staff profes-  
23 sional development;

24 “(B) set terms and enter into agreements  
25 with Federal, State, or local educational part-

1           ners, such as secondary schools, institutions of  
2           higher education, child development centers,  
3           units of Junior Reserve Officers' Training  
4           Corps programs established under section 2031  
5           of title 10, United States Code, or employers;  
6           and

7           “(C) engage with and educate stakeholders  
8           (including eligible applicants for the Job Corps)  
9           about Job Corps operations, selection proce-  
10          dures, and activities.

11          “(2)       NONAPPLICABILITY.—Notwithstanding  
12       section 6702 of title 41, United States Code, or any  
13       other provision of law, chapter 67 of such title shall  
14       not apply to any agreement described in paragraph  
15       (1)(B) for the purpose of providing child care to en-  
16       rollees between an entity described in such para-  
17       graph and an operator of a Job Corps campus, if  
18       the operator is not using amounts made available  
19       under this subtitle to pay for such child care serv-  
20       ices.

21          “(e) PRIOR NOTICE.—Prior to making a change to  
22       the agreement described in section 147(a) or an operating  
23       plan described in this section, the Secretary shall solicit  
24       from the operators of the Job Corps campuses information

1 on any operational costs the operators expect to result  
 2 from such change.”.

3 **SEC. 160. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT.**

4 Section 152 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 5 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3202) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “centers” each place it appears  
 7 and inserting “campuses”;

8 (2) in subsection (a), by inserting “As part of  
 9 the operating plan required under section 151(a),  
 10 the director of each Job Corps campus shall develop  
 11 and implement a behavior management plan con-  
 12 sistent with the standards of conduct and subject to  
 13 the approval of the Secretary.” at the end;

14 (3) in subsection (b)(2)—

15 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or  
 16 disruptive”; and

17 (B) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by inserting  
 18 “, subject to the appeal process described in  
 19 subsection (c)” after “subparagraph (A)”; and

20 (4) by amending subsection (c) to read as fol-  
 21 lows:

22 “(c) APPEAL PROCESS.—

23 “(1) ENROLLEE APPEALS.—A disciplinary  
 24 measure taken by a director under this section shall



1 be subject to expeditious appeal in accordance with  
2 procedures established by the Secretary.

3 “(2) DIRECTOR APPEALS.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year  
5 after the date of enactment of the A Stronger  
6 Workforce for America Act of 2026, the Sec-  
7 retary shall establish an appeals process under  
8 which the director of a Job Corps campus may  
9 submit a request that an enrollee who has en-  
10 gaged in an activity which is a violation of the  
11 guidelines established pursuant to subsection  
12 (b)(2)(A) remain enrolled in the program, but  
13 be subject to other disciplinary actions in lieu  
14 of automatic separation from the program.

15 “(B) CONTENTS.—A request under sub-  
16 paragraph (A) shall include—

17 “(i) a signed certification from the di-  
18 rector attesting that, to the belief of the di-  
19 rector, the continued enrollment of such  
20 enrollee would not impact the safety or  
21 learning environment of the campus; and

22 “(ii) the behavioral records of such  
23 enrollee.

24 “(C) DEFAULT APPROVAL.—The Secretary  
25 shall review such appeal within 30 days of re-

1           ceiving such appeal and either approve or deny  
2           the appeal. An appeal shall be considered ap-  
3           proved if the Secretary has not denied such ap-  
4           peal after 30 days.”.

5 **SEC. 161. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION.**

6           Section 153 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
7           tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3203) is amended—

8                   (1) by striking “center” each place it appears  
9           and inserting “campus”;

10                   (2) in subsection (a), by striking “centers” and  
11           inserting “campuses”;

12                   (3) in subsection (b)(1)(C)—

13                           (A) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the  
14           end; and

15                           (B) by adding at the end the following:

16                                   “(v) industry or sector partnerships, where  
17           applicable; and”; and

18                   (4) in subsection (c), in the heading, by striking  
19           “CENTERS” and inserting “CAMPUSES”.

20 **SEC. 162. WORKFORCE COUNCILS.**

21           Section 154 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
22           tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3204) is amended—

23                   (1) by striking “center” each place it appears  
24           and inserting “campus”;

25                   (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
2 “and” at the end;

3 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as  
4 subparagraph (D); and

5 (C) by inserting the following after sub-  
6 paragraph (B):

7 “(C) representatives of community-based  
8 organizations; and”;

9 (3) in subsection (c)(2)(C), by inserting “, rec-  
10 ognized postsecondary credentials,” after “skills”;  
11 and

12 (4) in subsection (d), in the heading, by strik-  
13 ing “NEW CENTERS” and inserting “NEW CAM-  
14 PUSES”.

15 **SEC. 163. ADVISORY COMMITTEES.**

16 Section 155 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
17 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3205) is amended—

18 (1) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting  
19 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”;

20 (2) by striking “centers” and inserting “cam-  
21 puses”;

22 (3) by striking “center” and inserting “cam-  
23 pus”; and

24 (4) by adding at the end the following:

1       “(b) ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO IMPROVE JOB CORPS  
2 SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE.—Not later than one year  
3 after the date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce  
4 for America Act of 2026, the Secretary shall establish an  
5 advisory committee to provide recommendations on effective  
6 tive or evidence-based strategies to improve—

7               “(1) safety, security, and learning conditions on  
8 Job Corps campuses;

9               “(2) the standards for campus safety established  
10       under section 159(c)(4);

11               “(3) the levels of performance established under  
12       section 159(c)(1), including recommendations to improve  
13       the effectiveness and rigor of such levels of  
14       performance and recommendations to ensure such  
15       levels promote continuous performance improvement;  
16       and

17               “(4) the effectiveness of performance improvement  
18       plans and other measures to continuously improve  
19       the performance of the Job Corps program.”.

20 **SEC. 164. EXPERIMENTAL PROJECTS AND TECHNICAL AS-**  
21 **SISTANCE.**

22       Section 156 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
23       Act (29 U.S.C. 3206) is amended—

24               (1) by striking “center” and inserting “campus”;  
25

1           (2) by striking “centers” and inserting “cam-  
2       puses”; and

3           (3) in subsection (b)—

4                (A) by striking “ $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1 percent to pro-  
5       vide” and inserting “1.25 percent to provide”;  
6       and

7                (B) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at  
8       the end of subparagraph (C) and by adding at  
9       the end the following:

10               “(D) in the development and implementa-  
11       tion of a behavior management plan under sec-  
12       tion 152(a); and

13               “(E) in complying with the campus and  
14       student safety standards described in section  
15       159(c)(4); and”.

16 **SEC. 165. SPECIAL PROVISIONS.**

17       Section 158 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
18       tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3208) is amended—

19           (1) by striking “center” each place it appears  
20       and inserting “campus”; and

21           (2) in subsection (f)—

22                (A) by striking “may accept on behalf of  
23       the Job Corps or individual Job Corps cam-  
24       puses charitable donations of cash” and insert-  
25       ing “(or the Secretary of Agriculture, as appro-

priate), on behalf of the Job Corps, or a Job Corps campus operator, on behalf of such campus, may accept grants, charitable donations of cash,”; and

(B) by inserting at the end the following: “Notwithstanding sections 501(b) and 522 of title 40, United States Code, any property acquired by a Job Corps campus shall be directly transferred, on a nonreimbursable basis, to the Secretary.”.

**SEC. 166. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION.**

(a) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—Section 159 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3209) is amended—

(1) by striking “center” each place it appears and inserting “campus”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”;

(ii) by inserting “that are ambitious yet achievable and” after “program”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

1           “(B) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—In es-  
2           tablishing the expected levels of performance  
3           under subparagraph (A) for a Job Corps cam-  
4           pus, the Secretary may take into account fac-  
5           tors including—

6                   “(i) how the levels involved compare  
7                   with the recent performance of such cam-  
8                   pus and the performance of other cam-  
9                   puses within the same State or geographic  
10                  region;

11                  “(ii) the levels of performance set for  
12                  the primary indicators of performance de-  
13                  scribed in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii) for the  
14                  youth programs authorized under chapter  
15                  2 of subtitle B for the State in which the  
16                  campus is located;

17                  “(iii) the extent to which the levels in-  
18                  volved promote continuous improvement in  
19                  performance on the primary indicators of  
20                  performance by such campus and ensure  
21                  optimal return on the use of Federal  
22                  funds; and

23                  “(iv) any other considerations identi-  
24                  fied by the Secretary after reviewing the

1           recommendations of the advisory group de-  
2           scribed in section 155(b).

3           “(C) PERFORMANCE PER CONTRACT.—The  
4           Secretary shall ensure the expected levels of  
5           performance are established in the relevant con-  
6           tract or agreement.

7           “(D) ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON ECONOMIC  
8           CONDITIONS AND INDIVIDUALS SERVED DURING  
9           THE PROGRAM YEAR.—

10           “(i) IN GENERAL.—In the event of a  
11           significant economic downturn, the Sec-  
12           retary shall adjust the applicable levels of  
13           performance for each of the campuses for  
14           a program year to reflect the actual eco-  
15           nomic conditions during such program  
16           year.

17           “(ii) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Prior  
18           to implementing the adjustments described  
19           in clause (i), the Secretary shall submit to  
20           the Committee on Education and Work-  
21           force of the House of Representatives and  
22           the Committee on Health, Education,  
23           Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a re-  
24           port explaining the reason for such adjust-  
25           ments.



1           “(E) REVIEW OF LEVELS OF PERFORM-  
2           ANCE.—The Office of Inspector General of the  
3           Department of Labor shall, every 5 years, sub-  
4           mit to the Committee on Education and Work-  
5           force of the House of Representatives and the  
6           Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and  
7           Pensions of the Senate, and publish in the Fed-  
8           eral Register and on a publicly available website  
9           of the Department, a report containing—

10                   “(i) a quadrennial review of the ex-  
11                   pected levels of performance; and

12                   “(ii) an evaluation of whether—

13                           “(I) the Secretary is establishing  
14                           such expected levels of performance in  
15                           accordance with this Act; and

16                           “(II) such expected levels have  
17                           led to continued improvement of the  
18                           Job Corps program.”;

19                   (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “(L),  
20                   and (M)” and inserting “(M), and (N)”;

21                   (C) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking “(J),  
22                   and (K)” and inserting “(K), and (L)”;

23                   (D) by redesignating paragraph (4) as  
24                   paragraph (5);

1 (E) by inserting after paragraph (3) the  
2 following:

3 “(4) CAMPUS SAFETY.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
5 establish campus and student safety standards.  
6 The Secretary shall provide technical assistance  
7 and develop a safety improvement plan for a  
8 Job Corps campus that fails to achieve such  
9 standards.

10 “(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing  
11 the campus and student safety standards under  
12 subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall take into  
13 account—

14 “(i) incidents related to safety that  
15 are reported to the Secretary;

16 “(ii) survey data from enrollees, fac-  
17 ulty, staff, and community members; and

18 “(iii) any other considerations identi-  
19 fied by the Secretary after reviewing the  
20 recommendations of the advisory group de-  
21 scribed in section 155(b).”;

22 (F) in paragraph (5), as so redesignated—

23 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
24 “and” at the end;

1 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
2 the period at the end and inserting a semi-  
3 colon; and

4 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 “(C) the number of contracts that were  
7 awarded a renewal compared to those eligible  
8 for a renewal;

9 “(D) the number of campuses where the  
10 contract was awarded to a new operator; and

11 “(E) the number of campuses that were  
12 required to receive performance improvement,  
13 as described under subsection (f)(2).”; and

14 (G) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(6) WAGE RECORDS.—The Secretary shall  
16 make arrangements with a State or other appro-  
17 priate entity to facilitate the use of State wage  
18 records to evaluate the performance of Job Corps  
19 campuses on the employment and earnings indica-  
20 tors described in clause (i)(III) of subparagraph (A)  
21 of section 116(b)(2) and subclauses (I) and (II) of  
22 clause (ii) of such subparagraph for the purposes of  
23 the report required under paragraph (5).”; and

24 (3) in subsection (d)(1)—

1           (A) by inserting “and make available on  
2           the website of the Department pertaining to the  
3           Job Corps program in a manner that is con-  
4           sumer-tested to ensure it is easily understood,  
5           searchable, and navigable,” after “subsection  
6           (c)(4),”;

7           (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “gen-  
8           der” and inserting “sex”;

9           (C) in subparagraph (F), by striking “reg-  
10          ular secondary school diploma” and inserting  
11          “regular high school diploma”;

12          (D) in subparagraph (G), by striking “reg-  
13          ular secondary school diploma” and inserting  
14          “regular high school diploma”;

15          (E) by redesignating subparagraphs (J)  
16          through (O) as subparagraphs (K) through (P),  
17          respectively; and

18          (F) by inserting the following after sub-  
19          paragraph (I):

20               “(J) the number of appeals under section  
21               152(c) and a description of each appeal that  
22               was approved;”;

23          (4) in subsection (e), by striking “116(i)(2)”  
24          and inserting “116(j)(2)”; and

1           (5) in subsection (g)(2), by striking “comply”  
2           and inserting “attest to compliance”.

3           (b) PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS AND IMPROVE-  
4 MENTS.—Section 159(f) of the Workforce Innovation and  
5 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3209) is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7           “(f) PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS AND IMPROVE-  
8 MENTS.—

9           “(1) ASSESSMENTS.—The Secretary shall con-  
10          duct an annual assessment of the performance of  
11          each Job Corps campus on the primary indicators of  
12          performance described in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii),  
13          where each indicator shall be given equal weight in  
14          determining the overall performance of the campus.  
15          Based on the assessment, the Secretary shall take  
16          measures to continuously improve the performance  
17          of the Job Corps program.

18          “(2) PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT.—

19                  “(A) COMPREHENSIVE IMPROVEMENT.—

20                          “(i) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a  
21                          Job Corps campus that, for a program  
22                          year, performs as described in clause (ii)  
23                          and is not already subject to a perform-  
24                          ance improvement plan under this para-  
25                          graph for such program year or the suc-

ceeding program year, the Secretary shall develop and implement, for a comprehensive improvement period beginning with the succeeding program year, a performance improvement plan that meets the requirements of clause (iii).

“(ii) PERFORMANCE FAILURES.—A Job Corps campus performs as described in this clause if, for a program year, such campus—

“(I) fails to meet an average of 90 percent on the expected levels of performance across all the primary indicators of performance specified in subsection (c)(1); and

“(II) is ranked among the lowest 20 percent of all Job Corps campuses.

“(iii) PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—A performance improvement plan, with respect to a Job Corps campus, shall require the Secretary to take substantial action during a 3 consecutive program year period (in this paragraph, referred to as a ‘comprehensive im-

1           provement period') to improve the perform-  
2           ance of such campus, which shall include—

3                   “(I) providing technical assist-  
4                   ance to the campus;

5                   “(II) changing the management  
6                   staff of the campus;

7                   “(III) changing the career and  
8                   technical education and training of-  
9                   fered at the campus;

10                  “(IV) replacing the operator of  
11                  the campus; or

12                  “(V) reducing the capacity of the  
13                  campus.

14           “(B) CHRONIC FAILURE.—

15                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a  
16                   Job Corps campus that, for the two con-  
17                   secutive program years immediately fol-  
18                   lowing a comprehensive improvement pe-  
19                   riod and regardless of whether such cam-  
20                   pus is subject to a subsequent comprehen-  
21                   sive improvement period, fails to meet an  
22                   average of 85 percent on the expected lev-  
23                   els of performance across all the primary  
24                   indicators and is ranked among the lowest  
25                   15 percent of all Job Corps campuses, the

1 Secretary shall take further substantial ac-  
2 tion to improve the performance of such  
3 campus, which shall include—

4 “(I) relocating the campus;

5 “(II) closing the campus; or

6 “(III) notifying the State in  
7 which the campus is located of such  
8 failure and, if such State submits a  
9 written plan to operate a residential  
10 campus in the current location, the  
11 Secretary—

12 “(aa) shall enter into a  
13 memorandum of understanding  
14 with the State for the purpose of  
15 so operating a residential campus  
16 and award funding directly to the  
17 State for such purpose;

18 “(bb) may encourage inno-  
19 vation in such memorandum of  
20 understanding by waiving any  
21 statutory or regulatory require-  
22 ment of this subtitle except for  
23 those related to participant eligi-  
24 bility under section 144, program  
25 activities under section 148,



1 counseling and job placement  
2 under section 149, standards of  
3 conduct under section 152, and  
4 performance reporting and ac-  
5 countability under this section;  
6 and

7 “(cc) if a State chooses to  
8 award funds received under this  
9 clause to an entity that is not a  
10 State agency or other State enti-  
11 ty, require that such State de-  
12 velop award criteria that will give  
13 priority consideration for the pri-  
14 mary contract or grant for oper-  
15 ation of the campus to any appli-  
16 cant that is a non-profit organi-  
17 zation with expertise in serving  
18 out-of-school youth and that oth-  
19 erwise meets such award criteria.

20 “(ii) INDIAN TRIBES.—

21 “(I) IN GENERAL.—In the case  
22 of a Job Corps campus described in  
23 clause (i) that is located on an Indian  
24 reservation, subclause (III) of such  
25 clause shall be applied by—

1 “(aa) by substituting ‘Indian  
2 Tribe’ for ‘State’ in each place it  
3 appears; and

4 “(bb) in item (cc), by sub-  
5 stituting ‘Tribal organization’ for  
6 ‘State agency or other State enti-  
7 ty’.

8 “(II) DEFINITION.—In this para-  
9 graph, the terms ‘Indian Tribe’ and  
10 ‘Tribal organization’ have the mean-  
11 ings given such terms in subsections  
12 (e) and (l), respectively, of section 4  
13 of the Indian Self-Determination and  
14 Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.  
15 5304).

16 “(3) ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE IMPROVE-  
17 MENT.—In addition to the performance improvement  
18 plans required under paragraph (2), the Secretary  
19 may develop and implement additional performance  
20 improvement plans for a Job Corps campus that  
21 fails to meet criteria established by the Secretary  
22 other than the expected levels of performance de-  
23 scribed in subsection (c)(1).

24 “(4) CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CENTERS.—With  
25 respect to a Civilian Conservation Center that, for 3

1 consecutive program years, fails to meet an average  
2 of 90 percent of the expected levels of performance  
3 across all the primary indicators of performance  
4 specified in subsection (c)(1) and is ranked among  
5 the lowest 15 percent of campuses, the Secretary of  
6 Labor or, if appropriate, the Secretary of Agri-  
7 culture shall select, on a competitive basis, an entity  
8 to operate part or all of the Civilian Conservation  
9 Center in accordance with the requirements of sec-  
10 tion 147.”.

11 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 159 of the  
12 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
13 3209) is further amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking “centers”  
15 and inserting “campuses”;

16 (2) in subsection (g)(1), in the heading, by  
17 striking “CENTER” and inserting “CAMPUS”; and

18 (3) in subsection (j), in the heading, by striking  
19 “CENTER” and inserting “CAMPUS”.

20 **SEC. 167. JOB CORPS OVERSIGHT AND REPORTING.**

21 Section 161 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
22 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3211) is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (c)—

24 (A) in the heading, by striking “CENTER”  
25 and inserting “CAMPUS”; and

1 (B) by striking “center” and inserting  
2 “campus”;

3 (2) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-  
4 section (e); and

5 (3) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-  
6 lowing new subsection:

7 “(d) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF REC-  
8 OMMENDATIONS.—The Secretary shall, on an annual  
9 basis, prepare and submit to the applicable committees a  
10 report regarding the implementation of all outstanding  
11 recommendations regarding the Job Corps program from  
12 the Office of Inspector General of the Department of  
13 Labor or the Government Accountability Office.”.

14 **SEC. 168. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

15 Section 162 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
16 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3212) is amended to read as follows:

17 **“SEC. 162. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
19 this subtitle \$1,760,155,000 for each of the fiscal years  
20 2027 through 2032.”.

21 **SEC. 169. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

22 Section 146(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
23 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3196(a)) is amended by striking  
24 “App. 451” and inserting “3801”.

## 1       **Subtitle E—National Programs**

### 2       **SEC. 171. NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS.**

3           Section 166 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
4       tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3221) is amended—

5               (1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “(25  
6       U.S.C. 450 et seq.)” and inserting “(25 U.S.C.  
7       5301 et seq.)”;

8               (2) in subsection (b)—

9                       (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “(25  
10       U.S.C. 450b)” and inserting “(25 U.S.C.  
11       5304)”; and

12                      (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “(20  
13       U.S.C. 7517)” before the period at the end;

14               (3) in subsection (d)(1)—

15                      (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
16       “and”;

17                      (B) in subparagraph (B)—

18                               (i) by striking “leading” and inserting  
19       “or self-employment that leads”; and

20                               (ii) by striking the period at the end  
21       and inserting “; and”; and

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

23                      “(C) are evidence-based, to the extent  
24       practicable.”;

1           (4) in subsection (d)(2), by striking subpara-  
2 graph (B) and inserting the following:

3           “(B) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more  
4 than 15 percent of the funds made available to  
5 an entity under subsection (c) may be used for  
6 the administrative costs of the activities and  
7 services described in subparagraph (A).

8           “(C) SPECIAL RULES.—

9           “(i) ELIGIBILITY.—Notwithstanding  
10 any other provision of this section, individ-  
11 uals who were eligible to participate in pro-  
12 grams under section 401 of the Job Train-  
13 ing Partnership Act (as such section was  
14 in effect on the day before the date of en-  
15 actment of the Workforce Investment Act  
16 of 1998) shall be eligible to participate in  
17 an activity assisted under this section.

18           “(ii) TRANSFER OF UNOBLIGATED  
19 FUNDS.—An entity receiving funds under  
20 subsection (c) may transfer such funds  
21 that are unobligated for an award year to  
22 the following award year for activities de-  
23 scribed in subparagraph (A)(i) in that fol-  
24 lowing award year.”;

1           (5) in subsection (e)(3), by inserting “or to de-  
2       velop skills necessary for successful self-employ-  
3       ment” before the semicolon at the end;

4           (6) in subsection (h)—

5               (A) in paragraph (1)—

6                   (i) in the heading, by striking the  
7           heading and inserting “PERFORMANCE  
8           STANDARDS”;

9                   (ii) by striking subparagraph (A) and  
10          inserting the following:

11               “(A) CONSULTATION ON PERFORMANCE  
12       STANDARDS.—The Secretary, in consultation  
13       with the Native American Employment and  
14       Training Council, shall develop performance  
15       standards on the primary indicators of perform-  
16       ance described in section 116(b)(2)(A) that  
17       shall be applicable to programs under this sec-  
18       tion.”; and

19               (iii) in subparagraph (B), in the mat-  
20       ter preceding clause (i), by striking “indi-  
21       cators and”;

22               (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “section  
23       116(b)(2)(A)” and all that follows through the  
24       period at the end of the paragraph and insert-  
25       ing the following: “section 116(b)(2)(A)—

1 “(A) taking into consideration—

2 “(i) economic conditions;

3 “(ii) characteristics and needs of the  
4 individuals and groups served, including  
5 the differences in needs among such  
6 groups in various geographic service areas;  
7 and

8 “(iii) other appropriate factors, in-  
9 cluding the economic circumstances of the  
10 communities served; and

11 “(B) using, to the extent practicable, the  
12 statistical adjustment model under section  
13 116(b)(3)(A)(viii).”; and

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

15 “(3) PROGRAM PLAN.—The levels agreed to  
16 under paragraph (2) shall be the adjusted levels of  
17 performance and shall be incorporated in the pro-  
18 gram plan.

19 “(4) WAGE RECORDS.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
21 make arrangements with any State or other ap-  
22 propriate entity to facilitate the use of State  
23 wage records to evaluate the performance of en-  
24 tities funded under this section on the employ-  
25 ment and earnings indicators described in sub-



1 clauses (I) through (III) of section  
2 116(b)(2)(A)(i) for the purposes of the report  
3 required under paragraph (5).

4 “(B) OTHER WAGE RECORDS.—For any  
5 individual working in Indian country (as de-  
6 fined in section 1151 of title 18, United States  
7 Code) whose wages are not submitted to a rel-  
8 evant State as an unemployment insurance  
9 wage record, the Indian tribe with jurisdiction  
10 over that Indian country may submit other  
11 forms of documentation of the wages of such in-  
12 dividual to the State for purposes of the report  
13 required under paragraph (5).

14 “(5) PERFORMANCE RESULTS.—For each pro-  
15 gram year, the Secretary shall make available on a  
16 publicly accessible website of the Department of  
17 Labor a report on the performance, during such pro-  
18 gram year, of entities funded under this section  
19 on—

20 “(A) the primary indicators of performance  
21 described in section 116(b)(2)(A); and

22 “(B) the adjusted levels of performance for  
23 such entities as described in paragraph (2).”;  
24 and

25 (7) in subsection (i)—

1 (A) in paragraph (4)—

2 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

3 (I) by striking “Using” and in-  
4 serting the following:

5 “(i) ESTABLISHMENT.—Using”; and

6 (II) by adding at the end the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 “(ii) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Sec-  
9 retary shall meet, on not less than an an-  
10 nual basis, with the Council to consider  
11 recommendations from the Council on the  
12 operation and administration of the pro-  
13 grams assisted under this section.”;

14 (ii) in subparagraph (B)—

15 (I) by striking “The Council”  
16 and inserting the following:

17 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Council”; and

18 (II) by inserting at the end the  
19 following:

20 “(ii) VACANCIES.—An individual ap-  
21 pointed to fill a vacancy on the Council oc-  
22 curring before the expiration of the term  
23 for which the predecessor of such indi-  
24 vidual was appointed shall be appointed  
25 only for the remainder of that term. Such

1 an individual may serve on the Council  
2 after the expiration of such term until a  
3 successor is appointed.”; and

4 (iii) in subparagraph (F), by inserting  
5 “, virtually or in person” before the period  
6 at the end; and

7 (B) in paragraph (6)—

8 (i) by striking “more than one State”  
9 and inserting “a State”;

10 (ii) by inserting “or provided by an-  
11 other grantee that receives funds awarded  
12 under subtitle B from any State for adult,  
13 youth, or dislocated worker programs”  
14 after “this title”;

15 (iii) by striking “Governors of the af-  
16 fected States” and inserting “Governor of  
17 any affected State”; and

18 (iv) by striking “the States” and in-  
19 serting “the State or other grantee”.

20 **SEC. 172. MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKER PRO-**  
21 **GRAMS.**

22 Section 167 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
23 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3222) is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) by striking “To be” and inserting the  
2 following:

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be”; and

4 (B) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(2) PROHIBITION ON GEOGRAPHIC LIMITA-  
6 TIONS.—In determining eligibility under paragraph  
7 (1), the Secretary may not place limitations on the  
8 geographic location of the entity or on the intended  
9 area to be served.”;

10 (2) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the  
11 following:

12 “(5) WAGE RECORDS.—The Secretary shall  
13 make arrangements with a State or other appro-  
14 priate entity to facilitate the use of State wage  
15 records to evaluate the performance of entities fund-  
16 ed under this section on the employment and earn-  
17 ings indicators described in subclauses (I) through  
18 (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i) for the purposes of  
19 the report required under paragraph (6).

20 “(6) PERFORMANCE RESULTS.—For each pro-  
21 gram year, the Secretary shall make available on a  
22 publicly accessible website of the Department a re-  
23 port on the performance, during such program year,  
24 of entities funded under this section on—

1           “(A) the primary indicators of performance  
2           described in section 116(b)(2)(A); and

3           “(B) the adjusted levels of performance for  
4           such entities as described in paragraph (3).”;

5           (3) in subsection (d)(1), by inserting “develop-  
6           ment of digital literacy skills,” after “literacy in-  
7           struction,”;

8           (4) by redesignating subsections (e) through (i)  
9           as subsections (f) through (j), respectively;

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

12          “(e) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than 10  
13          percent of the funds provided to an entity under this sec-  
14          tion may be used for the administrative costs of the activi-  
15          ties and services carried out under subsection (d).”; and

16          (6) in subsection (i), as so redesignated—

17                  (A) in the heading, by striking “ALLOCA-  
18                  TION” and inserting “ALLOCATION; FUNDING  
19                  OBLIGATION”;

20                  (B) by striking “From” and inserting the  
21                  following:

22                  “(1) FUNDING ALLOCATION.—From”; and

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

24                  “(2) FUNDING OBLIGATION.—Funds appro-  
25                  priated and made available to carry out this section

1       for any fiscal year may be obligated by the Secretary  
2       during the period beginning on April 1 of the cal-  
3       endar year that begins during such fiscal year and  
4       ending on June 30 of the following calendar year to  
5       be made available to an entity described in sub-  
6       section (b).”.

7       **SEC. 173. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

8       (a) GENERAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section  
9       168(a)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
10      Act (29 U.S.C. 3223(a)(1)) is amended—

11           (1) by striking “appropriate training, technical  
12           assistance, staff development” and inserting “appro-  
13           priate education, technical assistance, professional  
14           development for staff”;

15           (2) in subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D), by  
16           striking “training” each place it appears and insert-  
17           ing “professional development”;

18           (3) by redesignating subparagraphs (G) and  
19           (H) as subparagraphs (J) and (K), respectively; and

20           (4) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the fol-  
21           lowing:

22                   “(G) assistance to the one-stop delivery  
23                   system and the Employment Service established  
24                   under the Wagner-Peyser Act for the integra-

tion of basic career service activities pursuant to section 134(c)(2)(A);

“(H) assistance to States with maintaining, and making accessible to jobseekers and employers, the lists of eligible providers of training services required under section 122;

“(I) assistance to States that apply for such assistance under section 122(j) for the purposes described in such subsection;”.

(b) PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 168(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3223(b)) is amended—

(1) in the header, by striking “DISLOCATED WORKER” and inserting “PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY”; and

(2) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the first sentence—

(i) by inserting “, pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 116(f),” after “technical assistance”; and

(ii) by striking “with respect to employment and training activities for dislocated workers” and inserting “with respect to the core programs”; and

1 (B) in the second sentence—

2 (i) by striking “assistance to dis-  
3 located workers” and inserting “assistance  
4 to individuals served by a core program”;  
5 and

6 (ii) by striking “provided to dislocated  
7 workers” and inserting “provided to such  
8 individuals”.

9 (c) COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY SUBSTANCE USE  
10 DISORDERS.—Section 168 of the Workforce Innovation  
11 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3223) is further amended  
12 by adding at the end the following:

13 “(d) COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY SUBSTANCE USE  
14 DISORDERS.—The Secretary shall, as part of the activities  
15 described in subsection (c)(2), evaluate and disseminate  
16 to States and local areas information regarding evidence-  
17 based and promising practices for addressing the economic  
18 workforce impacts associated with high rates of substance  
19 use disorders, which information shall—

20 “(1) be updated annually to reflect the most re-  
21 cent and available research; and

22 “(2) include information—

23 “(A) shared by States and local areas re-  
24 garding effective practices for addressing such  
25 impacts; and



1                   “(B) on how to apply for any funding that  
2                   may be available under section 170(b)(1)(E).”.

3 **SEC. 174. EVALUATIONS AND RESEARCH.**

4           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 169 of the Workforce In-  
5 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3224) is amend-  
6 ed—

7                   (1) in subsection (a)—

8                           (A) in paragraph (2)—

9                                   (i) by redesignating subparagraph (G)  
10                                   as subparagraph (H);

11                                   (ii) in subparagraph (F)—

12   (I) by striking “; and” at the  
13   end; and

14   (II) by inserting “, including in-  
15   dividuals with barriers to employ-  
16   ment” after “demographic groups”;  
17   and

18                                   (iii) by inserting the following after  
19                                   subparagraph (F):

20   “(G) the extent to which such programs or  
21   activities are using emerging technology to—

22   “(i) collect, analyze, use, and dissemi-  
23   nate accurate and transparent local and  
24   State level labor market information;

1 “(ii) integrate administrative data, in  
2 accordance with Federal and State privacy  
3 laws, to more comprehensively understand  
4 and improve education and workforce out-  
5 comes; and

6 “(iii) identify and address deficiencies  
7 in existing Federal, State, and local work-  
8 force data infrastructure and related  
9 source systems; and”;

10 (B) in paragraph (3)—

11 (i) by striking “The Secretary” and  
12 inserting the following:

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

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

16 “(B) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may  
17 not use the authority described in subparagraph  
18 (A) if the evaluations required under paragraph  
19 (1) have not been initiated or completed in the  
20 time period required.”; and

21 (C) in paragraph (4), in the second sen-  
22 tence—

23 (i) by striking “The Secretary” and  
24 inserting “Beginning after the date of en-

actment of the A Stronger Workforce for  
America Act of 2026, the Secretary”; and

(ii) by striking “2019” and inserting  
“2028”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by amending paragraph (4) to read as  
follows:

“(4) STUDIES AND REPORTS.—

“(A) STUDY ON EMPLOYMENT CONDI-  
TIONS.—The Secretary, in coordination with  
other heads of Federal agencies, as appropriate,  
may conduct a study examining the nature of  
participants’ unsubsidized employment after  
exit from programs carried out under this  
Act—

“(i) including with respect to factors  
such as the availability of paid time off in  
the employment, health and retirement  
benefits provided through the employment,  
workplace safety standards at the place of  
employment, the predictability and stability  
of the work schedule for the employment,  
the ability to obtain through the employ-  
ment credentials that may permit articula-  
tion into a higher level or other degree or

1 credential program, and advancement op-  
2 portunities in the employment; and

3 “(ii) that includes a description of the  
4 feasibility of Congress establishing,  
5 through future legislation, an indicator of  
6 performance under section 116 related to  
7 such factors.

8 “(B) STUDY ON IMPROVING WORKFORCE  
9 SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABIL-  
10 ITIES.—The Secretary of Labor, in coordination  
11 with the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-  
12 ices, may conduct studies that analyze the ac-  
13 cess to services by individuals with disabilities,  
14 including whether an individual who is unable  
15 to receive services under title IV due to a wait  
16 list for such services is able to receive services  
17 under titles I through III.

18 “(C) STUDY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF  
19 PAY FOR PERFORMANCE.—The Secretary shall,  
20 not later than 4 years after the date of enact-  
21 ment of the A Stronger Workforce for America  
22 Act of 2026, conduct a study that—

23 “(i) compares the effectiveness of the  
24 pay-for-performance strategies used under  
25 sections 129, 134, and 172 after such date

1 of enactment to the awarding of grants  
2 and contracts under such sections as in ef-  
3 fect on the day before the date of enact-  
4 ment of such Act; and

5 “(ii) examines, with respect to grants  
6 under sections 129, 134, and 172 after  
7 such date of enactment—

8 “(I) the competition structure of  
9 pay-for-performance grants and con-  
10 tracts under such sections;

11 “(II) the quality of applications  
12 received for grants and contracts  
13 under such sections; and

14 “(III) whether individuals with  
15 barriers to employment were effec-  
16 tively served under the pay-for-per-  
17 formance strategies for grants and  
18 contracts under such sections.

19 “(D) STUDY ON INDIVIDUAL TRAINING AC-  
20 COUNTS FOR DISLOCATED WORKERS.—The Sec-  
21 retary shall, not later than 4 years after the  
22 date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce  
23 for America Act of 2026, conduct a study that  
24 compares the usage of individual training ac-  
25 counts for dislocated workers after such date of

1 enactment to the usage of such accounts prior  
2 to such date of enactment, including a compari-  
3 son of—

4 “(i) the types of training services and  
5 occupations targeted by dislocated workers  
6 when using their individual training ac-  
7 counts; and

8 “(ii) the effectiveness of the skills de-  
9 velopment funded through individual train-  
10 ing accounts in helping such individuals at-  
11 tain credentials and secure unsubsidized  
12 employment.

13 “(E) STUDY ON STATEWIDE CRITICAL IN-  
14 DUSTRY SKILLS FUNDS.—The Secretary shall,  
15 not later than 4 years after the date of enact-  
16 ment of the A Stronger Workforce for America  
17 Act of 2026, conduct a study that will review  
18 the usage of statewide critical industry skills  
19 funds established by States under section  
20 134(a)(4) and identify, for purposes of meas-  
21 uring the overall effectiveness of the program—

22 “(i) the industries targeted by the  
23 funds under section 134(a)(4);

24 “(ii) the occupations for which work-  
25 ers are being upskilled;

1 “(iii) how frequently skills develop-  
2 ment is provided to prospective workers  
3 and incumbent workers, and

4 “(iv) the reported performance out-  
5 comes.

6 “(F) STUDY ON INDUSTRY OR SECTOR  
7 PARTNERSHIP AND CAREER PATHWAYS DEVEL-  
8 OPMENT FUNDS.—The Secretary shall, not later  
9 than 4 years after the date of enactment of the  
10 A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026,  
11 conduct a study that will review the usage of in-  
12 dustry or sector partnership and career path-  
13 ways development funds established by States  
14 under section 134(a)(5) and identify, for pur-  
15 poses of measuring the overall effectiveness of  
16 the program—

17 “(i) the industries targeted by the  
18 funds under section 134(a)(5) and the  
19 growth in employment opportunities in  
20 such industries over the period of the  
21 study;

22 “(ii) the occupations workers are re-  
23 ceiving skills development for and how fre-  
24 quently such skills development is occur-

1 ring through the funds under section  
2 134(a)(5);

3 “(iii) the States where such funds  
4 were used to establish new industry or sec-  
5 tor partnerships, the States where such  
6 funds were used to expand existing indus-  
7 try or sector partnerships, and an overview  
8 of the types of partners participating in  
9 such partnerships; and

10 “(iv) the reported performance out-  
11 comes.

12 “(G) STUDY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF  
13 EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING.—The Secretary  
14 shall, not later than 4 years after the date of  
15 enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for  
16 America Act of 2026, conduct a study that  
17 measures the effectiveness of on-the-job train-  
18 ing, employer-directed skills training, appren-  
19 ticeship, and incumbent worker training under  
20 this title in preparing jobseekers and workers,  
21 including those with barriers to employment,  
22 for unsubsidized employment. Such study shall  
23 include the cost per participant and wage and  
24 employment outcomes, as compared to other  
25 methods of training.



1           “(H) STUDY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS AND  
2           USE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGY IN THE WORK-  
3           FORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM.—The Secretary  
4           shall, not later than 4 years after the date of  
5           enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for  
6           America Act of 2026, conduct a study that—

7                   “(i) measures the effectiveness of  
8                   emerging technology (including artificial  
9                   intelligence and machine learning) and  
10                  other advanced computational methods, in  
11                  improving State workforce development  
12                  system service delivery, labor market data  
13                  system performance, data collection and in-  
14                  tegration to understand participant and  
15                  program outcomes, and end-user tools for  
16                  facilitating career exploration or related  
17                  data insights;

18                  “(ii) measures the extent to which  
19                  States have adopted and implemented such  
20                  technology and methods in their workforce  
21                  development systems, including by describ-  
22                  ing how the technology or method is being  
23                  used, analyzing the accuracy of such tech-  
24                  nology or method, and identifying any ex-

hibited bias by any such technology or method; and

“(iii) includes an analysis of the consequences of advances in automation technology on employment opportunities, skills development, including digital literacy skills development, and worker dislocation.

“(I) STUDY ON THE ALIGNMENT BETWEEN EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS.—The Secretary of Labor, shall, not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026, conduct a study on the alignment of workforce development programs under this Act with elementary and secondary education and postsecondary education. The study shall examine—

“(i) State efforts to integrate data related to career and technical education programs, dual enrollment programs, pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeships, and other work-based learning programs to inform decisionmaking and improve educational opportunities and outcomes;

1 “(ii) challenges related to and strate-  
2 gies that promote such alignment to facili-  
3 tate student participation in high-quality  
4 college and career pathways; and

5 “(iii) governance structures and fund-  
6 ing sources to promote such alignment.

7 “(J) STUDY ON JOB CORPS.—The Sec-  
8 retary of Labor shall, not later than 4 years  
9 after the date of enactment of the A Stronger  
10 Workforce for America Act of 2026, conduct an  
11 evaluation that—

12 “(i) uses the most rigorous available  
13 methods that are appropriate and feasible  
14 to evaluate program effectiveness;

15 “(ii) measures the effect of the Job  
16 Corps program on participating individuals  
17 on outcomes related to the purposes de-  
18 scribed in section 141(1), including edu-  
19 cational attainment, employment, earnings,  
20 and other related outcomes, compared with  
21 the non-participant peers of those individ-  
22 uals, to determine if the program has a  
23 statistically significant effect (including  
24 long-term effects) on such outcomes; and

1 “(iii) evaluates the cost-effectiveness  
2 of the program.

3 “(K) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall pre-  
4 pare and disseminate to the Committee on  
5 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the  
6 Senate and the Committee on Education and  
7 Workforce of the House of Representatives, and  
8 on the publicly available website of the Depart-  
9 ment, reports containing the results of the stud-  
10 ies conducted under this paragraph.”; and

11 (B) in paragraph (5), by adding at the end  
12 the following:

13 “(C) EVALUATION OF GRANTS.—

14 “(i) IN GENERAL.—For each grant or  
15 contract awarded under this paragraph,  
16 the Secretary shall conduct a rigorous eval-  
17 uation of the multistate project to deter-  
18 mine the impact of the activities supported  
19 by the project, including the impact on the  
20 employment and earnings of program par-  
21 ticipants.

22 “(ii) REPORT.—The Secretary shall  
23 prepare and disseminate to the Committee  
24 on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-  
25 sions of the Senate and the Committee on

1 Education and Workforce of the House of  
2 Representatives, and to the public, includ-  
3 ing through electronic means, reports con-  
4 taining the results of evaluations con-  
5 ducted under this subparagraph.”.

6 (b) WORKFORCE DATA QUALITY INITIATIVE.—Sec-  
7 tion 169 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
8 (29 U.S.C. 3224) is further amended by adding at the  
9 end the following:

10 “(d) WORKFORCE DATA QUALITY INITIATIVE.—

11 “(1) GRANT PROGRAM.—Of the amount made  
12 available pursuant to section 132(a)(2)(A) for any  
13 program year, the Secretary shall use not less than  
14 5 percent and not more than 10 percent of such  
15 amount, and may also use funds authorized for pur-  
16 poses of carrying out this section, to award grants  
17 to eligible entities to create workforce longitudinal  
18 data systems, talent marketplaces, and associated  
19 resources for the purposes of assisting States to—

20 “(A) improve program quality;

21 “(B) produce evidence for decision making;

22 “(C) meet performance reporting require-  
23 ments;

24 “(D) protect the privacy of users; and

1           “(E) improve transparency in relation to  
2           labor market trends and changes in job skills  
3           needed to obtain employment.

4           “(2) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a  
5           grant under this subsection, an eligible entity shall  
6           submit an application to the Secretary, at such time  
7           and in such manner as the Secretary may require,  
8           which shall include—

9           “(A) a description of the activities the eli-  
10          gible entity is proposing, including a description  
11          of the need for such activities and a detailed  
12          budget;

13          “(B) a description of the expected out-  
14          comes and outputs (such as systems or prod-  
15          ucts) that will result from the proposed activi-  
16          ties and the proposed uses of such outputs;

17          “(C) a description of how the proposed ac-  
18          tivities will support the reporting of perform-  
19          ance data for the performance accountability re-  
20          quirements under section 116, including out-  
21          comes for eligible training providers;

22          “(D) a description of the methods and pro-  
23          cedures the eligible entity will use to ensure the  
24          security and privacy of the collection, storage,  
25          and use of all data involved in the systems and

1 resources supported through the grant, includ-  
2 ing compliance with State and Federal privacy  
3 and confidentiality law;

4 “(E) a plan for how the eligible entity will  
5 continue the activities or sustain the use of the  
6 outputs created with the grant funds after the  
7 grant period ends; and

8 “(F) a description of how the eligible enti-  
9 ty will ensure interoperability and portability  
10 between the talent marketplace maintained by  
11 the eligible entity and other talent marketplaces  
12 through the use of open standards.

13 “(3) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under the  
14 subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to eligi-  
15 ble entities that—

16 “(A) are—

17 “(i) State agencies of States that have  
18 not previously received a grant from the  
19 Secretary for the purposes of this sub-  
20 section and demonstrate a substantial need  
21 to improve its data infrastructure, includ-  
22 ing for the development of a talent market-  
23 place; or

24 “(ii) consortia of State agencies that  
25 are comprised of State agencies from mul-

1            tiple States and include at least one State  
2            agency described in clause (i) and have the  
3            capacity to make significant contributions  
4            toward building interoperable and portable  
5            interstate data infrastructure; and

6            “(B) will use grant funds to—

7                    “(i) expand the adoption and use of  
8                    linked, publicly available, and interoperable  
9                    data on knowledge, skills, and abilities rep-  
10                    resented through credentials, occupational  
11                    job descriptions, and learning assertions,  
12                    including through the development of a tal-  
13                    ent marketplace or other tools and services  
14                    designed to help learners and workers  
15                    make informed decisions;

16                    “(ii) participate in and contribute  
17                    data to a multistate data collaborative, in-  
18                    cluding data that provides participating  
19                    States the ability to better understand—

20                            “(I) earnings and employment  
21                            outcomes of individuals who work out-  
22                            of-State; and

23                            “(II) interstate earnings and em-  
24                            ployment trends;



1 “(iii) enhance collaboration with pri-  
2 vate sector workforce and labor market  
3 data entities and the end-users of work-  
4 force and labor market data, including in-  
5 dividuals, employers, economic development  
6 agencies, and workforce development pro-  
7 viders;

8 “(iv) leverage the use of non-Federal  
9 contributions to improve workforce data in-  
10 frastructure, including staff capacity build-  
11 ing; or

12 “(v) expand existing statewide inte-  
13 grated longitudinal data systems, including  
14 such systems receiving assistance under  
15 section 208 of the Educational Technical  
16 Assistance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9607).

17 “(4) USE OF FUNDS.—In addition to the activi-  
18 ties described in paragraph (3)(B), an eligible entity  
19 awarded a grant under this subsection may use  
20 funds to carry out any of the following activities:

21 “(A) Developing or enhancing a State’s  
22 workforce longitudinal data system, including  
23 by participating and contributing data to the  
24 State’s data system, if applicable, that links

1 with elementary and secondary school and post-  
2 secondary data.

3 “(B) Accelerating the replication and  
4 adoption of data systems, projects, products, or  
5 practices already in use in one or more States  
6 to other States.

7 “(C) Research and labor market data im-  
8 provement activities to improve the timeliness,  
9 relevance, and accessibility of such data  
10 through pilot projects that are developed locally  
11 but designed to scale to other regions or States.

12 “(D) Establishing or enhancing a talent  
13 marketplace.

14 “(E) Developing policies, guidelines, and  
15 security measures for data collection, storing,  
16 and sharing to ensure compliance with relevant  
17 Federal and State privacy laws and regulations.

18 “(F) Increasing local board access to and  
19 integration with the State’s workforce longitu-  
20 dinal data system in a secure manner.

21 “(G) Creating or participating in a data  
22 exchange for collecting and using standards-  
23 based jobs and employment data including, at a  
24 minimum, job titles or occupation codes.

1           “(H) Improving State and local staff ca-  
2           capacity to understand, use, and analyze data to  
3           improve decision-making and improve partici-  
4           pant outcomes.

5           “(5) ADMINISTRATION.—

6           “(A) DURATION.—A grant awarded under  
7           this subsection may be for a period of up to 3  
8           years.

9           “(B) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—  
10          Funds made available under this subsection  
11          shall be used to supplement, and not supplant,  
12          other Federal, State, or local funds used for de-  
13          velopment of State data systems.

14          “(C) REPORT.—Each eligible entity that  
15          receives a grant under this subsection shall sub-  
16          mit a report to the Secretary not later than 180  
17          days after the conclusion of the grant period on  
18          the activities supported through the grant and  
19          improvements in the use of workforce and labor  
20          market information that have resulted from  
21          such activities.

22          “(6) DEFINITION.—In this subsection—

23               “(A) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligi-  
24               ble entity’ means a State agency, including a  
25               State workforce agency or a consortium of

1 State agencies, including a multistate data col-  
2 laborative, that is or includes the State agency  
3 responsible for—

4 “(i) State employer wage records used  
5 by the State’s unemployment insurance  
6 programs in labor market information re-  
7 porting and analysis and for fulfilling the  
8 reporting requirements under section  
9 116(d);

10 “(ii) the production of labor market  
11 information; and

12 “(iii) the direct administration of one  
13 or more of the core programs.

14 “(B) MULTISTATE DATA COLLABO-  
15 RATIVE.—The term ‘multistate data collabo-  
16 rative’ means a partnership among two or more  
17 States to coordinate the governance and stand-  
18 ards for workforce related data maintained by  
19 such States in order to facilitate interoperability  
20 and the secure exchange of such data between  
21 such States.”.

22 **SEC. 175. NATIONAL DISLOCATED WORKER GRANTS.**

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

25 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)—

2 (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
3 “and” at the end;

4 (ii) in subparagraph (D)(ii), by strik-  
5 ing the period at the end and inserting “;  
6 and”; and

7 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
8 lowing:

9 “(E) to an entity described in subsection  
10 (c)(1)(B) to provide employment and training  
11 activities related to the prevention and treat-  
12 ment of substance use disorders, including ad-  
13 diction treatment, mental health treatment, and  
14 pain management, in an area that, as a result  
15 of widespread substance use, addiction, and  
16 overdoses, has higher-than-average demand for  
17 such activities that exceeds the availability of  
18 State and local resources to provide such activi-  
19 ties.”; and

20 (B) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(3) PERFORMANCE RESULTS.—The Secretary  
22 shall collect the necessary information from each en-  
23 tity receiving a grant under this section to determine  
24 the performance of such entity on the primary indi-  
25 cators of performance described in section

1       116(b)(2)(A)(i) and make such information available  
2       on the publicly accessible website of the Department  
3       in a format that does not reveal personally identifi-  
4       able information.”; and

5               (2) in subsection (c)—

6                       (A) in paragraph (1)(A)—

7                               (i) by striking “subsection (b)(1)(A)”  
8                               and inserting “subparagraph (A) or (E) of  
9                               subsection (b)(1)”; and

10                              (ii) by striking “, in such manner, and  
11                              containing such information” and inserting  
12                              “and in such manner”; and

13                       (B) in paragraph (2)—

14                               (i) in subparagraph (B)—

15                                       (I) in the heading, by striking  
16                                       “RETRAINING”       and       inserting  
17                                       “RESKILLING”; and

18                                      (II) by striking “retraining” and  
19                                      inserting “reskilling”;

20                               (ii) by redesignating subparagraphs  
21                               (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and  
22                               (E), respectively; and

23                               (iii) by inserting after subparagraph  
24                               (B) the following:

1                   “(C)       SUBSTANCE       USE       RELATED  
2                   GRANTS.—In order to be eligible to receive em-  
3                   ployment and training assistance under a na-  
4                   tional dislocated worker grant awarded pursu-  
5                   ant to subsection (b)(1)(E), an individual shall  
6                   be—

7                               “(i) a dislocated worker;

8                               “(ii) a long-term unemployed indi-  
9                   vidual;

10                              “(iii) an individual who is unemployed  
11                   or significantly underemployed as a result  
12                   of widespread substance use in the area; or

13                              “(iv) an individual who is employed or  
14                   seeking employment in a health care pro-  
15                   fession involved in the prevention and  
16                   treatment of substance use disorders, in-  
17                   cluding such professions that provide ad-  
18                   diction treatment, mental health treat-  
19                   ment, or pain management.”.

20   **SEC. 176. YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM.**

21           Section 171 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
22   tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3226) is amended—

23                   (1) in subsection (b)(7), by striking “(25  
24           U.S.C. 450b)” and inserting “(25 U.S.C. 5304)”;

25                   (2) in subsection (c)—

1 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as  
2 follows:

3 “(1) AMOUNT OF GRANTS; RESERVATION.—

4 “(A) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—Subject to  
5 subparagraph (B), the Secretary is authorized  
6 to make grants to applicants for the purpose of  
7 carrying out YouthBuild programs approved  
8 under this section.

9 “(B) RESERVATION FOR RURAL AREAS  
10 AND INDIAN TRIBES.—

11 “(i) TRIBAL RESERVATION.—Subject  
12 to clause (iii), in carrying out subpara-  
13 graph (A), the Secretary shall reserve not  
14 less than 5 percent of the total amount ap-  
15 propriated for the purposes of that sub-  
16 paragraph to make grants to applicants  
17 that are—

18 “(I) Indian tribes, tribal organi-  
19 zations, or Native Hawaiian organiza-  
20 tions (as such term is defined in sec-  
21 tion 166(b)); or

22 “(II) carrying out programs for  
23 the benefit of Indians.

24 “(ii) RURAL RESERVATION.—Subject  
25 to clause (iii), in carrying out subpara-



graph (A), the Secretary shall reserve not less than 10 percent of the total amount appropriated for purposes of that subparagraph to make grants to applicants that are located in rural areas.

“(iii) EXCEPTION.—If the Secretary does not receive a sufficient number of applications of sufficient quality to award the amounts reserved under clause (i) or amounts reserved under clause (ii) in accordance with the requirements of the applicable clause, the Secretary may—

“(I) award grants to applicants described in clause (i) or clause (ii), as the case may be, in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 per grant; and

“(II) use any remaining amount reserved under the applicable clause to, notwithstanding the requirements of that clause, award grants under subparagraph (A) to other applications that are not described in such clause.”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

1 (I) in clause (iv)—

2 (aa) in subclause (II), by  
3 striking “language learners” and  
4 inserting “learners”;

5 (bb) in subclause (III), by  
6 striking “a secondary” and in-  
7 serting “a regular high”; and

8 (cc) in subclause (IV), by  
9 striking “required” and inserting  
10 “available Federal, State, or in-  
11 stitutional”;

12 (II) in clause (v), by striking  
13 “drug and alcohol abuse” and insert-  
14 ing “substance use disorder”;

15 (III) in clause (vii)—

16 (aa) by inserting “to ensure  
17 full participation in a YouthBuild  
18 program, including such services  
19 for individuals with disabilities,”  
20 after “services”; and

21 (bb) by inserting “unsub-  
22 sidized” after “retaining”; and

23 (IV) in clause (viii), by inserting  
24 “, including career services” after  
25 “assistance”; and

1                   (ii) by adding at the end the fol-  
2                   lowing:

3                   “(I) Provision of meals and other food as-  
4                   sistance to participants in conjunction with an-  
5                   other activity described in this paragraph.

6                   “(J) Provision of information on and refer-  
7                   ral to Federal and State means tested pro-  
8                   grams.”;

9                   (C) in paragraph (3)—

10                  (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
11                  “such time, in such manner, and con-  
12                  taining such information” and inserting  
13                  “such time and in such manner”; and

14                  (ii) in subparagraph (B)—

15                         (I) in the header, by striking  
16                         “MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS” and in-  
17                         serting “REQUIREMENTS”;

18                         (II) by striking “, at a min-  
19                         imum”;

20                         (III) in clause (iii), by striking  
21                         “unions” and inserting “labor organi-  
22                         zations”;

23                         (IV) by amending clause (v) to  
24                         read as follows:

1 “(v) a description of the educational  
2 and job training activities, work opportuni-  
3 ties, postsecondary education and training  
4 opportunities, and other services that will  
5 be provided to participants, and how those  
6 activities, opportunities, and services will—

7 “(I) prepare youth for employ-  
8 ment in in-demand industry sectors or  
9 occupations in the labor market area  
10 described in clause (i); and

11 “(II) support youth in attaining  
12 a regular high school diploma or its  
13 recognized equivalent;”;

14 (V) in clause (vii), by striking  
15 “(including agencies of Indian tribes)”  
16 and inserting “, Indian tribes, tribal  
17 organizations, and tribal educational  
18 agencies (as such term is defined in  
19 section 6132(b) of the Elementary  
20 and Secondary Education Act of 1965  
21 (20 U.S.C. 7452(b)))”;

22 (VI) in clause (x), by inserting  
23 “located in the region proposed to be  
24 served by such applicant, as applica-  
25 ble” after “tribes”;

1 (VII) by amending clause (xii) to  
2 read as follows:

3 “(xii) a description of the levels of  
4 performance the applicant expects to  
5 achieve on the primary indicators of per-  
6 formance described in section  
7 116(b)(2)(A)(ii);”;

8 (VIII) in clause (xiii), by striking  
9 “unions” and inserting “labor organi-  
10 zations”;

11 (IX) by redesignating clauses  
12 (xv) through (xxi) as clauses (xvi)  
13 through (xxii), respectively; and

14 (X) by inserting after clause (xiv)  
15 the following:

16 “(xv) a description of any strategies  
17 the applicant will use to engage program  
18 participants in providing feedback and in-  
19 forming decision-making related to the  
20 program;”;

21 (D) in paragraph (4)—

22 (i) by striking “such selection criteria  
23 as the Secretary shall establish under this  
24 section, which shall include criteria” and  
25 inserting “selection criteria”;

1 (ii) in subparagraph (J)(iii), by add-  
2 ing “and” after the semicolon;

3 (iii) in subparagraph (K), by striking  
4 “; and” and inserting a period; and

5 (iv) by striking subparagraph (L);

6 (3) in subsection (e)(1)(B)(i)—

7 (A) by striking “are basic skills deficient”  
8 and inserting “have foundational skill needs”;  
9 and

10 (B) by striking “secondary” and inserting  
11 “regular high”;

12 (4) in subsection (f), by striking paragraph (2)  
13 and inserting the following:

14 “(2) USE OF WAGE RECORDS.—The Secretary  
15 shall make arrangements with a State or other ap-  
16 propriate entity to facilitate the use of State wage  
17 records to evaluate the performance of YouthBuild  
18 programs funded under this section on the employ-  
19 ment and earnings indicators described in section  
20 116(b)(2)(A)(ii) for the purposes of the report re-  
21 quired under paragraph (3).

22 “(3) PERFORMANCE RESULTS.—For each pro-  
23 gram year, the Secretary shall make available, on a  
24 publicly accessible website of the Department, a re-  
25 port on the performance of YouthBuild programs,

1 during such program year, funded under this section  
2 on—

3 “(A) the primary indicators of performance  
4 described in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii); and

5 “(B) the expected levels of performance for  
6 such programs as described in paragraph (1).

7 “(4) CONSULTATION.—In establishing expected  
8 levels of performance under paragraph (1), the Sec-  
9 retary shall consult, on not less than an annual  
10 basis, with entities carrying out YouthBuild pro-  
11 grams to ensure such levels of performance account  
12 for the workforce development and postsecondary  
13 education experiences of youth served by such pro-  
14 grams.”;

15 (5) in subsection (g), by inserting at the end  
16 the following:

17 “(4) ANNUAL RELEASE OF FUNDING OPPOR-  
18 TUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT.—The Secretary shall, to  
19 the greatest extent practicable, announce new fund-  
20 ing opportunities for grants under this section dur-  
21 ing the same time period each year for which such  
22 grants are available.”; and

23 (6) by amending subsection (i) to read as fol-  
24 lows:

1 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
3 \$105,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027 through  
4 2032.”.

5 **SEC. 177. REENTRY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.**

6 Subtitle D of title I of the Workforce Innovation and  
7 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3221 et seq.) is amended—

8 (1) by redesignating section 172 as section 175;  
9 and

10 (2) by inserting after section 171 the following:

11 **“SEC. 172. REENTRY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.**

12 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

13 “(1) to improve the employment, earnings, and  
14 skill attainment, and reduce recidivism, of adults  
15 and youth who have been involved with the justice  
16 system;

17 “(2) to prompt innovation and improvement in  
18 the reentry of offenders into the workforce so that  
19 successful initiatives can be established or continued,  
20 and replicated; and

21 “(3) to further develop the evidence on how to  
22 improve employment, earnings, and skill attainment,  
23 and reduce recidivism, of offenders, through rigorous  
24 evaluations of specific services provided, including  
25 how they affect different populations and how they



1       are best combined and sequenced, and disseminate  
2       such evidence to entities supporting the reentry of  
3       offenders is into the workforce.

4       “(b) REENTRY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES PRO-  
5       GRAM.—

6               “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appro-  
7       priated under section 175(e) and not reserved under  
8       subsection (h), the Secretary shall carry out a Re-  
9       entry Employment Opportunities Program, through  
10      which the Secretary—

11               “(A) except as provided in subparagraph  
12      (B), in order to implement reentry projects that  
13      serve eligible adults or eligible youth shall, on  
14      a competitive basis—

15               “(i) make direct awards (through  
16      grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-  
17      ments) to eligible entities to implement  
18      such reentry projects; and

19               “(ii) in any year for which the Sec-  
20      retary makes awards under clause (i),  
21      make intermediary awards to eligible enti-  
22      ties who are national or regional inter-  
23      mediaries, who shall use the award  
24      funds—

1                   “(I) to make direct awards to eli-  
2                   gible entities to implement such re-  
3                   entry projects; or

4                   “(II) to implement such reentry  
5                   projects; and

6                   “(B) in order to implement youth reentry  
7                   employment opportunities projects, through  
8                   that program, that serve eligible youth shall, on  
9                   a competitive basis—

10                  “(i) make direct awards to youth  
11                  project eligible entities to implement such  
12                  youth reentry projects; and

13                  “(ii) in any year for which the Sec-  
14                  retary makes awards under clause (i),  
15                  make intermediary awards to youth project  
16                  eligible entities who are national or re-  
17                  gional intermediaries, who shall use the  
18                  award funds—

19                  “(I) to make direct awards to  
20                  youth project eligible entities to imple-  
21                  ment such youth reentry projects; or

22                  “(II) to implement such youth re-  
23                  entry projects.

1           “(2) ALLOCATION TO ACTIVITIES.—From the  
2           amounts appropriated under section 175(e) and not  
3           reserved under subsection (h), the Secretary—

4                   “(A) shall use not less than 20 percent of  
5                   such amounts for awards under paragraph  
6                   (1)(A) to eligible entities to serve as national or  
7                   regional intermediaries to provide the award  
8                   funds to other eligible entities—

9                           “(i) to implement reentry projects de-  
10                           scribed in paragraph (1)(A); and

11                           “(ii) to monitor and support such en-  
12                           tities;

13                   “(B) shall use not less than 20 percent of  
14                   such amounts for direct or intermediary awards  
15                   under paragraph (1)(B) to—

16                           “(i) implement youth reentry projects  
17                           described in paragraph (1)(B); and

18                           “(ii) in cases in which the award re-  
19                           cipients make direct awards to other youth  
20                           reentry project eligible entities, monitor  
21                           and support such entities;

22                   “(C) shall use 20 percent of such amounts,  
23                   from the portion reserved to carry out para-  
24                   graph (1)(A), to award funds to eligible entities  
25                   using pay-for-performance contracts—

1           “(i) that specify a fixed amount that  
2           will be paid to such an entity based on the  
3           achievement, within a defined timeframe,  
4           of proposed levels of performance described  
5           under subsection (e)(2)(A) on the indica-  
6           tors of performance described in subsection  
7           (e)(1)(A)(i); and

8           “(ii) which may provide for bonus  
9           payments to such entity to expand capacity  
10          to provide effective services; and

11          “(D) shall ensure awards made under this  
12          section are made to eligible entities from geo-  
13          graphically diverse areas, in addition to giving  
14          the priorities described in paragraph (5).

15          “(3) INITIAL AWARD PERIODS.—The Secretary  
16          shall make an award under this section for an initial  
17          period of not more than 4 years.

18          “(4) ADDITIONAL AWARDS.—The Secretary  
19          may make, for a period of not more than 4 years,  
20          1 or more additional awards to an eligible entity  
21          that received an award under this section if the eligi-  
22          ble entity achieved the levels of performance agreed  
23          upon with the Secretary (as described in subsection  
24          (e)(2)) for the most recent award period.

1           “(5) PRIORITY.—In awarding funds under this  
2           section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible  
3           entities whose applications submitted under sub-  
4           section (c) demonstrate a commitment to use such  
5           funds to implement a reentry project—

6                   “(A) that will serve a high-poverty area;

7                   “(B) that will enroll eligible youth or eligi-  
8           ble adults—

9                   “(i) prior to the release of such indi-  
10           viduals from incarceration in a correctional  
11           institution; or

12                   “(ii) not later than 90 days after such  
13           release;

14                   “(C) whose strategy and design are evi-  
15           dence-based;

16                   “(D) for which the eligible entity will es-  
17           tablish a partnership with—

18                   “(i) a business;

19                   “(ii) an institution of higher education  
20           or provider under section 122 (as deter-  
21           mined by the State where services are  
22           being provided) to provide project partici-  
23           pants with a program leading to a recog-  
24           nized postsecondary credential in an in-de-  
25           mand industry sector or occupation;

1 “(iii) a local educational agency; or

2 “(iv) an agency that receives assist-  
3 ance for a program under section 225;

4 “(E) that provides training services, in-  
5 cluding employment-directed skills development  
6 and on-the-job training, that are designed to  
7 meet the specific requirements of an employer  
8 (including a group of employers), industry, or  
9 sector, and are conducted with a commitment  
10 by the employer to employ individuals upon suc-  
11 cessful completion of the preparation; and

12 “(F) that will serve a rural area.

13 “(6) CONSTRUCTION.—

14 “(A) PROJECTS WITH INTERMEDIARIES.—

15 An intermediary who receives funds under para-  
16 graph (1), to the extent that the intermediary  
17 uses the funds to make direct awards to eligible  
18 entities, shall carry out the functions of the  
19 Secretary described in paragraphs (3), (4), and  
20 (5) of this subsection, and paragraphs (1), (2)  
21 (other than paragraph (2)(J)), and (4) of sub-  
22 section (c).

23 “(B) REENTRY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNI-  
24 TIES PROGRAM PROJECTS.—For purposes of  
25 this section, a reference to an eligible entity,

1           used with respect to a youth reentry project  
2           carried out under paragraph (1)(B), shall be  
3           considered to be a reference to a youth project  
4           eligible entity.

5           “(c) APPLICATION.—

6           “(1) FORM AND PROCEDURE.—To be qualified  
7           to receive funds under this section, an eligible entity  
8           shall submit an application to the Secretary at such  
9           time, and in such manner, as is determined by the  
10          Secretary, and containing the information described  
11          in paragraph (2) and, as applicable, paragraph (3)  
12          or (4).

13          “(2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted by  
14          an eligible entity under paragraph (1) shall contain  
15          the following:

16                 “(A) A description of the eligible entity, in-  
17                 cluding the experience of the eligible entity in  
18                 providing education, employment, and training  
19                 services for offenders.

20                 “(B) A description of the needs that will  
21                 be addressed by the reentry project supported  
22                 by the funds received under this section and the  
23                 target participant population and the geo-  
24                 graphic area to be served.

1           “(C) A description of the proposed edu-  
2 cation, employment, and training services and  
3 supportive services, if applicable, to be provided  
4 under such reentry project, and how such ac-  
5 tivities will prepare participants for employment  
6 in an in-demand industry sector or occupation  
7 within the geographic area to be served by such  
8 reentry project.

9           “(D) The anticipated schedule for carrying  
10 out the activities proposed for the reentry  
11 project.

12           “(E) A description of—

13               “(i) the partnerships the eligible enti-  
14 ty will establish with agencies and entities  
15 within the criminal justice system, agencies  
16 and entities within the juvenile justice sys-  
17 tem, local boards, one-stop operators, one-  
18 stop partners, community-based organiza-  
19 tions, and employers (including local busi-  
20 nesses) to provide participants in the re-  
21 entry project with work-based learning, job  
22 placement, and recruitment (if applicable);  
23 and

24               “(ii) how the eligible entity will co-  
25 ordinate its activities with other services



1           and benefits available to offenders in the  
2           geographic area to be served by the reentry  
3           project.

4           “(F) A description of the manner in which  
5           individuals will be recruited and selected for  
6           participation for the reentry project.

7           “(G) A detailed budget and a description  
8           of the system of fiscal controls, and auditing  
9           and accountability procedures, that will be used  
10          to ensure fiscal soundness for the reentry  
11          project.

12          “(H) A description of the proposed levels  
13          of performance to be achieved with respect to  
14          the indicators of performance described in sub-  
15          section (e).

16          “(I) A description of the evidence-based  
17          practices the eligible entity will use in adminis-  
18          tration of the reentry project.

19          “(J) An assurance that the eligible entity  
20          will collect, disaggregate by each subpopulation  
21          of individuals with barriers to employment, and  
22          by race, ethnicity, sex, and age, and report to  
23          the Secretary the data required with respect to  
24          the reentry project carried out by the eligible  
25          entity for purposes of determining levels of per-

1 formance achieved and conducting the evalua-  
2 tion under this section.

3 “(K) An assurance that the eligible entity  
4 will provide a match as described in subsection  
5 (d)(4).

6 “(L) A description of how the eligible enti-  
7 ty plans to continue the reentry project after  
8 the award period.

9 “(M) For any project offering a recognized  
10 postsecondary credential, a description of how  
11 the project leads to the credential.

12 “(N) For a project that also serves as a  
13 program carried out under section 225, a de-  
14 scription of how the award funds will be used  
15 to carry out the education described in section  
16 225, in conjunction with the activities described  
17 in subsection (d).

18 “(3) ADDITIONAL CONTENT FOR INTER-  
19 MEDIARY APPLICANTS.—An application submitted by  
20 an eligible entity seeking to serve as a national or  
21 regional intermediary as described in subparagraph  
22 (A) or (B) of subsection (b)(1) shall also contain  
23 each of the following:

24 “(A) An identification and description of  
25 the eligible entities that will be subawardees of

1 such intermediary and implement the reentry  
2 projects, which shall include subawardees in—

3 “(i) 3 or more noncontiguous metro-  
4 politan areas or rural areas; and

5 “(ii) not fewer than 2 States.

6 “(B) A description of the services and sup-  
7 ports the intermediary will provide to the sub-  
8 awardees, including administrative and fiscal  
9 support to ensure the subawardees comply with  
10 all subaward requirements.

11 “(C) A description of how the intermediary  
12 will facilitate the replication of evidence-based  
13 practices or other best practices identified by  
14 the intermediary across all subawardees.

15 “(D) If such intermediary is currently re-  
16 ceiving, or has previously received, funds under  
17 this section as an intermediary to implement a  
18 reentry project, an assurance that none of the  
19 subawardees identified under subparagraph (A)  
20 are current or were previous subawardees of the  
21 intermediary for such reentry project and failed  
22 to meet the levels of performance established  
23 for such reentry project.

24 “(4) ADDITIONAL CONTENT FOR YOUTH REO  
25 APPLICATIONS.—An application submitted under

1 paragraph (1) by a youth project eligible entity seek-  
2 ing to serve youth applicants through an award de-  
3 scribed in subsection (b)(1)(B) shall also contain the  
4 following:

5 “(A) A description of—

6 “(i) how the youth reentry project will  
7 facilitate the enrollment of eligible youth in  
8 a program of a local educational agency, a  
9 program of adult education and literacy  
10 activities, a YouthBuild program, the Job  
11 Corps, or a program of an institution of  
12 higher education;

13 “(ii) how the youth reentry project  
14 will connect eligible youth with mentors or  
15 peer support groups to provide guidance,  
16 encouragement, and positive role modeling  
17 during the reentry process;

18 “(iii) how the youth reentry project  
19 will involve family members, guardians,  
20 and other supportive people in an eligible  
21 youth’s life in the reentry process;

22 “(iv) how the youth reentry project  
23 will provide or support access to counseling  
24 and substance use disorder programs for  
25 an eligible youth;

1 “(v) how the youth reentry project  
2 will assist eligible youth to find safe and  
3 stable housing;

4 “(vi) how the youth reentry project  
5 will ensure activities carried out under an  
6 award described in subsection (b)(1)(B)  
7 are designed to meet the needs of the pop-  
8 ulation served; and

9 “(vii) the experience of the eligible en-  
10 tity in providing services to youth, includ-  
11 ing eligible youth, and the strategies the el-  
12 ible entity will use to ensure that services  
13 provided are age-appropriate for eligible  
14 youth.

15 “(B) A description of how a youth project  
16 eligible entity plans to provide skills develop-  
17 ment, for stakeholders involved in an eligible  
18 youth’s reentry, on best practices pertaining to  
19 eligible youth and reentry.

20 “(d) USES OF FUNDS.—

21 “(1) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity  
22 that receives funds under this section shall use such  
23 funds to implement a reentry project for eligible  
24 adults, eligible youth, or both, that provides each of  
25 the following:

1           “(A) One or more of the individualized ca-  
2           reer services listed in subclauses (I) through  
3           (IX) of section 134(c)(2)(B)(vii).

4           “(B) One or more of the training services  
5           listed in clauses (i) through (xi) in section  
6           134(c)(3)(D), including subsidized employment  
7           opportunities through transitional jobs.

8           “(C) For participants who are eligible  
9           youth, 1 or more of the program elements listed  
10          in subparagraphs (A) through (O) of section  
11          129(c)(2).

12          “(2) ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES.—An eligible enti-  
13          ty that receives funds under this section may use  
14          such funds to provide to eligible adults, eligible  
15          youth, or both, each of the following:

16               “(A) Followup services after placement in  
17               unsubsidized employment as described in sec-  
18               tion 134(c)(2)(B)(viii).

19               “(B) Apprenticeship programs.

20               “(C) Education in digital literacy skills.

21               “(D) Mentoring.

22               “(E) Assistance in obtaining employment,  
23          including as a result of the eligible entity—

1                   “(i) establishing and developing rela-  
2                   tionships and networks with large and  
3                   small employers; and

4                   “(ii) coordinating with employers to  
5                   develop employer-directed skills develop-  
6                   ment programs and on-the-job training.

7                   “(F) Assistance with driver’s license rein-  
8                   statement (including assistance with removing  
9                   or expunging records as permitted under the  
10                  applicable Federal or State law to facilitate that  
11                  reinstatement) and fees for driver’s licenses and  
12                  other necessary documents for employment and  
13                  removing barriers to employment.

14                  “(G) Provision of or referral to evidence-  
15                  based mental health treatment by licensed prac-  
16                  titioners.

17                  “(H) Provision of or referral to substance  
18                  use disorder treatment services, provided that  
19                  funds awarded under this section are only used  
20                  to provide such services to participants who are  
21                  unable to obtain such services through other  
22                  programs providing such services.

23                  “(I) Provision of or referral to supportive  
24                  services, provided that, notwithstanding section  
25                  181(h)(2), no more than 10 percent of funds

1           awarded to an eligible entity under this section  
2           may be used to provide such services to partici-  
3           pants who may be able to obtain such services  
4           through other programs providing such services.

5           “(3) ADMINISTRATIVE COST LIMIT.—An eligible  
6           entity may not use more than 7 percent of the funds  
7           received under this section for administrative costs,  
8           including for costs related to collecting information,  
9           analysis, and coordination for purposes of subsection  
10          (e) or (f).

11          “(4) MATCHING.—An eligible entity shall pro-  
12          vide a match, which may be provided in cash or in-  
13          kind, for the costs of the project in an amount that  
14          is not less than 25 percent of the total amount of  
15          funds awarded to the entity under this section for  
16          the period involved, except that the Secretary may  
17          waive the matching requirement, on a case-by-case  
18          basis and for not more than 20 percent of all awards  
19          made under this section, if the eligible entity in-  
20          volved demonstrates significant financial hardship.

21          “(e) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

22                 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF LEVELS.—

23                         “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
24                         establish expected levels of performance for re-  
25                         entry projects funded under this section for—



1 “(i) each of the primary indicators of  
2 performance—

3 “(I) for adults, as described in  
4 section 116(b)(2)(A)(i), for eligible  
5 adults in reentry projects for eligible  
6 adults or reentry projects for both eli-  
7 gible adults and eligible youth; and

8 “(II) for youth, as described in  
9 section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii), for eligible  
10 youth in reentry projects for eligible  
11 youth or reentry projects for both eli-  
12 gible adults and eligible youth; and

13 “(ii) an indicator of performance es-  
14 tablished by the Secretary with respect to  
15 participant recidivism.

16 “(B) UPDATES.—The levels established  
17 under subparagraph (A) shall be updated for  
18 each 4-year-award period.

19 “(2) AGREEMENT ON LEVELS OF PERFORM-  
20 ANCE.—In establishing and updating levels of per-  
21 formance under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall  
22 reach agreement on such levels with the eligible enti-  
23 ties receiving awards under this section that will be  
24 subject to such levels, based on, as the Secretary de-  
25 termines relevant for each indicator of performance

1 applicable under paragraph (1), each of the fol-  
2 lowing factors:

3 “(A) The proposed levels of performance of  
4 each such eligible entity described in the appli-  
5 cation submitted under subsection (c)(2)(H).

6 “(B) The local economic conditions of the  
7 geographic area to be served by each such eligi-  
8 ble entity, including differences in unemploy-  
9 ment rates and job losses or gains in particular  
10 industries.

11 “(C) The characteristics of project partici-  
12 pants when entering the project involved, in-  
13 cluding—

14 “(i) criminal records;

15 “(ii) indicators of work history;

16 “(iii) work experience;

17 “(iv) educational or occupational skills  
18 attainment;

19 “(v) levels of literacy or English pro-  
20 ficiency;

21 “(vi) disability status;

22 “(vii) homelessness; and

23 “(viii) receipt of public assistance.

24 “(3) FAILURE TO MEET LEVELS OF PERFORM-  
25 ANCE.—In the case of an eligible entity that fails to

1 meet the levels of performance established under  
2 paragraph (1) and updated to reflect the actual local  
3 economic conditions and characteristics of partici-  
4 pants (as described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of  
5 paragraph (2)) served by the reentry project involved  
6 for any award year, the Secretary shall provide tech-  
7 nical assistance to the eligible entity, including the  
8 development of a performance improvement plan.

9 “(f) EVALUATION OF REENTRY PROJECTS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years  
11 after the first award of funds under this section is  
12 made, the Secretary (acting through the Chief Eval-  
13 uation Officer) shall meet each of the following re-  
14 quirements:

15 “(A) DESIGN AND CONDUCT OF EVALUA-  
16 TION.—Design and conduct an evaluation to  
17 evaluate the effectiveness of the reentry projects  
18 funded under this section, which meets the re-  
19 quirements of paragraph (2), and includes an  
20 evaluation of each of the following:

21 “(i) The effectiveness of such projects  
22 in assisting individuals with finding unsub-  
23 sidized employment, and maintaining un-  
24 subsidized employment during the second

1 quarter and fourth quarter after exit from  
2 the project.

3 “(ii) The effectiveness of such projects  
4 in assisting individuals with earning recog-  
5 nized postsecondary credentials.

6 “(iii) The effectiveness of such  
7 projects in relation to their cost, including  
8 the extent to which the projects improve  
9 reentry outcomes, including in employ-  
10 ment, compensation (which may include  
11 wages earned and benefits), career ad-  
12 vancement, measurable skills gains, and  
13 recognized postsecondary credentials  
14 earned, and including the extent to which  
15 the projects reduce recidivism of partici-  
16 pants in comparison to comparably situ-  
17 ated individuals who did not participate in  
18 such projects.

19 “(iv) The effectiveness of specific  
20 services and interventions provided and of  
21 the overall project design.

22 “(v) If applicable, the extent to which  
23 such projects effectively serve various de-  
24 mographic groups, including people of dif-  
25 ferent geographic locations, ages, races,

1 national origins, and criminal records, and  
2 individuals with disabilities.

3 “(vi) If applicable, the appropriate-  
4 ness of the sequencing, combination, or  
5 concurrent structure, of services for each  
6 subpopulation of individuals who are par-  
7 ticipants in such projects, such as the  
8 order, combination, or concurrent structure  
9 of services in which transitional jobs and  
10 occupational skills development are pro-  
11 vided, to ensure that such participants are  
12 prepared to fully benefit from education,  
13 employment, and training services provided  
14 under the project.

15 “(vii) Limitations or barriers to edu-  
16 cation and employment encountered by  
17 participants served by the projects as a re-  
18 sult of occupational or educational licens-  
19 ing restrictions.

20 “(B) DATA ACCESSIBILITY.—Make avail-  
21 able, on the publicly accessible website managed  
22 by the Department of Labor, data collected  
23 during the course of evaluation under this sub-  
24 section, in an aggregated format that does not  
25 disclose personally identifiable information.

1           “(2) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—An evaluation  
2       under this subsection—

3           “(A) shall—

4               “(i) be designed by the Secretary (act-  
5               ing through the Chief Evaluation Officer)  
6               in conjunction with the eligible entities car-  
7               rying out the reentry projects being evalu-  
8               ated;

9               “(ii) include analysis of participant  
10              feedback and outcome and process meas-  
11              ures; and

12              “(iii) use designs that employ the  
13              most rigorous analytical and statistical  
14              methods that are reasonably feasible, such  
15              as the use of control groups; and

16           “(B) may not—

17               “(i) collect personally identifiable in-  
18               formation, except to the extent such infor-  
19               mation is necessary to conduct the evalua-  
20               tion; or

21               “(ii) reveal or share personally identi-  
22               fiable information.

23           “(3) PUBLICATION AND REPORTING OF EVAL-  
24       UATION FINDINGS.—The Secretary (acting through  
25       the Chief Evaluation Officer) shall—

1           “(A) in accordance with the timeline deter-  
2           mined to be appropriate by the Chief Evalua-  
3           tion Officer, publish an interim report on such  
4           evaluation;

5           “(B) not later than 90 days after the date  
6           on which any evaluation is completed under this  
7           subsection, publish and make publicly available  
8           the results of such evaluation; and

9           “(C) not later than 60 days after the com-  
10          pletion date described in subparagraph (B),  
11          submit to the Committee on Education and  
12          Workforce of the House of Representatives and  
13          the Committee on Health, Education, Labor,  
14          and Pensions of the Senate a report on such  
15          evaluation.

16       “(g) ANNUAL REPORT.—

17           “(1) CONTENTS.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
18          the Secretary shall post, using transparent, linked,  
19          open, and interoperable data formats, on the publicly  
20          accessible website described in subsection (f)(1)(B),  
21          an annual report, covering the most recent program  
22          preceding the report, on—

23           “(A) the number of individuals who par-  
24          ticipated in projects assisted under this section  
25          during the program year;

1           “(B) the percentage of such individuals  
2           who successfully completed the requirements of  
3           such projects;

4           “(C) the performance of eligible entities on  
5           such projects as measured by the indicators of  
6           performance set forth in subsection (e); and

7           “(D) an explanation of any waivers grant-  
8           ed by the Secretary of the matching require-  
9           ment under subsection (d)(4).

10          “(2) DISAGGREGATION.—The information pro-  
11          vided under subparagraphs (A) through (C) of para-  
12          graph (1) with respect to a program year shall be  
13          disaggregated by each project assisted under this  
14          section for such program year.

15          “(h) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Of the funds appro-  
16          priated under section 175(e) for a fiscal year, the Sec-  
17          retary—

18               “(1) may reserve not more than 5 percent for  
19               the administration of awards made under this sec-  
20               tion, of which not more than 2 percent of the appro-  
21               priated funds may be reserved for the provision of—

22                       “(A) technical assistance to eligible entities  
23                       that receive funds under this section; and

24                       “(B) outreach and technical assistance to  
25                       eligible entities desiring to receive such funds,



1 including assistance with application develop-  
2 ment and submission; and

3 “(2) shall reserve not less than 1 percent and  
4 not more than 2.5 percent for the evaluation activi-  
5 ties under subsection (f) or to support eligible enti-  
6 ties with any required data collection, analysis, and  
7 coordination related to such evaluation activities.

8 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 “(1) AWARD.—The term ‘award’ means an  
10 award of funds through a grant, contract, or cooper-  
11 ative agreement.

12 “(2) CHIEF EVALUATION OFFICER.—The term  
13 ‘Chief Evaluation Officer’ means the head of the  
14 independent evaluation office located in the Office of  
15 the Assistant Secretary for Policy of the Department  
16 of Labor.

17 “(3) CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION.—The term  
18 ‘correctional institution’ has the meaning given the  
19 term in section 225(e).

20 “(4) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-  
21 tity’ means—

22 “(A) a private nonprofit organization  
23 under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue  
24 Code of 1986 that is exempt from taxation

1 under section 501(a) of such Code, including a  
2 community-based or faith-based organization;

3 “(B) a local board;

4 “(C) a State or local government;

5 “(D) an Indian or Native American entity  
6 eligible for grants under section 166;

7 “(E) a labor organization or joint labor-  
8 management organization;

9 “(F) an industry or sector partnership;

10 “(G) an institution of higher education; or

11 “(H) a consortium of the entities described  
12 in subparagraphs (A) through (G).

13 “(5) ELIGIBLE ADULT.—The term ‘eligible  
14 adult’ means an offender who is age 25 or older.

15 “(6) ELIGIBLE YOUTH.—The term ‘eligible  
16 youth’ means an offender who is not younger than  
17 age 14 or older than age 24.

18 “(7) HIGH-POVERTY.—The term ‘high-poverty’,  
19 when used with respect to a geographic area, means  
20 an area with a poverty rate of at least 20 percent  
21 as determined based on the most recently available  
22 data from the American Community Survey con-  
23 ducted by the Bureau of the Census.

24 “(8) OFFENDER.—Notwithstanding section 3,  
25 the term ‘offender’ means—

1 “(A) an individual of any age who—

2 “(i) not more than 5 years before en-  
3 rollment in a project funded under sub-  
4 section (b)(1)—

5 “(I) was released from incarceration  
6 ation in a correctional institution (in-  
7 cluding being enrolled in a work re-  
8 lease center at the institution); or

9 “(II) finished serving an alter-  
10 native sentence, or a sentence to a di-  
11 version program, ordered through the  
12 adult criminal justice system; or

13 “(ii) on such date of enrollment, is  
14 subject to the adult criminal justice sys-  
15 tem, including an individual who—

16 “(I) is incarcerated in a correc-  
17 tional institution (including being en-  
18 rolled in a work release center at the  
19 institution), but is scheduled to be re-  
20 leased not more than 180 days after  
21 such date of enrollment;

22 “(II) is residing in a residential  
23 reentry center;

24 “(III) is subject to electronic or  
25 home-based monitoring;

1 “(IV) is in the community on  
2 probation or parole; or

3 “(V) is serving an alternative  
4 sentence, or a sentence to a diversion  
5 program, ordered through that sys-  
6 tem; or

7 “(B) an individual who—

8 “(i) is not younger than age 14 or  
9 older than age 24; and

10 “(ii) has been—

11 “(I) charged with, or convicted  
12 of, any criminal offense; or

13 “(II) charged with, detained for,  
14 or adjudicated of, a delinquent act or  
15 status offense in a juvenile court.

16 “(9) YOUTH PROJECT ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The  
17 term ‘youth project eligible entity’ means—

18 “(A) an organization described in section  
19 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986  
20 that is exempt from taxation under section  
21 501(a) of such Code; or

22 “(B) a State or local juvenile justice agen-  
23 cy, or a State or local adult correctional agency  
24 with a focus on eligible youth.”.

1 **SEC. 178. YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP READINESS GRANT**  
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 Subtitle D of title I of the Workforce Innovation and  
4 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3221 et seq.) is further  
5 amended by inserting after section 172, as added by the  
6 preceding section, the following:

7 **“SEC. 173. YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP READINESS GRANT**  
8 **PROGRAM.**

9 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

10 “(1) to increase earnings and employment for  
11 in-school youth and out-of-school youth, ages 16  
12 through 24, through enrollment in and completion of  
13 evidence-based pre-apprenticeship programs and ap-  
14 prenticeship programs that serve youth;

15 “(2) to engage educational entities, organiza-  
16 tions carrying out programs that serve out-of-school  
17 youth, local educational agencies, State boards, local  
18 boards, employers, workforce partners (including  
19 one-stop partners), and other apprenticeship inter-  
20 mediaries, to establish innovative models for pre-ap-  
21 prenticeship programs and apprenticeship programs  
22 that serve youth, including coordinating with pro-  
23 grams that offer supportive services that can enable  
24 participation in and completion of the program; and

25 “(3) to promote alignment between education  
26 and workforce development systems (such as

1 through public-private partnerships) to enable in-  
2 school youth and out-of-school youth to participate  
3 in postsecondary education and career pathways, in-  
4 cluding apprenticeships, that result in careers.

5 “(b) YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP READINESS GRANT  
6 PROGRAM.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts made  
8 available to carry out this section under section  
9 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and Work-  
10 force Improvement Act (29 U.S.C. 3224a) and not  
11 reserved under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall,  
12 on a competitive basis, make grants to eligible enti-  
13 ties for projects to develop new or expand existing  
14 pre-apprenticeship programs and apprenticeships  
15 that serve youth.

16 “(2) ADMINISTRATIVE RESERVATION.—Of the  
17 amounts made available to carry out this section, the  
18 Secretary may reserve not more than 5 percent for  
19 the administration of grants made under this sec-  
20 tion, including—

21 “(A) not more than 3 percent for the pro-  
22 vision of technical assistance to eligible entities  
23 during the application period or the implemen-  
24 tation phase of such grant; and

1 “(B) not more than 2 percent for evalua-  
2 tions of employment and earnings outcomes de-  
3 scribed in clauses (vi), (vii), and (viii) of sub-  
4 section (e)(2)(B), identifying best practices, and  
5 facilitating the sharing of best practices among  
6 eligible entities by carrying out the identifica-  
7 tion and dissemination described in subsection  
8 (f)(2).

9 “(3) GRANT PERIOD.—The Secretary shall  
10 make such a grant for a period of not more than 4  
11 years and may extend the grant for a period of not  
12 more than 2 additional years if the grant recipient  
13 is making progress in achieving the objectives of the  
14 project’s identified programs.

15 “(4) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this  
16 section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible  
17 entities that—

18 “(A) serve an area with significant work-  
19 force shortages in the industry sector or occu-  
20 pation for which the eligible entity proposes to  
21 establish an identified program;

22 “(B) propose to expand or have a dem-  
23 onstrated track record of expanding employ-  
24 ment opportunities and career pathways for in-  
25 dividuals with a barrier to employment;

1           “(C) propose to primarily serve a popu-  
2           lation that is located in a rural or urban com-  
3           munity and has an area median household in-  
4           come of not more than 150 percent of the pov-  
5           erty line; or

6           “(D) include within the eligible entity a  
7           high-need local educational agency or a high-  
8           need educational service agency.

9           “(5) MATCHING REQUIREMENT FOR GRANTS.—  
10          In order to receive a grant from the Secretary under  
11          this section, an eligible entity shall provide a non-  
12          Federal contribution, which may be provided in cash  
13          or in-kind, for the costs of the project in an amount  
14          that is not less than 25 percent of the total amount  
15          of funds awarded to the entity for such period.

16          “(c) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that desires to  
17          receive a grant under this section shall submit an applica-  
18          tion to the Secretary at such time and in such manner  
19          as the Secretary may require and shall include the fol-  
20          lowing:

21               “(1)(A) A description of the eligible entity’s  
22               proposed project, to be supported by such grant, in-  
23               cluding a provision identifying whether such project  
24               will develop or expand 1 or more pre-apprenticeship



1       programs or 1 or more apprenticeship programs that  
2       serve youth.

3       “(B) Except in the case of an identified program by  
4       an eligible entity described in subsection (i)(5)(A)(i) that  
5       is an apprenticeship program that serves youth and re-  
6       quires each enrolled youth apprentice to have a regular  
7       high school diploma (or recognized equivalent) as a condi-  
8       tion of enrollment, an assurance that each identified pro-  
9       gram will be designed to enable—

10           “(i) in-school youth to receive a regular high  
11       school diploma (in partnership with the local edu-  
12       cational agency that serves such youth) and receive  
13       a recognized postsecondary credential (other than  
14       such a credential that is a baccalaureate degree)  
15       upon completion of the program; or

16           “(ii) out-of-school youth to receive a high school  
17       diploma or recognized equivalent and receive a rec-  
18       ognized postsecondary credential (other than such a  
19       credential that is a baccalaureate degree) upon com-  
20       pletion of the program.

21       “(2) A description of the eligible entity and a  
22       description of how such eligible entity will—

23           “(A) engage with employers to develop or  
24       expand, and sustain, each identified program;  
25       and

1           “(B) combine academic, career and tech-  
2           nical education, or related classroom instruction  
3           with on-the-job training, allowing youth to de-  
4           velop industry-specific or occupation-specific  
5           workplace competencies and skills.

6           “(3) A description of the need for and design  
7           of the project, including—

8           “(A) a description of the specific youth  
9           population to be served by the project, includ-  
10          ing—

11           “(i) the subgroups of participants in  
12           the population and skill levels of such par-  
13           ticipants, and whether such participants  
14           are in-school youth or out-of-school youth;

15           “(ii) how the project will increase em-  
16           ployment opportunities for youth who are  
17           individuals with a barrier to employment  
18           and youth from different subgroups of par-  
19           ticipants; and

20           “(iii) how the eligible entity will en-  
21           sure that a wide range of youth, including  
22           youth who are individuals with a barrier to  
23           employment and youth from different sub-  
24           groups of participants, are able to partici-  
25           pate in each identified program;

1           “(B) a description of the industry sector or  
2           occupation targeted through the eligible entity’s  
3           proposed project, the projected demand for the  
4           project in the area served by the eligible entity,  
5           and a citation of the data source for the pro-  
6           jected demand;

7           “(C) a description of the on-the-job train-  
8           ing portion of the project, including a list of the  
9           partners responsible for providing the on-the-  
10          job training, and how such training will be de-  
11          signed flexibly to meet the needs and schedule  
12          of in-school youth and out-of-school youth;

13          “(D) a description of the related classroom  
14          instruction portion of the project, including—

15               “(i) how coursework for that instruc-  
16               tion will be integrated into each identified  
17               program and developed in conjunction with  
18               and provided by education and training  
19               providers that are or are within the eligible  
20               entity, the specific partners that will pro-  
21               vide the related classroom instruction, and  
22               (as applicable) how the program may be  
23               aligned with the programs of early college  
24               high schools or dual or concurrent enroll-  
25               ment programs to support youth pre-ap-

1 prentices or apprentices involved in earning  
2 postsecondary credit;

3 “(ii) with respect to an identified  
4 project by an eligible entity described in  
5 subsection (i)(5)(A)(ii) that is designed to  
6 serve in-school youth, a description of how  
7 the eligible entity, through the project, will  
8 partner with the local educational agency  
9 that serves such youth to align challenging  
10 State academic standards and occupational  
11 skill standards to enable such youth to ob-  
12 tain a regular high school diploma while  
13 served by the program; and

14 “(iii) an explanation of how the  
15 project will combine academic, career and  
16 technical education, or related classroom  
17 instruction with on-the-job training;

18 “(E) a description of the proposed sup-  
19 portive services strategy for the youth pre-ap-  
20 prentices or apprentices involved, how the  
21 project will partner with or refer youth pre-ap-  
22 prentices or apprentices to entities in the area  
23 served by the eligible entity that provide sup-  
24 portive services, how such supportive services  
25 will promote retention in and completion of the

1 identified program involved, and the projected  
2 Federal, State, and local costs of such sup-  
3 portive services;

4 “(F) if the eligible entity proposes to oper-  
5 ate an apprenticeship program that serves  
6 youth—

7 “(i) the youth apprenticeship agree-  
8 ment the eligible entity intends to use;

9 “(ii) a description of how such eligible  
10 entity will incorporate into the apprentice-  
11 ship program recognized postsecondary  
12 credentials that enable youth apprentices  
13 to articulate to employment or higher level  
14 degree or other credential programs for  
15 multiple pathways, including enrollment in  
16 postsecondary education and employment;  
17 and

18 “(iii) if the eligible entity proposes to  
19 develop a new apprenticeship program that  
20 serves youth, a description of how the lead  
21 applicant and partners will register such  
22 new program with the Office of Appren-  
23 ticeship or State apprenticeship agency  
24 and ensure the employer or sponsor is in  
25 compliance with the standards and require-

1           ments of a registered apprenticeship under  
2           the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly  
3           known as the ‘National Apprenticeship  
4           Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C.  
5           50 et seq.), and that youth apprentices will  
6           earn a recognized postsecondary credential;  
7           and

8           “(G) if the eligible entity proposes to oper-  
9           ate a pre-apprenticeship program—

10           “(i) a description of how the eligible  
11           entity, through the program, will connect  
12           participants to and prepare participants  
13           for an apprenticeship program; and

14           “(ii) an explanation of how the eligible  
15           entity, in carrying out the project involved,  
16           will work with alternative and non-tradi-  
17           tional schools, institutions of higher edu-  
18           cation, and out-of-school youth programs.

19           “(4) A description of how the eligible entity will  
20           promote alignment between local or State education  
21           and workforce development systems by supporting  
22           policies or practices that facilitate transitions from  
23           secondary school (including alternative and nontradi-  
24           tional schools) and pre-apprenticeship programs to

1 apprenticeship programs and postsecondary edu-  
2 cation.

3 “(5) A description of expected outcomes and  
4 outputs from the project that includes—

5 “(A) an attestation that the eligible entity  
6 will report to the Secretary, in a timely and  
7 complete manner, the information required  
8 under subsection (e); and

9 “(B) estimated levels of performance over  
10 each year of the grant period for each of the in-  
11 dicators described in subparagraphs (B) and  
12 (C) of subsection (e)(2).

13 “(6) A description of the roles and responsibil-  
14 ities of each entity involved in the project, including  
15 any such entity that is a State or local government  
16 entity, qualified intermediary, service provider, inde-  
17 pendent evaluator, or other stakeholder.

18 “(7) An attestation that the eligible entity has,  
19 or will attempt to develop, a memorandum of under-  
20 standing with any relevant State workforce agency  
21 to facilitate matches to wage record data for youth  
22 pre-apprentices or apprentices to obtain the nec-  
23 essary information to fulfill the requirements of sub-  
24 section (e)(2).

1           “(8) The total intended budget for the project,  
2           including a description of any additional resources  
3           that may supplement the amount awarded under  
4           this section, including any funds the eligible entity  
5           intends to use to fulfill the matching funds require-  
6           ment described under subsection (b)(5), and a de-  
7           scription of the eligible entity’s plan to sustain the  
8           project funded through the grant beyond the conclu-  
9           sion of the grant period.

10           “(9) For any program offering a recognized  
11           postsecondary credential, a description of how the  
12           program leads to the credential.

13           “(d) USES OF FUNDS.—

14           “(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity receiving  
15           a grant under this section shall use the grant funds  
16           to carry out the project proposed under subsection  
17           (c) for purposes of carrying out 1 or more of the fol-  
18           lowing activities:

19                   “(A) Develop or expand a pre-apprentice-  
20                   ship program.

21                   “(B) Develop or expand an apprenticeship  
22                   program that serves youth, including registering  
23                   such a program and its youth apprentices  
24                   through the Office of Apprenticeship or an ap-  
25                   plicable State apprenticeship agency.



1           “(2) ADDITIONAL USES.—An eligible entity re-  
2           ceiving a grant under this section may use the grant  
3           funds, for each identified program, to—

4                   “(A) recruit youth to and enroll youth in  
5                   an identified program, including conducting  
6                   outreach to individuals with a barrier to em-  
7                   ployment and individuals preparing for non-  
8                   traditional employment (when the identified  
9                   program is in such field);

10                   “(B) conduct participant assessments to  
11                   determine skill levels;

12                   “(C) support the provision of on-the-job  
13                   training for participants in accordance with  
14                   subsection (c)(3)(C), including by developing or  
15                   modifying training activities to meet the needs  
16                   of participants, as applicable;

17                   “(D) support the provision of related class-  
18                   room instruction by education and training pro-  
19                   viders for participants in accordance with sub-  
20                   section (c)(3)(D), including—

21                           “(i) the development of courses at the  
22                           secondary level—

23                                   “(I) that are aligned with re-  
24                                   quirements to obtain a regular high

1 school diploma and integrated into the  
2 identified program; and

3 “(II) that may be aligned with  
4 the requirements of early college high  
5 schools or dual or concurrent enroll-  
6 ment programs to support youth pre-  
7 apprentices or youth apprentices in-  
8 volved in earning postsecondary cred-  
9 it;

10 “(ii) if the identified program is de-  
11 signed to serve in-school youth, the align-  
12 ment of challenging State academic stand-  
13 ards and occupational skill standards in  
14 secondary education;

15 “(iii) payment of participant tuition  
16 or other educational fees for projects; and

17 “(iv) the provision of instructional  
18 materials, equipment, and educational  
19 technology for such instruction;

20 “(E) provide supportive services such as  
21 transportation, child care, dependent care,  
22 housing, and needs-related payments to enable  
23 youth to participate in and complete the edu-  
24 cation and training activities of the identified  
25 program;

1           “(F) provide professional development op-  
2           portunities for secondary and postsecondary  
3           educators, and employers and mentors in the  
4           project, to prepare the educators, employers,  
5           and mentors to effectively support youth par-  
6           ticipating in the identified program;

7           “(G) increase awareness among parents,  
8           educators, students (especially individuals with  
9           a barrier to employment, individuals from un-  
10          derserved populations, and individuals from  
11          nontraditional apprenticeship populations), and  
12          employers or apprenticeship sponsors in the tar-  
13          geted service area about the benefits of youth  
14          participating in a pre-apprenticeship program  
15          or an apprenticeship program that serves youth;

16          “(H) promote innovation, inclusion in the  
17          identified program, and alignment of the pro-  
18          gram with programs authorized under the Carl  
19          D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act  
20          of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.); and

21          “(I) develop and integrate data collection  
22          systems, including within a statewide longitu-  
23          dinal data system, to track educational and em-  
24          ployment outcomes of participants in the identi-  
25          fied program.

1           “(3) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—An eligible entity  
2       receiving a grant under this section may use, as pro-  
3       vided in paragraph (2)(E), not more than 15 percent  
4       of grant funds awarded under this section to provide  
5       supportive services in accordance with that para-  
6       graph.

7       “(e) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

8           “(1) TARGETED LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

9           “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity re-  
10      ceiving a grant under this section shall, in ac-  
11      cordance with the indicators for participant out-  
12      comes described in paragraph (2)(B) and for  
13      program outputs described in paragraph (2)(C),  
14      identify targeted levels of performance for such  
15      indicators, which shall, at minimum, be equal to  
16      or greater than the estimated levels of perform-  
17      ance identified by the eligible entity in the enti-  
18      ty’s application under subsection (c)(5).

19           “(B) AGREEMENT ON TARGETED LEVELS  
20      OF PERFORMANCE.—Not later than 2 months  
21      after the identification described in subpara-  
22      graph (A), the eligible entity shall reach an  
23      agreement with the Secretary on levels of per-  
24      formance for each indicator described in sub-  
25      paragraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (2).

1 “(2) ANNUAL RECIPIENT REPORT.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years  
3 after receipt of a grant under this section and  
4 annually thereafter, the eligible entity shall pre-  
5 pare and submit to the Secretary a report eval-  
6 uating the performance and impact of the  
7 project funded through the grant with respect  
8 to participant outcome and program output in-  
9 dicators described in subparagraphs (B) and  
10 (C), disaggregated by the subgroups of partici-  
11 pants subject to paragraph (3).

12 “(B) PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES.—Con-  
13 sistent with subparagraph (A), an eligible entity  
14 receiving a grant under this section shall report  
15 to the Secretary data, for each identified pro-  
16 gram carried out by the eligible entity, on par-  
17 ticipant outcome indicators for each such pro-  
18 gram consisting of the—

19 “(i) total participants served and en-  
20 rolled in any identified program,  
21 disaggregated by youth pre-apprentices  
22 and apprentices;

23 “(ii) retention rate during each fiscal  
24 year of participants enrolled in any identi-  
25 fied program in the project that have not

1 completed such program, compared to that  
2 retention rate for the previous fiscal year,  
3 disaggregated by youth pre-apprentices  
4 and apprentices;

5 “(iii) total participants who attain a  
6 regular high school diploma or recognized  
7 equivalent, disaggregated by youth pre-ap-  
8 prentices and apprentices;

9 “(iv) total participants who complete  
10 such an identified program;

11 “(v) total participants who receive an  
12 associate or baccalaureate degree or other  
13 type of recognized postsecondary credential  
14 during or upon completion of the identified  
15 program;

16 “(vi) median hourly wage of youth  
17 pre-apprentices (as applicable) or youth  
18 apprentices on the date of exit from the  
19 identified program and during the second  
20 and fourth quarters after exit from the  
21 program, and a comparison of such wage  
22 to the local median hourly wage for the in-  
23 dustry sector or occupation for which the  
24 identified program is targeted;

1           “(vii) total participants in employ-  
2           ment during the second and fourth quarter  
3           after exit from the program; and

4           “(viii) total participants who complete  
5           a       pre-apprenticeship       program,  
6           disaggregated by the type of education,  
7           skills development, and apprenticeship op-  
8           portunities or employment pursued by such  
9           youth pre-apprentices after such comple-  
10          tion.

11          “(C)   PROGRAM    OUTPUTS.—Consistent  
12          with subparagraph (A), an eligible entity receiv-  
13          ing a grant under this section shall report to  
14          the Secretary data on program output indica-  
15          tors consisting of the—

16               “(i) total number of all identified pro-  
17               grams developed or expanded during the  
18               period covered by the report, disaggregated  
19               by pre-apprenticeship programs and ap-  
20               prenticeship programs that serve youth;

21               “(ii) total number of apprenticeships  
22               that serve youth, if applicable, that were  
23               developed or expanded during that period,  
24               including an apprenticeship program ex-  
25               panded as described in subsection (d)(1) to

1 new industry sectors, occupations, or serv-  
2 ice areas;

3 “(iii) total number of employers who  
4 became engaged in an identified program  
5 during that period, as a direct result of a  
6 grant under this section; and

7 “(iv) for each year of the period cov-  
8 ered by the report, the total share of the  
9 grant received under this section spent by  
10 the eligible entity on the uses of funds de-  
11 scribed under subparagraphs (C) and (D)  
12 of subsection (d)(2).

13 “(3) DISAGGREGATION.—The disaggregation of  
14 data under paragraph (2) shall not be required in a  
15 case where the number of participants in the sub-  
16 group of participants is insufficient to yield statis-  
17 tically reliable information or the results would re-  
18 veal personally identifiable information about an in-  
19 dividual participant.

20 “(4) USE OF RESULTS.—

21 “(A) EVALUATION.—

22 “(i) ANNUAL EVALUATION.—Not later  
23 than 2 years after the date of enactment  
24 of the A Stronger Workforce for America  
25 Act of 2026 and annually thereafter, the



1 Secretary shall evaluate whether each eligi-  
2 ble entity involved met the agreed levels of  
3 performance described in paragraph (1)(B)  
4 for each of the eligible entity's identified  
5 programs.

6 “(ii) END OF PROGRAM EVALUA-  
7 TION.—Not later than 30 days after each  
8 cohort of participants completes an eligible  
9 entity's identified program, the Secretary  
10 shall evaluate whether the eligible entity  
11 met the agreed levels of performance for  
12 that identified program.

13 “(B) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—If the  
14 Secretary determines under subparagraph (A)  
15 that an eligible entity fails to meet 1 or more  
16 of the agreed levels of performance for an iden-  
17 tified program, the Secretary shall provide tech-  
18 nical assistance, including assistance in the de-  
19 velopment of a performance improvement plan.

20 “(C) NONRENEWAL OF GRANT.—If the  
21 Secretary determines, 1 year after the eligible  
22 entity receives that technical assistance and im-  
23 plements that plan, that the eligible entity fails  
24 to meet the agreed levels of performance de-  
25 scribed in paragraph (1)(B) for an identified

1           program, the Secretary shall not extend a grant  
2           for that eligible entity for that program under  
3           subsection (b).

4           “(f) EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS.—

5           “(1) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than  
6           24 months after the date of enactment of the A  
7           Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026 and  
8           annually thereafter, the Secretary, in coordination  
9           with the Secretary of Education, using data reported  
10          by eligible entities pursuant to the requirements  
11          under subsection (e)—

12                   “(A) shall publish the data;

13                   “(B) shall prepare and make publicly avail-  
14                   able a report containing the data on the indica-  
15                   tors described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of  
16                   subsection (e)(2); and

17                   “(C) shall submit the report to the Com-  
18                   mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-  
19                   sions of the Senate and the Committee on Edu-  
20                   cation and Workforce of the House of Rep-  
21                   resentatives.

22           “(2) SHARING OF BEST PRACTICES.—Not later  
23           than 2 years after the date of enactment of the A  
24           Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026, the  
25           Secretary shall use funds reserved under subsection

1 (b)(2)(C) to identify and disseminate, through a  
2 website developed by the Department of Labor, best  
3 practices in developing and expanding pre-appren-  
4 ticeship opportunities or apprenticeship opportuni-  
5 ties for youth used by—

6 “(A) eligible entities receiving a grant  
7 under this section; and

8 “(B) States and local areas adopting inno-  
9 vative and effective practices to develop and ex-  
10 pand such opportunities.

11 “(g) COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS AND AGREE-  
12 MENTS.—

13 “(1) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.—Nothing in a  
14 youth apprenticeship agreement under this section  
15 shall be construed to invalidate an applicable provi-  
16 sion in a collective bargaining agreement, between  
17 employers and employees, that establishes higher  
18 standards for programs in the national apprentice-  
19 ship system.

20 “(2) CHILD LABOR.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity car-  
22 rying out a project under this section shall en-  
23 sure compliance with the provisions on child  
24 labor under the Fair Labor Standards Act of  
25 1938 (29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) and State law (in-

cluding Federal and State regulations under those laws), and with State workers' compensation laws.

“(B) MINIMUM LEGAL AGE.—The eligible entity shall only serve in-school youth, and out-of-school youth, who are not younger than the minimum legal age to be employed as apprentices under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) and any applicable State laws.

“(C) PRE-APPRENTICESHIP EXCEPTION.—An eligible entity that prepares or intends to prepare individuals for a covered occupation may submit an application under subsection (c) to develop or expand a pre-apprenticeship program that serves a youth who is younger than the age of 18 only if the program is limited to classroom instruction in the covered occupation.

“(h) SPECIAL RULES REGARDING PROTECTIONS FOR YOUTH IN PROGRAMS THAT PREPARE YOUTH FOR COVERED OCCUPATIONS.—

“(1) PRE-APPRENTICESHIPS IN COVERED OCCUPATIONS FOR YOUTH UNDER THE AGE OF 18.—A pre-apprenticeship program supported using funds awarded under this section that serves or intends to

1       serve a youth who is younger than the age of 18 and  
2       prepares such youth for a covered occupation may  
3       only provide classroom instruction to such youth in  
4       such program and may not provide on-the-job train-  
5       ing in a covered occupation to such youth in such  
6       program.

7           “(2) PROHIBITION ON YOUTH APPRENTICE-  
8       SHIPS IN COVERED OCCUPATIONS FOR YOUTH  
9       UNDER THE AGE OF 18.—An apprenticeship pro-  
10      gram that serves youth that is supported using  
11      funds awarded under this section and that prepares  
12      a youth apprentice for a covered occupation may not  
13      enroll in such program a youth who is younger than  
14      the age of 18.

15          “(3) APPRENTICESHIPS FOR YOUTH UNDER  
16      THE AGE OF 18.—An apprenticeship program sup-  
17      ported using funds awarded under this section may  
18      serve youth who are not younger than age 16 or  
19      older than age 17, provided that such program is  
20      not preparing such youth for a covered occupation.

21      “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22          “(1) APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM THAT SERVES  
23      YOUTH.—The term ‘apprenticeship program that  
24      serves youth’ means a registered apprenticeship pro-  
25      gram registered by the Office of Apprenticeship or

1 a State apprenticeship agency under the Act of Au-  
2 gust 16, 1937 (commonly known as the ‘National  
3 Apprenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29  
4 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), that is designed for youth not  
5 younger than age 16 or older than age 24.

6 “(2) COVERED OCCUPATION.—The term ‘cov-  
7 ered occupation’ means an occupation in—

8 “(A) manufacturing;

9 “(B) construction;

10 “(C) mining;

11 “(D) trenching or excavation;

12 “(E) logging or an occupation related to  
13 timber;

14 “(F) work involving a saw mill;

15 “(G) work involving the operation of heavy  
16 machinery;

17 “(H) work involving exposure to radio-  
18 active substances or to ionizing radiations;

19 “(I) meat processing;

20 “(J) demolition;

21 “(K) explosives; or

22 “(L) work in any industry sector or occu-  
23 pation that is prohibited to a youth who is  
24 younger than the age of 18 under the laws or  
25 policies of the State where the work occurs.

1           “(3) CTE TERMS.—The terms ‘Tribally con-  
2           trolled college or university’ and ‘Tribally controlled  
3           postsecondary career and technical institution’ have  
4           the meanings given the terms ‘tribally controlled col-  
5           lege or university’ and ‘tribally controlled postsec-  
6           ondary career and technical institution’, respectively,  
7           in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-  
8           nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

9           “(4) EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROVIDER.—  
10          The term ‘education and training provider’ means—

11               “(A) an area career and technical edu-  
12               cation school;

13               “(B) an early college high school;

14               “(C) a provider of a dual or concurrent en-  
15               rollment program;

16               “(D) a community-based organization that  
17               offers job training;

18               “(E) a high school operated by a local edu-  
19               cational agency;

20               “(F) a local educational agency, edu-  
21               cational service agency, or State educational  
22               agency;

23               “(G) a Tribal education agency (meaning  
24               such an agency within the meaning of section  
25               3(20)(E) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and

1           Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C.  
2           2302(20)(E))), Tribally controlled college or  
3           university, or Tribally controlled postsecondary  
4           career and technical institution;

5           “(H) the Bureau of Indian Education;

6           “(I) an institution of higher education;

7           “(J) a State entity that coordinates higher  
8           education, such as a community college system  
9           office, a single State educational board, or  
10          State higher education agency (as defined in  
11          section 103 of the Higher Education Act of  
12          1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003));

13          “(K) a historically Black college or univer-  
14          sity, meaning a part B institution as defined in  
15          section 322 of the Higher Education Act of  
16          1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061);

17          “(L) a minority-serving institution;

18          “(M) a local agency administering plans  
19          under title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973  
20          (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.), other than section 112  
21          or part C of that title (29 U.S.C. 732, 741);

22          “(N) a related integrated instruction pro-  
23          vider, including a qualified intermediary acting  
24          as a related integrated instruction provider as  
25          approved by the Office of Apprenticeship or a



1 State apprenticeship agency recognized by the  
2 Secretary;

3 “(O) a consortium of entities described in  
4 any of subparagraphs (A) through (N); or

5 “(P) as used with respect to an eligible en-  
6 tity described in paragraph (5)(A)(i), the joint  
7 labor-management organization that is such eli-  
8 gible entity.

9 “(5) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible en-  
11 tity’ means—

12 “(i) a joint labor-management organi-  
13 zation; or

14 “(ii) a partnership that—

15 “(I) shall include as the lead ap-  
16 plicant 1 entity that is—

17 “(aa) an education and  
18 training provider;

19 “(bb) a workforce develop-  
20 ment system entity;

21 “(cc) a qualified inter-  
22 mediary;

23 “(dd) a State agency of the  
24 State in which the partnership is  
25 located; or

1           “(ee) a joint labor-manage-  
2           ment organization;

3           “(II) shall include as a partner—

4           “(aa) at least 1 employer or  
5           an industry or trade association  
6           that represents at least 2 employ-  
7           ers;

8           “(bb) an education and  
9           training provider;

10           “(cc) the State apprentice-  
11           ship agency;

12           “(dd) a local board or the  
13           State board;

14           “(ee) a local educational  
15           agency, if the partnership is serv-  
16           ing in-school youth; or

17           “(ff) a qualified inter-  
18           mediary; and

19           “(III) may include as an addi-  
20           tional partner—

21           “(aa) the State educational  
22           agency;

23           “(bb) an institution of high-  
24           er education;

25           “(cc) an Indian Tribe;

1 “(dd) the State entity that  
2 coordinates higher education,  
3 such as a community college sys-  
4 tem office, a single State edu-  
5 cational board, or State higher  
6 education agency (as defined in  
7 section 103 of the Higher Edu-  
8 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
9 1003));

10 “(ee) a community-based or-  
11 ganization that offers job train-  
12 ing; or

13 “(ff) a joint labor-manage-  
14 ment organization.

15 “(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—For pur-  
16 poses of this section, a reference to a lead appli-  
17 cant, partner, or partnership between a lead ap-  
18 plicant and partners, with respect to an eligible  
19 entity described in subparagraph (A)(i), shall be  
20 deemed to be a reference to the eligible entity.

21 “(6) ESEA TERMS.—The terms ‘dual or con-  
22 current enrollment program’, ‘early college high  
23 school’, ‘educational service agency’, and ‘high  
24 school’ have the meanings given the terms in section

1       8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education  
2       Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

3           “(7) GRANT.—The term ‘grant’ means a con-  
4       tract, cooperative agreement, or award.

5           “(8) HIGH-NEED EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGEN-  
6       CY.—The term ‘high-need educational service agen-  
7       cy’ means an educational service agency that serves  
8       a significant number or percentage of high-need  
9       local educational agencies.

10          “(9) HIGH-NEED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-  
11       CY.—The term ‘high-need local educational agency’  
12       has the meaning given the term in section 200 of the  
13       Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1021).

14          “(10) IDENTIFIED PROGRAM.—The term ‘iden-  
15       tified program’ means a pre-apprenticeship program,  
16       or youth program that serves youth, that is proposed  
17       to be carried out by an eligible entity in an applica-  
18       tion approved under subsection (c) for a project.

19          “(11) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The  
20       term ‘minority-serving institution’ means an institu-  
21       tion defined in any of paragraphs (1) through (7) of  
22       section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
23       (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

24          “(12) NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM.—  
25       The term ‘national apprenticeship system’ means the

1 apprenticeship programs, apprenticeship programs  
2 that serve youth, and pre-apprenticeship programs  
3 that are approved by the Office of Apprenticeship or  
4 State apprenticeship agencies.

5 “(13) PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—The  
6 term ‘pre-apprenticeship program’ means a program  
7 that—

8 “(A) prepares youth to enroll in and com-  
9 plete an apprenticeship program;

10 “(B) maintains a written partnership with  
11 an apprenticeship program; and

12 “(C) in the case of a program with respect  
13 to a covered occupation, is provided only  
14 through classroom instruction for any youth  
15 pre-apprentice who is younger than the age of  
16 18.

17 “(14) QUALIFIED INTERMEDIARY.—The term  
18 ‘qualified intermediary’—

19 “(A) means a nonprofit entity operating in  
20 a State or local area that demonstrates exper-  
21 tise and experience in serving participants, em-  
22 ployers, and schools by—

23 “(i) building, sustaining, measuring,  
24 and improving the quality and performance

1 of apprenticeship programs that serve  
2 youth;

3 “(ii) assisting in the design, approval,  
4 registration, and implementation of ap-  
5 prenticeship programs that serve youth, in-  
6 cluding program development and meeting  
7 program requirements, including registra-  
8 tion and reporting requirements;

9 “(iii) in collaboration with 1 or more  
10 State educational agencies, local edu-  
11 cational agencies, or institutions of higher  
12 education included in the eligible entity in-  
13 volved, providing collaborative professional  
14 development activities such as training for  
15 workplace supervisors, mentors, counselors,  
16 and teachers, instructors, and other edu-  
17 cators;

18 “(iv) supporting the recruitment for,  
19 retention in, and completion of apprentice-  
20 ship programs that serve youth with re-  
21 spect to potential or enrolled youth appren-  
22 tices, including youth apprentices who are  
23 from low-income backgrounds or members  
24 of nontraditional apprenticeship popu-  
25 lations;

1                   “(v) developing and providing sup-  
2                   portive services including by partnering  
3                   with organizations to provide access to or  
4                   referrals for supportive services, financial  
5                   literacy services, and other support based  
6                   upon needs of potential or enrolled youth  
7                   apprentices; or

8                   “(vi) serving as a program sponsor;  
9                   and

10                  “(B) may consist of—

11                         “(i) a joint labor-management organi-  
12                         zation;

13                         “(ii) a community-based organization;

14                         or

15                         “(iii) an industry association.

16                  “(15) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of  
17                  the several States of the United States, the District  
18                  of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and  
19                  an outlying area.

20                  “(16) STATE AGENCY.—The term ‘State agen-  
21                  cy’ means a State educational agency, State work-  
22                  force agency, or State apprenticeship agency.

23                  “(17) STATE APPRENTICESHIP AGENCY.—The  
24                  term ‘State apprenticeship agency’ means an agency  
25                  of a State government that has been authorized by

1 the Office of Apprenticeship to register and oversee  
2 apprenticeship programs and has the responsibility  
3 and accountability for apprenticeship programs with-  
4 in the State.

5 “(18) SUBGROUP OF PARTICIPANTS.—The term  
6 ‘subgroup of participants’ means—

7 “(A) in-school youth;

8 “(B) out-of-school youth; and

9 “(C) each of the special populations, as de-  
10 fined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career  
11 and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20  
12 U.S.C. 2302).

13 “(19) WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM EN-  
14 TITY.—The term ‘workforce development system en-  
15 tity’ means an entity that is involved in admin-  
16 istering a workforce development system established  
17 under this Act, which shall be a State board, a local  
18 board, or an Indian Tribe, Tribal organization, or  
19 Native Hawaiian organization, as defined in section  
20 166(b).

21 “(20) YOUTH.—The term ‘youth’ means an in-  
22 dividual who is not younger than age 16 or older  
23 than age 24.

24 “(21) YOUTH APPRENTICE.—The term ‘youth’,  
25 used with respect to an apprentice, means a youth



1       who is participating in an apprenticeship program  
2       that serves youth.

3               “(22) YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP AGREEMENT.—  
4       The term ‘youth apprenticeship agreement’ means a  
5       written agreement under subsection (c)(3)(F) that is  
6       agreed to by each of the following:

7               “(A) A youth.

8               “(B) The youth’s parent or legal guardian,  
9       as applicable.

10              “(C) One or more local educational agen-  
11       cies, if the eligible entity involved is serving in-  
12       school youth.

13              “(D) The youth apprenticeship sponsor,  
14       which may be an employer.

15              “(E) As applicable, a qualified inter-  
16       mediary for an apprenticeship program that  
17       serves youth.

18              “(F) As applicable, one or more institu-  
19       tions of higher education.

20              “(G) As applicable, one or more employers.

21              “(23) YOUTH PRE-APPRENTICE.—The term  
22       ‘youth’, used with respect to a pre-apprentice, means  
23       a youth who is participating in a pre-apprenticeship  
24       program.”.

1 **SEC. 179. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COLLEGES GRANT**  
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 Subtitle D of title I of the Workforce Innovation and  
4 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3221 et seq.) is further  
5 amended by inserting after section 173, as added by the  
6 preceding section, the following:

7 **“SEC. 174. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COLLEGES WORK-**  
8 **FORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM.**

9 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

10 “(1) to establish, improve, or expand high-quality  
11 workforce development programs at community  
12 colleges; and

13 “(2) to expand opportunities for individuals to  
14 obtain recognized postsecondary credentials that are  
15 nationally or regionally portable and stackable for  
16 high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors  
17 or occupations.

18 “(b) STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
19 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appro-  
21 priated to carry out this section under section 175(f)  
22 and not reserved under paragraph (2), the Secretary  
23 shall, on a competitive basis, make grants to eligible  
24 institutions to carry out the activities described in  
25 subsection (e).

1           “(2) RESERVATION.—Of the amounts appro-  
2           priated to carry out this section under section  
3           175(f), the Secretary may reserve not more than 2  
4           percent for the administration of grants awarded  
5           under this section, including—

6                   “(A) providing technical assistance and  
7                   targeted outreach to support eligible institu-  
8                   tions serving a high number or high percentage  
9                   of low-income individuals or individuals with  
10                  barriers to employment, and rural-serving eligi-  
11                  ble institutions, to provide guidance and assist-  
12                  ance in the process of applying for grants under  
13                  this section; and

14                   “(B) evaluating and reporting on the per-  
15                   formance and impact of programs funded under  
16                   this section in accordance with subsections (f)  
17                   through (h).

18           “(c) AWARD PERIOD.—

19                   “(1) INITIAL GRANT PERIOD.—Each grant  
20                   under this section shall be awarded for an initial pe-  
21                   riod of not more than 4 years.

22                   “(2) SUBSEQUENT GRANTS.—An eligible insti-  
23                   tution that receives an initial grant under this sec-  
24                   tion may receive one or more additional grants  
25                   under this section for additional periods of not more

1       than 4 years each if the eligible institution dem-  
2       onstrates that, during the most recently completed  
3       grant period for a grant received under this section,  
4       such eligible institution achieved the levels of per-  
5       formance agreed to by the eligible institution with  
6       respect to the performance indicators specified in  
7       subsection (f).

8       “(d) APPLICATION.—

9               “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a  
10       grant under this section, an eligible institution shall  
11       submit an application to the Secretary at such time  
12       and in such manner as the Secretary may require.

13              “(2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted by  
14       an eligible institution under paragraph (1) shall in-  
15       clude a description of each the following:

16              “(A) The extent to which the eligible insti-  
17       tution has demonstrated success building part-  
18       nerships with employers in in-demand industry  
19       sectors or occupations to provide students with  
20       the skills needed for occupations in such indus-  
21       tries and an explanation of the results of any  
22       such partnerships.

23              “(B) The methods and strategies the eligi-  
24       ble institution will use to engage with employers  
25       in in-demand industry sectors or occupations,

1 including any arrangements to place individuals  
2 who complete the workforce development pro-  
3 grams supported by the grant into employment  
4 with such employers.

5 “(C) The proposed eligible institution and  
6 industry partnership that the eligible institution  
7 will establish or maintain to comply with sub-  
8 section (e)(1), including—

9 “(i) the roles and responsibilities of  
10 each employer, organization, agency, or in-  
11 stitution of higher education that the eligi-  
12 ble institution will partner with to carry  
13 out the activities under this section; and

14 “(ii) the needs that will be addressed  
15 by such eligible institution and industry  
16 partnership.

17 “(D) One or more industries that such  
18 partnership will target and real-time labor mar-  
19 ket data demonstrating that those industries  
20 are aligned with employer demand in the geo-  
21 graphic area to be served by the eligible institu-  
22 tion.

23 “(E) The extent to which the eligible insti-  
24 tution can—

1           “(i) leverage additional resources to  
2           support the programs to be funded with  
3           the grant, which shall include written com-  
4           mitments of any leveraged or matching  
5           funds for the proposed programs; and

6           “(ii) demonstrate the future sustain-  
7           ability of each such program.

8           “(F) The steps the institution will take to  
9           ensure the high quality of each program to be  
10          funded with the grant, including the career  
11          pathways within such programs.

12          “(G) The population and geographic area  
13          to be served by the eligible institution, including  
14          the number of individuals the eligible institution  
15          intends to serve during the grant period.

16          “(H) The workforce development programs  
17          to be supported by the grant.

18          “(I) The recognized postsecondary creden-  
19          tials that are expected to be earned by partici-  
20          pants in such workforce development programs  
21          and the related high-skill, high-wage, or in-de-  
22          mand industry sectors or occupations for which  
23          such programs will prepare participants.

24          “(J) The evidence upon which the edu-  
25          cation and skills development strategies to be

1           used in such workforce development programs  
2           are based and an explanation of how such evi-  
3           dence influenced the design of the programs to  
4           improve education and employment outcomes.

5           “(K) How activities of the eligible institu-  
6           tion are expected to align with the workforce  
7           strategies identified in—

8                   “(i) any State plan or local plan sub-  
9                   mitted under this Act by the State, out-  
10                  lying area, or locality in which the eligible  
11                  institution is expected to operate;

12                  “(ii) any State plan submitted under  
13                  section 122 of the Carl D. Perkins Career  
14                  and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20  
15                  U.S.C. 2342) by such State or outlying  
16                  area; and

17                  “(iii) any economic development plan  
18                  of the chief executive of such State or out-  
19                  lying area.

20           “(L) The goals of the eligible institution  
21           with respect to—

22                   “(i) capacity building (as described in  
23                   subsection (f)(1)(B)); and

24                   “(ii) the expected performance of indi-  
25                  viduals participating in the programs to be

1           offered by the eligible institution, including  
2           with respect to any performance indicators  
3           applicable under section 116 or subsection  
4           (f) of this section.

5           “(3) CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUS EXPERI-  
6           ENCE.—The Secretary may not disqualify an eligible  
7           institution from receiving a grant under this section  
8           solely because such institution lacks previous experi-  
9           ence in building partnerships, as described in para-  
10          graph (2)(A).

11          “(4) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this  
12          section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible  
13          institutions that—

14               “(A) will use the grant to serve—

15                   “(i) individuals with barriers to em-  
16                   ployment; or

17                   “(ii) incumbent workers who need to  
18                   gain or improve foundational skills to en-  
19                   hance their employability;

20               “(B) use competency-based assessments,  
21               such as the competency-based assessment iden-  
22               tified by the State in which the eligible institu-  
23               tion is located under section 134(a)(2)(B)(vii),  
24               to award academic credit for prior learning for  
25               programs supported by the grant; or



1           “(C) have, or will seek to have, the career  
2           education programs supported by the grant in-  
3           cluded on the list of eligible providers of train-  
4           ing services under section 122 for the State in  
5           which the eligible institution is located.

6           “(e) USES OF FUNDS.—

7           “(1) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION AND INDUSTRY  
8           PARTNERSHIP.—For the purpose of carrying out the  
9           activities specified in paragraphs (2) and (3), an eli-  
10          gible institution that receives a grant under this sec-  
11          tion shall establish a partnership (or continue an ex-  
12          isting partnership) with one or more employers in an  
13          in-demand industry sector or occupation (in this sec-  
14          tion referred to as an ‘eligible institution and indus-  
15          try partnership’) and shall maintain such partner-  
16          ship for the duration of the grant period. The eligi-  
17          ble institution shall ensure that the partnership—

18               “(A) targets one or more specific high-  
19               skill, high-wage, or in-demand industries;

20               “(B) includes collaboration with the work-  
21               force development system;

22               “(C) serves adult and dislocated workers,  
23               incumbent workers, and new entrants to the  
24               workforce;

1           “(D) uses an evidence-based program de-  
2           sign that is appropriate for the activities carried  
3           out by the partnership;

4           “(E) incorporates work-based learning op-  
5           portunities; and

6           “(F) incorporates, to the extent appro-  
7           priate, virtual service delivery to facilitate tech-  
8           nology-enabled learning.

9           “(2) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—An eligible insti-  
10          tution that receives a grant under this section shall,  
11          in consultation with the employers in the eligible in-  
12          stitution and industry partnership described in para-  
13          graph (1)—

14           “(A) establish, improve, or expand high-  
15           quality, evidence-based workforce development  
16           programs, career pathway programs, or work-  
17           based learning programs (including apprentice-  
18           ship programs or preapprenticeships);

19           “(B) provide career services to individuals  
20           participating in the programs funded with the  
21           grant to facilitate retention and program com-  
22           pletion, which may include—

23           “(i) career navigation, coaching,  
24           mentorship, and case management serv-  
25           ices, including providing information and

1 outreach to individuals with barriers to  
2 employment to encourage such individuals  
3 to participate in programs funded with the  
4 grant; and

5 “(ii) providing access to course mate-  
6 rials, technological devices, required equip-  
7 ment, and other supports necessary for  
8 participation in and successful completion  
9 of such programs; and

10 “(C) make available, in a format that is  
11 open, searchable, and easily comparable, infor-  
12 mation on—

13 “(i) curricula and recognized postsec-  
14 ondary credentials offered through pro-  
15 grams funded with the grant, including  
16 any curricula or credentials created or fur-  
17 ther developed using such grant, which for  
18 each recognized postsecondary credential,  
19 shall include—

20 “(I) the issuing entity of such  
21 credential;

22 “(II) any third-party endorse-  
23 ments of such credential;

24 “(III) the occupations for which  
25 the credential prepares individuals;

1 “(IV) the skills and competencies  
2 necessary to achieve to earn such cre-  
3 dential;

4 “(V) the level of mastery of such  
5 skills and competencies (including how  
6 mastery is assessed); and

7 “(VI) any transfer value or  
8 stackability of the credential;

9 “(ii) any skills or competencies devel-  
10 oped by individuals who participate in such  
11 programs beyond the skills and com-  
12 petencies identified as part of the recog-  
13 nized postsecondary credential awarded;  
14 and

15 “(iii) related employment and earn-  
16 ings outcomes on the primary indicators of  
17 performance described in subclauses (I)  
18 through (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i).

19 “(3) ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES.—In addition to  
20 the activities required under paragraph (2), an eligi-  
21 ble institution that receives a grant under this sec-  
22 tion shall, in consultation with the employers in the  
23 eligible institution and industry partnership de-  
24 scribed in paragraph (1), carry out one or more of  
25 the following activities:

1 “(A) Establish, improve, or expand—

2 “(i) articulation agreements (as de-  
3 fined in section 486A(a) of the Higher  
4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
5 1093a(a)));

6 “(ii) credit transfer agreements;

7 “(iii) corequisite remediation pro-  
8 grams that enable a student to receive re-  
9 medial education services while enrolled in  
10 a postsecondary course rather than requir-  
11 ing the student to receive remedial edu-  
12 cation before enrolling in such a course;

13 “(iv) dual or concurrent enrollment  
14 programs;

15 “(v) competency-based education and  
16 assessment; or

17 “(vi) policies and processes to award  
18 academic credit for prior learning or for  
19 the programs described in paragraph  
20 (2)(A).

21 “(B) Establish or implement plans for pro-  
22 viders of the programs described in paragraph  
23 (2)(A) to meet the criteria and carry out the  
24 procedures necessary to be included on the list

1 of eligible providers of training services de-  
2 scribed in section 122(d).

3 “(C) Purchase, lease, or refurbish special-  
4 ized equipment as necessary to carry out such  
5 programs, provided that not more than 15 per-  
6 cent of the funds awarded to the eligible insti-  
7 tution under this section may be used for activi-  
8 ties described in this subparagraph.

9 “(D) Reduce or eliminate unmet financial  
10 need relating to the cost of attendance (as de-  
11 fined under section 472 of the Higher Edu-  
12 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll)) of par-  
13 ticipants in such programs.

14 “(4) ADMINISTRATIVE COST LIMIT.—An eligible  
15 institution may use not more than 7 percent of the  
16 funds awarded under this section for administrative  
17 costs, including costs related to collecting informa-  
18 tion, analysis, and coordination for purposes of sub-  
19 section (f).

20 “(f) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE AND PERFORMANCE  
21 REVIEWS.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop  
23 and implement guidance that establishes the levels  
24 of performance that are expected to be achieved by  
25 each eligible institution receiving a grant under this

1       section. Such levels of performance shall be estab-  
2       lished on the following indicators:

3               “(A) Each of the primary indicators of  
4       performance for adults described in section  
5       116(b)(2)(A)(i), which shall be applied for all  
6       individuals who participated in a program that  
7       received funding from a grant under this sec-  
8       tion.

9               “(B) The extent to which the eligible insti-  
10      tution built capacity by—

11              “(i) increasing the breadth and depth  
12      of employer engagement and investment in  
13      workforce development programs in the in-  
14      demand industry sectors and occupations  
15      targeted by the eligible institution and in-  
16      dustry partnership established or main-  
17      tained by the eligible institution under sub-  
18      section (e)(1);

19              “(ii) designing or implementing new  
20      and accelerated instructional techniques or  
21      technologies, including the use of advanced  
22      online and technology-enabled learning  
23      (such as immersive technology); and

1 “(iii) increasing program and policy  
2 alignment across systems and decreasing  
3 duplicative services or service gaps.

4 “(C) With respect to individuals who par-  
5 ticipated in a workforce development program  
6 funded with the grant—

7 “(i) the percentage of participants  
8 who successfully completed the program;  
9 and

10 “(ii) of the participants who were in-  
11 cumbent workers at the time of enrollment  
12 in the program, the percentage who ad-  
13 vanced into higher level positions during or  
14 after completing the program.

15 “(2) CONSULTATION AND DETERMINATION OF  
16 LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

17 “(A) CONSIDERATION.—In developing lev-  
18 els of performance in accordance with para-  
19 graph (1), the Secretary shall take into consid-  
20 eration the goals of the eligible institution pur-  
21 suant to subsection (d)(2)(L).

22 “(B) DETERMINATION.—After completing  
23 the consideration required under subparagraph  
24 (A), the Secretary shall separately determine



1 the levels of performance that will apply to each  
2 eligible institution, taking into account—

3 “(i) the expected levels of performance  
4 of each eligible institution with respect to  
5 the goals described by the eligible institu-  
6 tion pursuant to subsection (d)(2)(L); and

7 “(ii) local economic conditions in the  
8 geographic area to be served by the eligible  
9 institution, including differences in unem-  
10 ployment rates and job losses or gains in  
11 particular industries.

12 “(C) NOTICE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—

13 “(i) NOTICE.—The Secretary shall  
14 provide each eligible institution with a  
15 written notification that sets forth the lev-  
16 els of performance that will apply to the el-  
17 igible institution, as determined under sub-  
18 paragraph (B).

19 “(ii) ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—After re-  
20 ceiving the notification described in clause  
21 (i), each eligible institution shall submit to  
22 the Secretary written confirmation that the  
23 eligible institution—

24 “(I) received the notification; and

1                   “(II) agrees to be evaluated in  
2                   accordance with the levels of perform-  
3                   ance determined by the Secretary.

4                   “(3) PERFORMANCE REVIEWS.—On an annual  
5                   basis during each year of the grant period, the Sec-  
6                   retary shall evaluate the performance during such  
7                   year of each eligible institution receiving a grant  
8                   under this section in a manner consistent with the  
9                   levels of performance determined for such institution  
10                  pursuant to paragraph (2).

11                  “(4) FAILURE TO MEET LEVELS OF PERFORM-  
12                  ANCE.—After conducting an evaluation under para-  
13                  graph (3), if the Secretary determines that an eligi-  
14                  ble institution did not achieve the levels of perform-  
15                  ance applicable to the eligible institution under para-  
16                  graph (2), the Secretary shall—

17                         “(A) provide technical assistance to the eli-  
18                         gible institution; and

19                         “(B) develop a performance improvement  
20                         plan for the eligible institution.

21                  “(g) EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS.—

22                         “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years  
23                         after the date on which the first grant is made  
24                         under this section, the Secretary shall design and  
25                         conduct an evaluation to determine the overall effec-

1       tiveness of the eligible institutions receiving a grant  
2       under this section.

3               “(2) ELEMENTS.—The evaluation of the effec-  
4       tiveness of eligible institutions conducted under  
5       paragraph (1) shall include an assessment of the  
6       general effectiveness of programs and activities sup-  
7       ported by the grants awarded to such eligible insti-  
8       tutions under this section, including the extent to  
9       which the programs and activities—

10               “(A) developed new, or expanded existing,  
11       successful industry sector strategies, including  
12       the extent to which such eligible institutions  
13       deepened employer engagement and developed  
14       workforce development programs that met in-  
15       dustry skill needs;

16               “(B) created, expanded, or enhanced ca-  
17       reer pathways, including the extent to which the  
18       eligible institutions developed or improved com-  
19       petency-based education and assessment, credit  
20       for prior learning, modularized and self-paced  
21       curricula, integrated education and workforce  
22       development, dual enrollment in secondary and  
23       postsecondary career pathways, stacked and  
24       latticed credentials, and online and distance  
25       learning;

1           “(C) created alignment between eligible in-  
2           stitutions and the workforce development sys-  
3           tem;

4           “(D) assisted individuals with finding, re-  
5           taining, or advancing in employment;

6           “(E) assisted individuals with earning rec-  
7           ognized postsecondary credentials; and

8           “(F) provided equal access to various de-  
9           mographic groups, including people of different  
10          geographic locations, ages, races, national ori-  
11          gins, and sexes.

12          “(3) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—The evaluation  
13          under this subsection shall—

14               “(A) be designed by the Secretary (acting  
15               through the Chief Evaluation Officer) in con-  
16               junction with the eligible institutions being eval-  
17               uated;

18               “(B) include analysis of program partici-  
19               pant feedback and outcome and process meas-  
20               ures; and

21               “(C) use designs that employ the most rig-  
22               orous analytical and statistical methods that  
23               are reasonably feasible, such as the use of con-  
24               trol groups.

1           “(4) DATA ACCESSIBILITY.—The Secretary  
2       shall make available on a publicly accessible website  
3       of the Department of Labor any data collected as  
4       part of the evaluation under this subsection. Such  
5       data shall be made available in an aggregated for-  
6       mat that does not reveal personally identifiable in-  
7       formation and that ensures compliance with relevant  
8       Federal laws, including section 444 of the General  
9       Education Provisions Act (commonly known as the  
10      ‘Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of  
11      1974’) (20 U.S.C. 1232g).

12           “(5) PUBLICATION AND REPORTING OF EVAL-  
13      UATION FINDINGS.—The Secretary (acting through  
14      the Chief Evaluation Officer) shall—

15           “(A) in accordance with the timeline deter-  
16      mined to be appropriate by the Chief Evalua-  
17      tion Officer, publish an interim report on the  
18      preliminary results of the evaluation conducted  
19      under this subsection;

20           “(B) not later than 60 days after the date  
21      on which the evaluation is completed under this  
22      subsection, submit to the Committee on Edu-  
23      cation and Workforce of the House of Rep-  
24      resentatives and the Committee on Health,

1 Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate  
2 a report on such evaluation; and

3 “(C) not later than 90 days after such  
4 completion date, publish and make the results  
5 of such evaluation available on a publicly acces-  
6 sible website of the Department of Labor.

7 “(h) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall make  
8 available on a publicly accessible website of the Depart-  
9 ment of Labor, in transparent, linked, open, and inter-  
10 operable data formats, the following information:

11 “(1) The performance of eligible institutions on  
12 the capacity-building performance indicator set forth  
13 under subsection (f)(1)(B).

14 “(2) The performance of eligible institutions on  
15 the workforce development participant outcome per-  
16 formance indicators set forth under subsection  
17 (f)(1)(C).

18 “(3) The number of individuals enrolled in  
19 workforce development programs funded with a  
20 grant under this section.

21 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 “(1) CHIEF EVALUATION OFFICER.—The term  
23 ‘Chief Evaluation Officer’ means the head of the  
24 independent evaluation office located in the Office of

1 the Assistant Secretary for Policy of the Department  
2 of Labor.

3 “(2) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term ‘com-  
4 munity college’ means—

5 “(A) a public institution of higher edu-  
6 cation (as defined in section 101(a) of the  
7 Higher Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)), at  
8 which—

9 “(i) the highest degree awarded is an  
10 associate degree; or

11 “(ii) an associate degree is the most  
12 frequently awarded degree;

13 “(B) a branch campus of a 4-year public  
14 institution of higher education (as defined in  
15 section 101 of the Higher Education Act of  
16 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)), if, at such branch  
17 campus—

18 “(i) the highest degree awarded is an  
19 associate degree; or

20 “(ii) an associate degree is the most  
21 frequently awarded degree;

22 “(C) a 2-year Tribal College or University  
23 (as defined in section 316(b)(3) of the Higher  
24 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
25 1059c(b)(3))); or

1           “(D) a degree-granting Tribal College or  
2           University (as defined in section 316(b)(3) of  
3           the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
4           1059c(b)(3))) at which—

5                   “(i) the highest degree awarded is an  
6                   associate degree; or

7                   “(ii) an associate degree is the most  
8                   frequently awarded degree.

9           “(3) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term ‘eligi-  
10          ble institution’ means—

11                   “(A) a community college;

12                   “(B) a postsecondary vocational institution  
13                   (as defined in section 102(c) of the Higher  
14                   Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(c))); or

15                   “(C) a consortium of such colleges or insti-  
16                   tutions.

17          “(j) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made  
18          available under this section shall be used to supplement,  
19          and not supplant, other Federal, State, and local public  
20          funds made available for carrying out the activities de-  
21          scribed in this section.”.

22       **SEC. 180. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

23          Section 175 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
24          tunity Act, as so redesignated, is amended—



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

3           (2) by striking subsections (a) through (d) and  
4           inserting the following:

5           “(a) NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS.—There are au-  
6           thorized to be appropriated to carry out section 166 (not  
7           including subsection (k) of such section) \$62,500,000 for  
8           each of the fiscal years 2027 through 2032.

9           “(b) MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKER PRO-  
10          GRAMS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry  
11          out section 167 \$97,396,000 for each of the fiscal years  
12          2027 through 2032.

13          “(c) EVALUATIONS AND RESEARCH.—There are au-  
14          thorized to be appropriated to carry out section 169  
15          \$6,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027 through  
16          2032.

17          “(d) REENTRY PROGRAM.—There are authorized to  
18          be appropriated to carry out section 172 \$110,000,000 for  
19          each of the fiscal years 2027 through 2032.

20          “(e) STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COLLEGES PRO-  
21          GRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry  
22          out section 173 \$65,000,000 for each of the fiscal years  
23          2027 through 2032.”.

## **Subtitle F—Administration**

### **SEC. 191. REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS.**

(a) LABOR STANDARDS.—Section 181(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3241(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(8) CHILD LABOR.—Individuals in on-the-job training or individuals employed in programs and activities under this title shall be employed in accordance with the provisions on child labor under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) and applicable State law.

“(9) CONSULTATION.—If an employer provides on-the-job training, incumbent worker training, or employer-directed skills development with funds made available under this title directly to employees of such employer that are subject to a collective bargaining agreement with the employer, the employer shall consult with the labor organization that represents such employees on the planning and design of such training or development.”.

(b) REMEDIES.—Section 181(c)(3)(B) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3241(c)(3)(B)) is amended by inserting “for a period of not less than 2 years” before the semicolon at the end.

1 (c) RELOCATION.—Section 181(d)(2) of the Work-  
2 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
3 3241(d)(2)) is amended by striking “incumbent worker  
4 training,” and inserting “incumbent worker training, em-  
5 ployer-directed skills development,”.

6 (d) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Section 181 of the  
7 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
8 3241) is amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “(h) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Except as provided in  
10 section 134(d)(2), funds provided under this title may only  
11 be used to provide supportive services to individuals who—

12 “(1) are participating in activities under pro-  
13 grams authorized under this title;

14 “(2) are unable to obtain the supportive serv-  
15 ices through programs listed in section 121(b)(2);  
16 and

17 “(3) require supportive services to enable par-  
18 ticipation in activities under programs authorized  
19 under this title.”.

20 **SEC. 192. MONITORING.**

21 Section 183 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
22 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3243) is amended by striking “re-  
23 cipients” each place it appears and inserting “recipients  
24 and subrecipients”.

1 **SEC. 193. FISCAL CONTROLS; SANCTIONS.**

2 Section 184(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
3 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3244(b)) is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and  
5 (3) as paragraphs (3), (5), and (6), respectively;

6 (2) by inserting before paragraph (3), as so re-  
7 designated, the following:

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of this  
9 title, a substantial violation shall—

10 “(A) be determined in accordance with the  
11 procedures established by the Governor as de-  
12 scribed in paragraph (2); and

13 “(B) include any willful violation of the re-  
14 quirements under subsections (a) or (b) of sec-  
15 tion 181 for which there has been a final deter-  
16 mination of the violation without any remaining  
17 right to appeal.

18 “(2) PROCEDURES.—The Governor shall estab-  
19 lish procedures to be used by local areas and, in the  
20 case of funds described in section 128(a) or per-  
21 taining to the enforcement provisions under section  
22 122(g), by any other individual or entity specified by  
23 the Governor to determine if a substantial violation  
24 of this title has occurred.”;

25 (3) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “;  
2 or” and inserting a semicolon;

3 (B) in subparagraph (B)(v), by striking  
4 the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

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

6 “(C) reduce any local allotment under sec-  
7 tion 128(b) or 133(b) to the local area involved  
8 by not more than 5 percent for the fiscal year  
9 after the fiscal year in which the substantial  
10 violation, for which corrective action was not  
11 taken, occurred.”;

12 (4) by inserting after paragraph (3), as so re-  
13 designated, the following:

14 “(4) REALLOCATION OF REDUCTIONS.—Any  
15 amount that was reduced from an allotment to a  
16 local area in accordance with paragraph (3)(C) shall  
17 be reallocated by the Governor to the other local  
18 areas within the State that are not subject to an ac-  
19 tion described in paragraph (3) in a manner deter-  
20 mined by the Governor, which may take into consid-  
21 eration whether such other local area is serving a  
22 significant number of individuals with barriers to  
23 employment.”;

1           (5) in paragraph (5), as so redesignated, by  
2       striking “(A) and (B)” and inserting “(A), (B), and  
3       (C)”;

4           (6) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated, by  
5       striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting “paragraph  
6       (2)”

7   **SEC. 194. ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION.**

8       Section 186(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
9       portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3246(a)) is amended by striking  
10      “184” and inserting “181 or 184”.

11   **SEC. 195. JUDICIAL REVIEW.**

12      Section 187(a)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and  
13      Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3247(a)(1)) is amended by  
14      striking “184” and inserting “181 or 184”.

15   **SEC. 196. GENERAL WAIVERS OF STATUTORY OR REGU-**  
16                   **LATORY REQUIREMENTS.**

17      Section 189(i)(3) of the Workforce Innovation and  
18      Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3249(i)(3)) is amended—

19           (1) in subparagraph (A)(i) by striking “proce-  
20       dures for review and approval of plans” and insert-  
21       ing “the procedures for review and approval of  
22       plans, the performance reports described in section  
23       116(d), and the requirement described in section  
24       134(c)(1)(B)”;

25           (2) by adding at the end the following:

1           “(E) MODEL TEMPLATE.—Not later than  
2           one year after the date of enactment of the A  
3           Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026,  
4           the Secretary shall issue guidance and provide  
5           model templates to States to assist States in re-  
6           questing common waivers of statutory or regu-  
7           latory requirements under this subsection.”.

8   **SEC. 197. MAKE AMERICA SKILLED AGAIN GRANTS.**

9           Section 190 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
10          tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3250) is amended to read as follows:

11   **“SEC. 190. MAKE AMERICA SKILLED AGAIN GRANTS.**

12          “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to—

13               “(1) authorize States to apply under this sec-  
14          tion on behalf of the State as a whole, or on behalf  
15          of a local area or a consortium of local areas in the  
16          State, to receive the allotments or allocations of the  
17          State or the local areas, respectively, for youth work-  
18          force investment activities under chapter 2 of sub-  
19          title B and adult and dislocated worker employment  
20          and training activities under chapter 3 of subtitle B  
21          as a consolidated grant for 5 years for the purpose  
22          of carrying out a pilot project to pursue innovative  
23          reforms to achieve better outcomes for jobseekers,  
24          workers, employers, and taxpayers; and

1           “(2) require that rigorous evaluations be con-  
2           ducted to demonstrate if better outcomes and oppor-  
3           tunities to achieve economic self-sufficiency for par-  
4           ticipants, including participants receiving a priority  
5           for services under this section, and associated inno-  
6           vative reforms to improve service delivery were  
7           achieved as a result of such pilot projects.

8           “(b) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—

9           “(1) WAIVERS, PILOT PROJECT GRANT  
10          AMOUNTS, AND RESERVATIONS.—Notwithstanding  
11          any other provision of subtitle A or B, except as oth-  
12          erwise provided in this section, during the pilot  
13          project period applicable to a pilot project approved  
14          for a State pursuant to subsection (d)(3), the Sec-  
15          retary, the Governor of a State participating in such  
16          pilot project on behalf of the State as a whole, local  
17          area, or consortium of local areas, and a local area  
18          or consortium of local areas on whose behalf a Gov-  
19          ernor is participating in such a pilot project, shall,  
20          as applicable, comply with each of the following:

21               “(A) WAIVERS.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
22               the Secretary shall waive for the State as a  
23               whole, or for the local area or the consortium  
24               of local areas selected by the State to carry out



1 such pilot project, all the statutory and regu-  
2 latory requirements of subtitles A and B.

3 “(B) PILOT PROJECT GRANT AMOUNTS.—  
4 For each fiscal year applicable to a pilot period,  
5 the Secretary shall carry out the following:

6 “(i) STATE AS A WHOLE.—In a case  
7 of a State approved to carry out a pilot  
8 project under this section on behalf of the  
9 State as a whole, distribute as a consoli-  
10 dated sum to the State, for purposes of  
11 carrying out the project, the State’s total  
12 allotment for such fiscal year under—

13 “(I) subsections (b)(1)(C) and  
14 (c) of section 127;

15 “(II) paragraphs (1)(B) and  
16 (2)(B) of section 132(b); and

17 “(III) section 132(c).

18 “(ii) LOCAL AREA.—In a case of a  
19 local area selected by a State and approved  
20 to carry out a pilot project under this sec-  
21 tion, require the State to—

22 “(I) distribute as a consolidated  
23 sum to the local board for such local  
24 area, for purposes of carrying out the

1 project, the local area's allocation for  
2 such fiscal year under—

3 “(aa) subsections (b) and (c)  
4 of section 128; and

5 “(bb) subsections (b) and  
6 (c) of section 133; or

7 “(II) if the local board of the  
8 local area enters into a written agree-  
9 ment with the State for the State to  
10 serve as the fiscal agent for the local  
11 board during the pilot project, use the  
12 funds described in subclause (I) for  
13 purposes of carrying out the project  
14 on behalf of the local board.

15 “(iii) CONSORTIUM OF LOCAL  
16 AREAS.—In a case of a consortium of local  
17 areas selected by a State and approved to  
18 carry out a pilot project under this section,  
19 require the State to—

20 “(I) distribute as a consolidated  
21 sum to the consortium, for purposes  
22 of carrying out the project, the total  
23 amount of the allocations for the local  
24 areas in such consortium for such fis-  
25 cal year under—

1 “(aa) subsections (b) and (c)  
2 of section 128; and

3 “(bb) subsections (b) and  
4 (c) of section 133; or

5 “(II) if the consortium enters  
6 into a written agreement with the  
7 State for the State to serve as the fis-  
8 cal agent for the consortium during  
9 the pilot project, use the funds de-  
10 scribed in subclause (I) for purposes  
11 of carrying out the project on behalf  
12 of such consortium.

13 “(C) STATE RESERVATION.—The Governor  
14 of a State participating in a pilot project on be-  
15 half of the State as a whole shall reserve not  
16 less than 25 percent of the consolidated sum al-  
17 lotted to the State, as described in subpara-  
18 graph (B)(i), for the purpose of developing and  
19 implementing evidence-based workforce develop-  
20 ment activities in the State. Such activities—

21 “(i) shall comply with the priority of  
22 service requirement described in subsection  
23 (e)(3); and

24 “(ii) may include strategies such as—

1 “(I) innovative skills development  
2 programs to improve employment out-  
3 comes for jobseekers, incumbent work-  
4 ers, and dislocated workers;

5 “(II) job training programs and  
6 assistance with removing barriers to  
7 employment for offenders;

8 “(III) pre-apprenticeships, ap-  
9 prenticeships, and evidence-based  
10 workforce development and employ-  
11 ment opportunities, including for  
12 youth (particularly out-of-school  
13 youth);

14 “(IV) the development and  
15 strengthening of industry or sector  
16 partnerships and training programs  
17 offered under such partnerships;

18 “(V) the optimization of sup-  
19 portive service delivery and the inte-  
20 gration of such services within the  
21 workforce system to promote retention  
22 in and completion of training pro-  
23 grams for participants served under  
24 the pilot project; and

1                   “(VI) other strategies as may be  
2                   appropriate and necessary to achieve  
3                   better outcomes for jobseekers, work-  
4                   ers, employers, and taxpayers, as de-  
5                   termined by the Governor.

6                   “(D) LOCAL AREA AND CONSORTIUM RES-  
7                   ERVATION.—A local area or a consortium of  
8                   local areas for which a pilot project is author-  
9                   ized under this section shall reserve not less  
10                  than 25 percent of the consolidated sum allot-  
11                  ted, as described in clause (ii) or (iii), respec-  
12                  tively, of subparagraph (B), to the local area or  
13                  consortium of local areas, respectively, for the  
14                  purpose of developing and implementing evi-  
15                  dence-based workforce development activities  
16                  described in subparagraph (C) in the local area  
17                  or local areas served by the consortium, respec-  
18                  tively.

19                  “(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

20                  “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State, local area, or  
21                  consortium of local areas carrying out a pilot  
22                  project under this section shall comply with  
23                  statutory or regulatory requirements of this Act  
24                  relating to—

1           “(i) performance accountability and  
2           reporting, except as otherwise provided in  
3           this section;

4           “(ii) the membership of local boards  
5           or State boards in instances where a State  
6           carrying out a pilot project will maintain  
7           the use of such local boards or State  
8           boards, respectively, during the pilot  
9           project period;

10          “(iii) the requirement to set minimum  
11          levels of performance on the criteria de-  
12          scribed in section 122(b)(2)(B) for any  
13          providers of training services that will re-  
14          ceive funding under the pilot project;

15          “(iv) the establishment of the one-stop  
16          delivery system to make the services and  
17          activities carried out under the pilot  
18          project available to individuals in the  
19          State, local area, or consortium of local  
20          areas carrying out the pilot project, except  
21          that, of the requirements in section 121(e),  
22          such one-stop delivery system shall only be  
23          required to meet the requirements of para-  
24          graph (2) of that section and only with re-

1           spect to the services and activities of the  
2           pilot project;

3           “(v) the fiscal and management ac-  
4           countability information systems described  
5           in section 116(j) and, in the case of a pilot  
6           project carried out by a local area or con-  
7           sortium of local areas, the provisions on  
8           fiscal integrity described in section 106;  
9           and

10           “(vi) the priority of service described  
11           in section 134(c)(3)(E).

12           “(B)    APPLICABILITY    OF    DEFINED  
13           TERMS.—In carrying out a pilot project under  
14           this section, a State, local area, or consortium  
15           of local areas may only use a term defined in  
16           section 3 to describe an activity carried out  
17           under such pilot project if the State, local area,  
18           or consortium of local areas gives such term the  
19           same meaning as such term is given under such  
20           section.

21           “(C)    RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing  
22           in subparagraph (A)(iv) shall be construed to  
23           prevent a State, local area, or consortium of  
24           local areas carrying out a pilot project under  
25           this section from deciding to maintain the one-

1 stop delivery system in effect for the State,  
2 local area, or consortium, respectively, prior to  
3 the start of the pilot project.

4 “(3) AUTHORITY FOR THIRD-PARTY EVALUA-  
5 TION.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180  
7 days after the first pilot project is approved  
8 under this section, the Secretary shall contract  
9 with a third-party evaluator to conduct a rig-  
10 orous evaluation of each pilot project approved  
11 under this section. The evaluation shall—

12 “(i) cover the entire period of each  
13 pilot project;

14 “(ii) include a description of—

15 “(I) the populations served under  
16 the pilot project, including with re-  
17 spect to individuals with barriers to  
18 employment served under the pilot  
19 project, disaggregated by each sub-  
20 population of such individuals, and by  
21 race, ethnicity, sex, and age;

22 “(II) the services provided  
23 through the pilot project, the pro-  
24 viders of such services, and the cost of



1 such services, disaggregated by the  
2 type of service provided;

3 “(III) if the pilot project is car-  
4 ried out by a State, the geographic  
5 distribution within the State of the  
6 services provided under the pilot  
7 project; and

8 “(IV) the workforce development  
9 systems in the State, local area, or  
10 consortium of local areas that were af-  
11 fected, and the nature of such effects,  
12 as a result of the pilot project;

13 “(iii) compare the employment and  
14 earnings outcomes of participants in activi-  
15 ties carried out under the pilot project  
16 to—

17 “(I) the outcomes of similarly sit-  
18 uated individuals who do not partici-  
19 pate in such activities and who are lo-  
20 cated in such State, such local area,  
21 or a local area in such consortium, as  
22 applicable;

23 “(II) the outcomes of similarly  
24 situated participants in similarly situ-  
25 ated States or local areas within such

1 States, as applicable, that do not re-  
2 ceive authority to carry out a pilot  
3 project under this section; and

4 “(III) the outcomes of partici-  
5 pants in activities under chapter 2 or  
6 3 of subtitle B in the State, local  
7 area, or a local area in the consortium  
8 that was awarded a waiver prior to  
9 the award of such waiver;

10 “(iv) conduct a qualitative analysis  
11 that identifies any practices or strategies  
12 (including promising, evidence-based, or in-  
13 novative practices and strategies) that—

14 “(I) would not have been con-  
15 ducted without the waiving of statu-  
16 tory or regulatory provisions through  
17 the pilot project; and

18 “(II) led to changes in employ-  
19 ment and earnings outcomes for the  
20 participants, including employment  
21 and earnings outcomes for partici-  
22 pants who are out-of-school youth and  
23 individuals with barriers to employ-  
24 ment; and

1                   “(v) compare the outcomes for sub-  
2                   clauses (I), (II), and (III) of clause (iii)  
3                   with respect to the subpopulations de-  
4                   scribed in section 116(d)(2)(B).

5                   “(B) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years  
6                   after the final year of a pilot project approved  
7                   under this section, the Secretary shall submit to  
8                   the Committee on Education and Workforce of  
9                   the House of Representatives and the Com-  
10                  mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-  
11                  sions of the Senate the results of the evaluation  
12                  conducted under this paragraph.

13               “(c) PILOT PERIOD; LIMITATIONS.—

14               “(1) IN GENERAL.—A pilot project approved  
15               under this section for a State, local area, or consor-  
16               tium—

17                   “(A) shall be carried out for a 5-year pilot  
18                   project period; and

19                   “(B) may be renewed for an additional 4-  
20                   year pilot project period, if the State, local  
21                   area, or consortium—

22                   “(i) for each of the final 3 years of  
23                   the preceding 5-year pilot project period,  
24                   meets its expected levels of performance  
25                   established under subsection (f)(1)(C); and

1 “(ii) for the final year of the pre-  
2 ceding 5-year pilot project period, achieves  
3 a performance improvement of not less  
4 than an average of a 5-percent increase  
5 across all of the indicators of performance  
6 described in clauses (i) and (ii) of sub-  
7 section (f)(1)(A), compared with—

8 “(I) the highest level of perform-  
9 ance for the corresponding indicators  
10 of performance, as described in sub-  
11 section (f)(1)(B)(i) with respect to  
12 such State, for the most recent pro-  
13 gram year that ended prior to the be-  
14 ginning of the first year of the pre-  
15 ceding 5-year pilot project period; or

16 “(II) the alternate baseline level  
17 of performance for the corresponding  
18 indicators of performance that is  
19 agreed upon between the State and  
20 the Secretary under subsection  
21 (f)(1)(B)(ii).

22 “(2) LIMITATIONS.—

23 “(A) PILOT PERIOD LIMITATIONS.—For  
24 each pilot period (including renewals of such  
25 period) the Secretary may not approve—

1 “(i) more than 10 pilot projects for  
2 States to carry out a pilot project de-  
3 scribed in subsection (b)(1)(B)(i), except  
4 as provided in subparagraph (C); and

5 “(ii) more than 8 pilot projects for  
6 local areas (or consortia of local areas) to  
7 carry out a pilot project described in clause  
8 (ii) or (iii) of subsection (b)(1)(B).

9 “(B) STATE LIMITATIONS.—Not more  
10 than 1 pilot project may be approved under this  
11 section per State. For purposes of this subpara-  
12 graph, a pilot project described in clause (ii) or  
13 (iii) of subsection (b)(1)(B) approved for a local  
14 area or a consortium of local areas, respectively,  
15 in a State shall be considered a pilot project ap-  
16 proved under this section for the State.

17 “(C) SUBSEQUENT APPROVAL.—Notwith-  
18 standing subparagraph (A)(i), the Secretary  
19 may award authority to carry out a pilot project  
20 for a State as a whole under this section to 2  
21 additional States if, at the beginning of the  
22 third year of the pilot projects awarded to the  
23 10 States under subparagraph (A)(i), each of  
24 such States—

1 “(i) has met or exceeded expected lev-  
 2 els of performance under the primary indi-  
 3 cators of performance described in section  
 4 116(b)(2)(A); and

5 “(ii) meets the requirement described  
 6 in subsection (e)(4).

7 “(d) APPLICATION.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to carry out  
 9 a pilot project under this section, a State shall sub-  
 10 mit to the Secretary an application at such time and  
 11 in such manner as the Secretary may reasonably re-  
 12 quire, and containing the information described in  
 13 paragraph (2).

14 “(2) CONTENT.—Each application submitted by  
 15 a State under this subsection shall include the fol-  
 16 lowing:

17 “(A) A description of the pilot project to  
 18 be carried out under this section, including—

19 “(i) whether the project will be car-  
 20 ried out—

21 “(I) by the State as a whole;

22 “(II) by a local area, and if so—

23 “(aa) an identification of—

24 “(AA) such local area;

25 and

1                   “(BB) whether the  
2                   local area will be the fiscal  
3                   agent for the project, or  
4                   whether the local board has  
5                   entered into a written agree-  
6                   ment with the State for the  
7                   State to serve as the fiscal  
8                   agent during the project;  
9                   and

10                  “(bb) written verification  
11                  from the local board for such  
12                  local area that such local board  
13                  agrees—

14                  “(AA) to carry out such  
15                  project; and

16                  “(BB) to the fiscal  
17                  agent identified in item  
18                  (aa)(BB); or

19                  “(III) by a consortium of local  
20                  areas in the State, and if so—

21                  “(aa) an identification of—

22                  “(AA) each local area  
23                  that comprises the consor-  
24                  tium; and

1                   “(BB) the local area  
2                   that will serve as the fiscal  
3                   agent for the consortium  
4                   during the project, or wheth-  
5                   er the consortium has en-  
6                   tered into a written agree-  
7                   ment with the State for the  
8                   State to serve as the fiscal  
9                   agent; and

10                  “(bb) written verification  
11                  from each local board of each  
12                  local area identified in item  
13                  (aa)(AA) that such local board  
14                  agrees—

15                  “(AA) to carry out such  
16                  project as a consortium; and

17                  “(BB) to the fiscal  
18                  agent for the consortium  
19                  identified in item (aa)(BB);

20                  “(ii) a description of the activities to  
21                  be carried out under the project, includ-  
22                  ing—

23                  “(I) the activities to be carried  
24                  out under the reservation required



1 under subparagraph (C) or (D) of  
2 subsection (b)(1), as applicable;

3 “(II) how the activities will com-  
4 ply with the priority of service de-  
5 scribed in subsection (e)(3); and

6 “(III) how the activities will be  
7 made available through the one-stop  
8 delivery system described in sub-  
9 section (b)(2)(A)(iv);

10 “(iii) the goals the State, local area,  
11 or consortium intends to achieve through  
12 such activities, which shall be aligned with  
13 the purpose described in subsection (a);  
14 and

15 “(iv) a description of any reforms or  
16 improvements, including any reforms or  
17 improvements that may be evidence-based,  
18 to service delivery to be carried out under  
19 the project.

20 “(B) A description of the performance out-  
21 comes the State, the local area, or consortium  
22 expects to achieve for such activities for each  
23 year of the pilot project period as described in  
24 subsection (f)(1).

1           “(C) A description of how the State, local  
2           area, or consortium consulted with employers,  
3           the State board, and the local boards in the  
4           State in determining the activities to carry out  
5           under the pilot project.

6           “(D) A description of how the State will  
7           make such activities available to jobseekers and  
8           employers in each of the local areas in the State  
9           or, in a case of a project that will be carried out  
10          by a local area or a consortium, a description  
11          of how such services will be made available to  
12          jobseekers and employers in such local area or  
13          each of the local areas in the consortium.

14          “(E) A description, if appropriate, of how  
15          the State, local area, or consortium will inte-  
16          grate the funds received, and the activities car-  
17          ried out, under the pilot project under this sec-  
18          tion with funds and activities for State work-  
19          force development programs and other Federal,  
20          State, or local workforce, education, or social  
21          service programs (including the programs and  
22          activities listed in section 103(a)(2), the pro-  
23          gram of adult education and literacy activities  
24          authorized under title II, and the program au-

1           thorized under title I of the Rehabilitation Act  
2           of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.)).

3           “(F) An explanation of—

4                 “(i) how the State, local area, or con-  
5                 sortium will ensure that jobseekers and  
6                 employers in urban, rural, and suburban  
7                 areas are able to participate in the pilot  
8                 project; or

9                 “(ii) the factors preventing jobseekers  
10                and employers in such areas from partici-  
11                pating.

12           “(G) An assurance that the State, local  
13           area, or consortium will meet the requirements  
14           of this section.

15           “(3) SECRETARIAL APPROVAL.—

16                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

17                 “(i) approve an application submitted  
18                 under this subsection, and the pilot project  
19                 described in such application, not later  
20                 than 90 days after the date on which such  
21                 application is submitted, unless the Sec-  
22                 retary meets the requirements of clause  
23                 (ii); and

24                 “(ii) have the authority to disapprove  
25                 such application only if, by not later than

1                   90 days after the date on which such appli-  
2                   cation is submitted, the Secretary—

3                   “(I) determines—

4                   “(aa) that such application  
5                   is subject to the limitations de-  
6                   scribed in subsection (c)(2); or

7                   “(bb) that such application  
8                   fails to meet the requirements of  
9                   this section; and

10                  “(II) in a case which the Sec-  
11                  retary makes the determination de-  
12                  scribed in subclause (I)(bb), provides  
13                  to the State a written explanation of  
14                  initial disapproval that meets the re-  
15                  quirements of subparagraph (B).

16                  “(B) INITIAL DISAPPROVAL.—An expla-  
17                  nation of initial disapproval provided by the  
18                  Secretary to a State under subparagraph  
19                  (A)(ii)(II) shall provide the State with—

20                  “(i) a detailed explanation of why the  
21                  application does not meet the requirements  
22                  of this section; and

23                  “(ii) if the State is not subject to the  
24                  limitations described in subsection (c), an

1 opportunity to revise and resubmit the  
2 State’s application under this section.

3 “(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing  
4 in this paragraph shall be construed to require  
5 the Secretary to approve more pilot projects  
6 than allowed under the limitations described in  
7 subsection (c)(2).

8 “(4) PRIORITY.—In approving pilot projects  
9 under this section in the case that more States, on  
10 behalf of the State as a whole or on behalf of local  
11 areas and consortia of local areas, have submitted  
12 applications that meet the requirements of this sec-  
13 tion than the Secretary is allowed to approve pursu-  
14 ant to the limitations described in subsection (c)(2),  
15 the Secretary shall give priority consideration as fol-  
16 lows:

17 “(A) For applications seeking a pilot  
18 project for the State as a whole—

19 “(i) first, to applications submitted by  
20 States with a population of not more than  
21 5,000,000 and not less than 15 workforce  
22 boards, as of the date of enactment of the  
23 A Stronger Workforce for America Act of  
24 2026; and

1                   “(ii) second, to applications submitted  
2                   by States that have achieved the State ad-  
3                   justed levels of performance for the youth  
4                   program authorized under chapter 2 of  
5                   subtitle B and the adult and dislocated  
6                   worker programs authorized under chapter  
7                   3 of subtitle B in the most recent program  
8                   year for which performance information is  
9                   available.

10                  “(B) For applications seeking a pilot  
11                  project for a local area or consortium of local  
12                  areas, to applications submitted by local areas  
13                  or consortia of local areas that have achieved  
14                  the negotiated local levels of performance for  
15                  such youth program and such adult and dis-  
16                  located worker programs in the most recent  
17                  program year for which performance informa-  
18                  tion is available.

19                  “(e) STATE PILOT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.—A  
20                  State, local area, or consortium that has been approved  
21                  to carry out a pilot project under this section shall meet  
22                  each of the following requirements:

23                  “(1) USE OF FUNDS.—Use the funds received  
24                  pursuant to subsection (b)(1)(B) solely to carry out  
25                  the activities of the pilot project to achieve the goals

1 of the pilot project, as described in subsection  
2 (d)(2)(A).

3 “(2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS LIMITATION.—  
4 Use not more than 10 percent of the funds received  
5 pursuant to subsection (b)(1)(B) for a fiscal year for  
6 the administrative costs of carrying out the pilot  
7 project.

8 “(3) PRIORITY FOR SERVICES.—Give priority  
9 for services under the project to veterans and their  
10 eligible spouses in accordance with the requirements  
11 of section 4215 of title 38, United States Code, re-  
12 cipients of public assistance, low-income individuals,  
13 individuals who have foundational skill needs, out-of-  
14 school youth, and dislocated workers.

15 “(4) NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS.—Serve a  
16 number of participants under the activities of the  
17 pilot project for each year of the pilot project period  
18 that—

19 “(A) is greater than the number of partici-  
20 pants served by such State, local area, or con-  
21 sortium, as applicable, under the programs de-  
22 scribed in subparagraph (A) of section 3(13)  
23 for the most recent program year that ended  
24 prior to the beginning of the first year of the  
25 pilot project period; or

1           “(B) is not less than the number of par-  
2           ticipants to be served under the activities of the  
3           pilot project that is agreed upon between the  
4           State, local area, or consortium, as applicable,  
5           and the Secretary—

6                   “(i) prior to the Secretary’s approval  
7                   of the application submitted under sub-  
8                   section (d); and

9                   “(ii) after the Secretary takes into ac-  
10                  count—

11                          “(I) the goals the State, local  
12                          area, or consortium intends to achieve  
13                          through the pilot project; and

14                          “(II) the participants the State,  
15                          local area, or consortium intends to  
16                          serve under such project.

17           “(5) REPORTING OUTCOMES.—Submit, on an  
18           annual basis, to the Secretary a report, with respect  
19           to such State, local area, or consortium—

20                   “(A) on participant outcomes for each in-  
21                   dicator of performance described in subsection  
22                   (f)(1)(A) for the activities carried out under the  
23                   project;

24                   “(B) on the applicable requirements of sec-  
25                   tion 116(d)(2), including—



1 “(i) subparagraph (B) of such section;

2 and

3 “(ii) subparagraphs (C), (D), (E),  
4 (F), (G), and (J) of such section, as such  
5 subparagraphs are applicable to activities  
6 under the pilot project; and

7 “(C) containing a description of how the  
8 State spent the amounts reserved under sub-  
9 section (b)(1)(C) or the local area or consor-  
10 tium spent the amounts reserved under sub-  
11 section (b)(1)(D), as applicable, and any evi-  
12 dence-based practices developed with such  
13 amounts.

14 “(6) COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN EXISTING RE-  
15 QUIREMENTS.—Comply with the statutory or regu-  
16 latory requirements listed in subparagraphs (A) and  
17 (B) of subsection (b)(2).

18 “(f) PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY.—

19 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF BASELINE LEVELS  
20 FOR PERFORMANCE.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall de-  
22 scribe in the application submitted under sub-  
23 section (d), for each year of the pilot project pe-  
24 riod—

1 “(i) with respect to participants who  
2 are at least 25 years old, the expected  
3 State levels of performance or expected  
4 local levels of performance, as the case  
5 may be, for each of the indicators of per-  
6 formance under section 116(b)(2)(A)(i) for  
7 the activities carried out under the project  
8 under this section, which shall meet the re-  
9 quirements of subparagraph (B); and

10 “(ii) with respect to participants who  
11 are at least 16 years old and not older  
12 than 24 years old, the expected State levels  
13 of performance or expected local levels of  
14 performance, as the case may be, for each  
15 of the indicators of performance under sec-  
16 tion 116(b)(2)(A)(ii) for the activities car-  
17 ried out under the project under this sec-  
18 tion, which shall meet the requirements of  
19 subparagraph (B).

20 “(B) FIFTH YEAR.—Each of the expected  
21 levels of performance established pursuant to  
22 subparagraph (A) for each of the indicators of  
23 performance for the fifth year of the pilot  
24 project period shall be higher than—

1 “(i) the highest State adjusted or ne-  
2 gotiated local level of performance, as ap-  
3 plicable, for the corresponding indicator of  
4 performance for the programs described in  
5 subparagraph (A) of section 3(13), for the  
6 most recent program year for such State  
7 that ended prior to the beginning of the  
8 first year of the pilot project period; or

9 “(ii) an alternate baseline level of per-  
10 formance that—

11 “(I) shall not be lower than the  
12 most recent State adjusted or nego-  
13 tiated local level of performance (in-  
14 cluding any revisions) for the cor-  
15 responding indicator of performance  
16 for the youth program under chapter  
17 2 of subtitle B or the adult or dis-  
18 located worker program under chapter  
19 3 of such subtitle (using the program  
20 determined most applicable by the  
21 Governor of the State submitting the  
22 application), taking into account the  
23 goals the State intends to achieve  
24 through the pilot project and the par-

1                   ticipants the State intends to serve  
2                   through such project; and

3                   “(II) is agreed upon between the  
4                   State and the Secretary—

5                   “(aa) prior to the Sec-  
6                   retary’s approval of the applica-  
7                   tion submitted under subsection  
8                   (d); and

9                   “(bb) after the Secretary  
10                  takes into account—

11                  “(AA) the goals the  
12                  State intends to achieve  
13                  through the pilot project;  
14                  and

15                  “(BB) the participants  
16                  the State intends to serve  
17                  under such project.

18                  “(C) AGREED LEVEL FOR PERFORMANCE  
19                  ON EXPECTED LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

20                  Prior to approving an application for a pilot  
21                  project submitted by a State, and using the ex-  
22                  pected levels of performance described in such  
23                  application, the Secretary shall reach an agree-  
24                  ment with such State on the expected levels of  
25                  performance for each of the indicators of per-

1 formance. In reaching an agreement on such  
2 expected levels of performance, the Secretary  
3 and the State may consider the factors de-  
4 scribed in section 116(b)(3)(A)(v).

5 “(2) SANCTIONS.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The sanctions de-  
7 scribed in section 116(f)(1)(B) shall apply to a  
8 State, local area, or consortium of local areas  
9 beginning on the third year of the pilot project  
10 period (and, for failures described in clause  
11 (ii)(II) of that section, shall first apply for con-  
12 secutive failures in that third year and the fol-  
13 lowing year) for such State, local area, or con-  
14 sortium, except that the expected levels of per-  
15 formance established under paragraph (1) shall  
16 be—

17 “(i) deemed to be levels of perform-  
18 ance agreed to under section  
19 116(b)(3)(A)(iv), for purposes of this para-  
20 graph; and

21 “(ii) adjusted at the end of each pro-  
22 gram year to reflect the actual characteris-  
23 tics of participants served and the actual  
24 economic conditions experienced using a  
25 statistical adjustment model similar to the

1                   model           described           in           section  
2                   116(b)(3)(A)(viii).

3                   “(B) INELIGIBILITY FOR RENEWAL.—A  
4                   State, local area, or consortium that is subject  
5                   to such sanctions shall be ineligible to renew its  
6                   pilot project period under subsection (c).

7                   “(3) IMPACT OF LOCAL OR CONSORTIUM PILOT  
8                   PROJECTS ON STATEWIDE ACCOUNTABILITY.—With  
9                   respect to a State with an approved pilot project for  
10                  a local area or consortium of local areas in the  
11                  State—

12                   “(A) the performance of such local area or  
13                   consortium for the programs described in sub-  
14                   paragraph (A) of section 3(13) shall not be in-  
15                   cluded in the levels of performance for such  
16                   State for any of such programs for purposes of  
17                   section 116 for any program year that is appli-  
18                   cable to any year of the pilot project period;  
19                   and

20                   “(B) with respect to any local areas of the  
21                   State that are not part of the pilot project, the  
22                   State shall reach a new agreement with the  
23                   Secretary, for purposes of section 116(b)(3)(A),  
24                   on levels of performance for such programs for  
25                   such program years.

1 “(g) TERMINATION.—Except as provided under sub-  
2 section (c)(1)(B), the Secretary may not approve a pilot  
3 project after December 31, 2031.”.

4 **SEC. 198. GENERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**

5 Section 194 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
6 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3254)) is amended by adding at  
7 the end the following:

8 “(16)(A) IN GENERAL.—Each recipient of  
9 funds described in section 128(a), section 128(b), or  
10 section 133(b) or under subtitle C or D (including  
11 a provider described in section 122(i) that is award-  
12 ed such funds by a State or local area) shall provide  
13 to the appropriate entity an assurance that the re-  
14 cipient will adhere to the requirements under sub-  
15 sections (a) and (b) of section 181.

16 “(B) APPROPRIATE ENTITY.—For the purposes of  
17 this paragraph, the term ‘appropriate entity’ means—

18 “(i) in the case of any funds described in sec-  
19 tion 128(a), the Governor of the State providing  
20 such funds;

21 “(ii) in the case of any funds described in sec-  
22 tion 128(b) or section 133(b), the local board pro-  
23 viding such funds; and

24 “(iii) in the case of any funds under subtitle C  
25 or D, the Secretary.

1           “(17) REGARDING STATES WITH LOW POPU-  
2           LATION DENSITY.—

3           “(A) LOW-DENSITY WORKFORCE AREA  
4           CONSIDERATIONS.—In the case of a local area  
5           located in a ‘low-density workforce area’, sec-  
6           tion 129(c)(4) shall be applied—

7                   “(i) by substituting ‘25 percent’ for  
8                   ‘40 percent’; and

9                   “(ii) by substituting ‘7 and 1/2 per-  
10                  cent’ for ‘12 and 1/2 percent’.

11           “(B) LOW-DENSITY WORKFORCE AREA  
12           DEFINITION.—In this title, the term ‘low-den-  
13           sity workforce area’ means a State with a popu-  
14           lation density of less than 1.5 persons per  
15           square mile, as determined by the most recent  
16           decennial census of the Bureau of the Census.”.

## 17       **TITLE II—ADULT EDUCATION** 18       **AND LITERACY**

### 19       **Subtitle A—Transferring All Func-** 20       **tions of the Adult Education** 21       **and Family Literacy Act to the** 22       **Department of Labor**

#### 23       **SEC. 201. TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS.**

24           There are transferred to the Secretary of Labor all  
25       functions which the Secretary of Education and the De-



1 partment of Education exercised before the effective date  
2 of this subtitle (including all related functions of any offi-  
3 cer or employee of that Department) under title II of the  
4 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
5 3271 et seq.).

6 **SEC. 202. PERSONNEL DETERMINATIONS BY THE OFFICE**  
7 **OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.**

8 The Office of Management and Budget shall—

9 (1) ensure that this subtitle does not result in  
10 any net increase in full-time equivalent employees  
11 across all Federal agencies impacted by this subtitle;  
12 and

13 (2) not later than 1 year after the effective date  
14 of this subtitle, certify compliance with this subtitle  
15 to the Committee on Education and Workforce of  
16 the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
17 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Sen-  
18 ate.

19 **SEC. 203. DELEGATION AND ASSIGNMENT.**

20 Except where otherwise expressly prohibited by law  
21 or otherwise provided by this subtitle, the Secretary of  
22 Labor may delegate any of the functions transferred to  
23 the Secretary of Labor by section 201 and any function  
24 described in section 201 that was transferred or granted  
25 to such Secretary after the effective date of this subtitle

1 to such officers and employees of such Secretary as the  
2 Secretary may designate, and may authorize successive re-  
3 delegations of such functions described in section 201 as  
4 may be necessary or appropriate. No delegation of such  
5 functions by the Secretary of Labor under this section or  
6 under any other provision of this subtitle shall relieve such  
7 Secretary of responsibility for the administration of such  
8 functions.

9 **SEC. 204. REORGANIZATION; RULES.**

10 (a) REORGANIZATION.—Except where otherwise ex-  
11 pressly prohibited by law or otherwise provided by this Act  
12 (or the amendments made by this Act), the Secretary of  
13 Labor is authorized to allocate or reallocate any function  
14 transferred under section 201 among the officers of the  
15 Department of Labor, and to consolidate, alter, or dis-  
16 continue such organizational entities in such Department  
17 as may be necessary or appropriate.

18 (b) RULES.—The Secretary of Labor is authorized to  
19 prescribe, in accordance with the provisions of chapters  
20 5 and 6 of title 5, United States Code, such rules and  
21 regulations as that the Secretary determines necessary or  
22 appropriate to administer and manage the functions de-  
23 scribed in section 201 of the Department of Labor.

1 **SEC. 205. TRANSFER AND ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIA-**  
2 **TIONS AND PERSONNEL.**

3 Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, the per-  
4 sonnel employed in connection with, and the assets, liabil-  
5 ities, contracts, property, records, and unexpended balance  
6 of appropriations, authorizations, allocations, and other  
7 funds employed, held, used, arising from, available to, or  
8 to be made available in connection with the functions and  
9 offices, or portions thereof transferred by section 201,  
10 subject to section 1531 of title 31, United States Code,  
11 shall be transferred to the Secretary of Labor. Unex-  
12 pended funds transferred pursuant to this section shall be  
13 used only for the purposes for which the funds were origi-  
14 nally authorized and appropriated.

15 **SEC. 206. INCIDENTAL TRANSFERS.**

16 The Director of the Office of Management and Budg-  
17 et, at such time or times as the Director shall provide,  
18 is authorized to make such determinations as may be nec-  
19 essary with regard to the functions transferred by section  
20 201, and to make such additional incidental dispositions  
21 of personnel, assets, liabilities, grants, contracts, property,  
22 records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, au-  
23 thorizations, allocations, and other funds held, used, aris-  
24 ing from, available to, or to be made available in connec-  
25 tion with such functions, as may be necessary to carry out  
26 the provisions of this subtitle. The Director of the Office

1 of Management and Budget shall provide for the termi-  
2 nation of the affairs of all entities terminated by this sub-  
3 title and for such further measures and dispositions as  
4 may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this sub-  
5 title, with respect to such functions.

6 **SEC. 207. SAVINGS PROVISIONS.**

7 (a) CONTINUING EFFECT OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS.—

8 All orders, determinations, rules, regulations, permits,  
9 grants, contracts, certificates, licenses, registrations, privi-  
10 leges, and other administrative actions—

11 (1) which have been issued, made, granted, or  
12 allowed to become effective by the President, any  
13 Federal department or agency or official thereof, or  
14 by a court of competent jurisdiction, in the perform-  
15 ance of functions which are transferred under this  
16 Act to the Secretary or the Department, and

17 (2) which are in effect at the time this Act  
18 takes effect,

19 shall continue in effect according to their terms until  
20 modified, terminated, superseded, set aside, or revoked in  
21 accordance with the law by the President, the Secretary  
22 of Labor, or other authorized official, a court of competent  
23 jurisdiction, or by operation of law.

24 (b) PROCEEDINGS NOT AFFECTED.—The provisions  
25 of this subtitle shall not affect any proceedings, including

1 notices of proposed rulemaking, or any application for any  
2 license, permit, certificate, or financial assistance pending  
3 on the effective date of this subtitle before the Department  
4 of Education with respect to functions of which are trans-  
5 ferred by section 201 but such proceedings and applica-  
6 tions shall be continued. Orders shall be issued in such  
7 proceedings, appeals shall be taken therefrom, and pay-  
8 ments shall be made pursuant to such orders, as if this  
9 subtitle had not been enacted, and orders issued in any  
10 such proceedings shall continue in effect until modified,  
11 terminated, superseded, or revoked by a duly authorized  
12 individual, by a court of competent jurisdiction, or by op-  
13 eration of law. Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed  
14 to prohibit the discontinuance or modification of any such  
15 proceeding under the same terms and conditions and to  
16 the same extent that such proceeding could have been dis-  
17 continued or modified if this subtitle had not been enacted.

18 (c) SUITS NOT AFFECTED.—Except as provided in  
19 subsection (e) the provisions of this subtitle shall not af-  
20 fect suits commenced (with respect to the functions trans-  
21 ferred under section 201) prior to the effective date of this  
22 subtitle, and in all such suits, proceedings shall be had,  
23 appeals taken, and judgments rendered in the same man-  
24 ner and effect as if this subtitle had not been enacted.

1 (d) NONABATEMENT OF ACTIONS.—No suit, action,  
2 or other proceeding commenced by or against the Depart-  
3 ment of Education (with regard to functions transferred  
4 under section 201), or by or against any officer in the  
5 official capacity of such individual as an officer of the De-  
6 partment of Education (with regard to functions trans-  
7 ferred under section 201), shall abate by reason of the  
8 enactment of this subtitle.

9 (e) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS RELATING TO PRO-  
10 MULGATION OF REGULATIONS.—Any administrative ac-  
11 tion relating to the preparation or promulgation of a regu-  
12 lation by the Secretary of Education (with regard to func-  
13 tions transferred under section 201) may be continued by  
14 the Secretary of Labor with the same effect as if this sub-  
15 title had not been enacted.

16 **SEC. 208. REFERENCES.**

17 A reference in any other Federal law, Executive  
18 order, rule, regulation, or delegation of authority, or any  
19 document of or relating to—

20 (1) the Secretary of Education (with regard to  
21 functions transferred under section 201), shall be  
22 deemed to refer to the Secretary of Labor; and

23 (2) the Department of Education or Office  
24 within the Department (with regard to functions

1 transferred under section 201), shall be deemed to  
2 refer to the Department of Labor.

3 **SEC. 209. TRANSITION.**

4 The Secretary of Labor is authorized to utilize—

5 (1) the services of such officers, employees, and  
6 other personnel of the Department of Education  
7 with regard to functions transferred under section  
8 201; and

9 (2) funds appropriated to such functions,  
10 for such period of time as may reasonably be needed to  
11 facilitate the orderly implementation of this subtitle.

12 **SEC. 210. UPDATING REFERENCES.**

13 (a) WIOA.—Section 203(15) of the Workforce Inno-  
14 vation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3272(15)) is  
15 amended by striking “Education” and inserting “Labor”.

16 (b) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION  
17 ACT.—

18 (1) PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.—Section 202 of the  
19 Department of Education Organization Act (20  
20 U.S.C. 3412) is amended—

21 (A) in subsection (b)(1)(C), by striking  
22 “Career, Technical, and Adult Education” and  
23 inserting “Career and Technical Education”;  
24 and

1 (B) in subsection (h), by striking “Career,  
 2 Technical, and Adult Education” each place it  
 3 appears and inserting “Career and Technical  
 4 Education”.

5 (2) OFFICE OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDU-  
 6 CATION.—Section 206 of the Department of Edu-  
 7 cation Organization Act (20 U.S.C. 3416) is amend-  
 8 ed—

9 (A) in the section header, by striking “**CA-**  
 10 **REER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDU-**  
 11 **CATION**” and inserting “**CAREER AND TECH-**  
 12 **NICAL EDUCATION**”;

13 (B) in the first sentence, by striking “Ca-  
 14 reer, Technical, and Adult Education” and in-  
 15 serting “Career and Technical Education”; and

16 (C) in the second sentence, by striking  
 17 “career, technical, and adult education” and in-  
 18 serting “career and technical education”.

19 **SEC. 211. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

20 This subtitle shall take effect on the date that is 1  
 21 year after the date of enactment of this Act.



1     **Subtitle B—Adult Education and**  
2                   **Family Literacy Act**

3     **SEC. 221. PURPOSES.**

4             Section 202 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
5     tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3271) is amended—

6                 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “(including  
7             digital literacy skills and AI literacy skills)” before  
8             “necessary”;

9                 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “secondary  
10            school diploma” and inserting “regular high school  
11            diploma or its recognized equivalent”; and

12                (3) in paragraph (4), by striking “English lan-  
13            guage learners” and inserting “English learners”.

14    **SEC. 222. DEFINITIONS.**

15            Section 203 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
16    tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3272) is amended—

17                (1) in paragraph (1)—

18                    (A) in subparagraph (A)—

19                        (i) by striking “and speak” and in-  
20                        serting “listen, speak, and comprehend”;  
21                        and

22                        (ii) by striking “secondary” and in-  
23                        serting “regular high”;

24                    (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
25                    “and” at the end;

1 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as  
2 subparagraph (D); and

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

5 “(C) develop and use digital literacy skills;  
6 and”;

7 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through  
8 (14), (15) (as amended by section 210(a)), (16), and  
9 (17), as paragraphs (5) through (16), (18), (19),  
10 and (20), respectively;

11 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
12 lowing:

13 “(3) AI LITERACY SKILLS.—The term ‘AI lit-  
14 eracy skills’ means a foundational set of com-  
15 petencies, outlined by the AI literacy framework of  
16 the Department of Labor, that enable individuals to  
17 use and evaluate artificial intelligence technologies  
18 responsibly, with a primary focus on generative arti-  
19 ficial intelligence.

20 “(4) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.—The term  
21 ‘digital literacy skills’—

22 “(A) means the skills associated with using  
23 existing and emerging technologies to find,  
24 evaluate, organize, create, communicate infor-  
25 mation, and to complete tasks; and

1 “(B) includes AI literacy skills.”;  
2 (4) in paragraph (6)(C) (as so redesignated)—  
3 (A) by striking clause (i) and inserting the  
4 following:  
5 “(i) has foundational skill needs;”;  
6 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “secondary”  
7 and inserting “regular high”; and  
8 (C) in clause (iii), by striking “English  
9 language learner” and inserting “English learn-  
10 er”;  
11 (5) in paragraph (8) (as so redesignated)—  
12 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
13 “English language learners” and inserting  
14 “English learners”; and  
15 (B) in subparagraph (B)(i)(I), by striking  
16 “secondary” and inserting “regular high”;  
17 (6) in paragraph (9) (as so redesignated)—  
18 (A) in the paragraph heading, by striking  
19 “LANGUAGE”; and  
20 (B) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
21 (A), by striking “English language learner” and  
22 inserting “English learner”;  
23 (7) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)  
24 in paragraph (11) (as so redesignated), by inserting  
25 “and educational” after “the economic”;

1 (8) in paragraph (14) (as so redesignated)—

2 (A) by striking “English language learn-  
3 ers” and inserting “English learners”; and

4 (B) by striking “and may include work-  
5 force training.” and inserting the following:  
6 “and may—

7 “(A) include skills development, postsec-  
8 ondary preparation activities, digital literacy  
9 skills instruction, financial literacy instruction,  
10 and workforce training; and

11 “(B) be provided concurrently with other  
12 activities and services, such as adult edu-  
13 cation.”;

14 (9) in paragraph (15) (as so redesignated), by  
15 striking “and speak in English, compute, and solve  
16 problems,” and inserting “speak, and comprehend in  
17 English, compute, solve problems, and have digital  
18 literacy skills,”; and

19 (10) by inserting after paragraph (16) (as so  
20 redesignated) the following:

21 “(17) POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION ACTIVI-  
22 TIES.—The term ‘postsecondary preparation activi-  
23 ties’ means academic counseling (which may be pro-  
24 vided by a college and career navigator) and services  
25 designed to support enrollment and success in post-

1 secondary education that include assisting individ-  
2 uals to—

3 “(A) identify postsecondary educational op-  
4 tions that prepare individuals for unsubsidized  
5 employment;

6 “(B) navigate the transition from adult  
7 education to postsecondary education;

8 “(C) navigate the transition from adult  
9 education to workforce development programs  
10 and services;

11 “(D) coenroll in adult education and work-  
12 force development programs, if applicable;

13 “(E) improve academic skills so that indi-  
14 viduals are prepared to participate in postsec-  
15 ondary education without need for remediation;  
16 or

17 “(F) learn notetaking, study skills, and  
18 other skills that promote student success in  
19 postsecondary education.”.

20 **SEC. 223. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 Section 206 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
22 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3275) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 206. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
3 this title \$729,167,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027  
4 through 2032.”.

5 **SEC. 224. SPECIAL RULE.**

6 Section 211 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
7 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3291) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (d)(3), by striking “sec-  
9 ondary” and inserting “regular high”; and

10 (2) in subsection (e)(3), by striking “period de-  
11 scribed in section 3(45)” and inserting “period de-  
12 scribed in subparagraph (B) of the definition of ‘out-  
13 lying area’ in section 3”.

14 **SEC. 225. PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.**

15 Section 212 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
16 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3292) is amended to read as follows:

17 **“SEC. 212. PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.**

18 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Programs and activities author-  
19 ized in this title are subject to the performance account-  
20 ability provisions described in section 116, except that the  
21 indicator described in subsection (b)(2)(A)(i)(VI) of such  
22 section shall be applied as if it were the percentage of pro-  
23 gram participants who exited the program during the pro-  
24 gram year and completed an integrated education and  
25 training program.

1       “(b) DATA COLLECTION.—Notwithstanding section  
 2 134(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
 3 1015c(a)), the Secretary is authorized to collect  
 4 deidentified participant-level data for participants in pro-  
 5 grams and activities funded under this title on the infor-  
 6 mation required for State performance reports as de-  
 7 scribed in section 116(d) for the sole purpose of admin-  
 8 istering the performance accountability system under sec-  
 9 tion 116.”.

10 **SEC. 226. MATCHING REQUIREMENT.**

11       Section 222(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
 12 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3302(b)) is amended by adding  
 13 at the end the following:

14               “(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION  
 15       ON MATCHING FUNDS.—Each eligible agency shall  
 16       maintain, on a publicly accessible website of such  
 17       agency and in an easily accessible format, informa-  
 18       tion documenting the non-Federal contributions  
 19       made available to programs that offer adult edu-  
 20       cation and literacy activities or family literacy activi-  
 21       ties pursuant to this subsection, including—

22                       “(A) the sources of such contributions, ex-  
 23                       cept that in the case of private contributions,  
 24                       names of the individuals or entities providing  
 25                       such contributions may not be disclosed; and

1           “(B) in the case of funds made available  
2           by a State or outlying area, an explanation of  
3           how such funds are distributed to eligible pro-  
4           viders.”.

5   **SEC. 227. STATE LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.**

6           Section 223(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
7   portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3303(a)) is amended—

8           (1) in paragraph (1)—

9           (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “ac-  
10          tivities.” and inserting “activities and the iden-  
11          tification of opportunities to coordinate with ac-  
12          tivities supported under the Carl D. Perkins  
13          Career and Technical Education Act of 2006  
14          (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) to expand integrated  
15          education and training programs.”;

16          (B) in subparagraph (C)—

17               (i) in clause (i), by striking “based on  
18               the most rigorous or scientifically valid re-  
19               search available and appropriate, in read-  
20               ing, writing, speaking, mathematics,” and  
21               inserting “based on evidence-based prac-  
22               tices, in reading, writing, speaking,  
23               English comprehension, mathematics,”;

24               (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “and” at  
25               the end;



1 (iii) in clause (iii), by striking the pe-  
2 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

3 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-  
4 lowing:

5 “(iv) assistance in reporting partici-  
6 pant outcomes for the performance ac-  
7 countability system described in section  
8 212, including facilitating partnerships  
9 with the appropriate State entities to con-  
10 duct matches with State administrative  
11 data (such as wage records) to determine  
12 program performance on the indicators of  
13 performance described in subclauses (I)  
14 through (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i)  
15 and which may include assistance in inte-  
16 grating with statewide longitudinal data  
17 systems, and making data available in  
18 structured, open, linked, and interoperable  
19 formats, as appropriate.”;

20 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as  
21 subparagraph (E); and

22 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (C)  
23 the following:

24 “(D) The development, identification, ac-  
25 quisition, and dissemination (which may be

done in coordination with other States) of evidence-based instructional materials (to the extent available) that lead to literacy, English language acquisition, a recognized postsecondary credential, or any combination of such results; and—

“(i) are designed to meet the needs of adult learners, including English learners, and may be developed for integrated education and training in an in-demand industry sector or occupation within the State; and

“(ii) will improve the instruction provided pursuant to the local activities required under section 231(b).”; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (E), (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), (K), (L), and (M), as subparagraphs (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), (K), (L), (M), and (R), respectively;

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

“(E) Developing content and models for programs that support family literacy activities.”;

1 (C) in subparagraph (G) (as so redesign-  
2 nated), by inserting before the period the fol-  
3 lowing: “, including such institutions that offer  
4 an eligible program for purposes of the Work-  
5 force Pell Grant program under section 401(k)  
6 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
7 U.S.C. 1070a(k)), as added by section 83002(a)  
8 of Public Law 119–21”;

9 (D) in subparagraph (J)(i) (as so redesign-  
10 nated)—

11 (i) by striking “mathematics, and  
12 English” and inserting “mathematics,  
13 English”; and

14 (ii) by striking “acquisition;” and in-  
15 serting “acquisition, and digital literacy  
16 skills;”;

17 (E) by striking subparagraph (K) (as so  
18 redesignated) and inserting the following:

19 “(K) Developing and piloting of strategies  
20 for improving adult educator recruitment, qual-  
21 ity, and retention, such as—

22 “(i) the provision of professional de-  
23 velopment;

24 “(ii) the development and mainte-  
25 nance of policies for awarding recognized

1 postsecondary credentials to adult edu-  
2 cators who demonstrate effectiveness at  
3 improving the achievement of adult stu-  
4 dents; and

5 “(iii) the development and piloting of  
6 work-based learning programs (including  
7 apprenticeship programs) for adult edu-  
8 cators.”;

9 (F) in subparagraph (L) (as so redesign-  
10 nated), by striking “English language learners”  
11 and inserting “English learners”;

12 (G) in subparagraph (M) (as so redesign-  
13 nated), by inserting “, which may include  
14 through partnerships with local educational  
15 agencies or public agencies to recruit eligible in-  
16 dividuals” after “employers”; and

17 (H) by inserting after subparagraph (M)  
18 (as so redesignated) the following:

19 “(N) Performance incentive payments to  
20 eligible providers, including incentive payments  
21 linked to increased use of integrated education  
22 and training or other forms of instruction link-  
23 ing adult education with the development of oc-  
24 cupational skills for an in-demand industry sec-  
25 tor or occupation in the State.

1           “(O) Strengthening the quality and effec-  
 2           tiveness of adult education and programs that  
 3           support family literacy activities in the State  
 4           through support for program quality standards  
 5           and accreditation requirements.

6           “(P) Raising public awareness (including  
 7           through public service announcements, such as  
 8           social media campaigns) about career and tech-  
 9           nical education programs and community-based  
 10          organizations, and other endeavors focused on  
 11          programs that prepare individuals for in-de-  
 12          mand industry sectors or occupations.

13          “(Q) Postsecondary preparation activi-  
 14          ties.”.

15 **SEC. 228. PROGRAMS FOR CORRECTIONS EDUCATION AND**  
 16 **OTHER INSTITUTIONALIZED INDIVIDUALS.**

17          Section 225 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 18          tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3305) is amended—

19               (1) in subsection (a)—

20                       (A) by striking “From funds” and insert-  
 21                       ing the following:

22                       “(1) IN GENERAL.—From funds”; and

23                       (B) by adding at the end the following:

24                       “(2) PRIORITY.—An eligible agency granting  
 25                       awards from funds authorized under paragraph (1)

1 shall give priority to an eligible entity that proposes  
2 to operate an educational program in a correctional  
3 institution that is also served by a program author-  
4 ized under section 172.”;

5 (2) in subsection (b)(3), by striking “secondary  
6 school credit” and inserting “attainment of a regular  
7 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent”;

8 (3) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as  
9 subsections (e) and (f), respectively;

10 (4) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-  
11 lowing:

12 “(d) COORDINATION.—Each eligible agency that is  
13 using assistance provided under this section to carry out  
14 a program for criminal offenders within a correctional in-  
15 stitution shall—

16 “(1) coordinate such educational programs with  
17 career and technical education activities provided to  
18 individuals in State institutions from funds reserved  
19 under section 112(a)(2)(A) of the Carl D. Perkins  
20 Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20  
21 U.S.C. 2322(a)(2)(A));

22 “(2) identify opportunities to develop integrated  
23 education and training opportunities for such indi-  
24 viduals;

1 “(3) coordinate with institutions of higher edu-  
 2 cation operating a prison education program in the  
 3 State; and

4 “(4) if the correctional institution is also served  
 5 by a program authorized under section 172, provide  
 6 a description of how the award funds under this sec-  
 7 tion will be used to carry out the activities described  
 8 in section 172, in conjunction with the activities de-  
 9 scribed in subsection (b).”; and

10 (5) in subsection (f) (as so redesignated), by  
 11 adding at the end the following:

12 “(3) PRISON EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The term  
 13 ‘prison education program’ has the meaning given  
 14 the term in section 484 of the Higher Education Act  
 15 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1091).”.

16 **SEC. 229. GRANTS AND CONTRACTS FOR ELIGIBLE PRO-**  
 17 **VIDERS.**

18 Section 231 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 19 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3321) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a)—

21 (A) by striking “From grant funds” and  
 22 inserting the following:

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From grant funds”; and

24 (B) by adding at the end the following:

1           “(2) PROMPT AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Each  
2           eligible agency shall ensure that funds are available  
3           for reimbursement to an eligible provider that is  
4           awarded a multiyear grant or contract under para-  
5           graph (1) not later than 45 days after the date on  
6           which the multiyear grant or contract is awarded.”;

7           (2) in subsection (d), by striking “section  
8           203(4)” and inserting “section 203(6)”;

9           (3) in subsection (e)—

10           (A) in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), by striking  
11           “English language learners” and inserting  
12           “English learners”;

13           (B) in paragraph (5)—

14           (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
15           “and” at the end;

16           (ii) in subparagraph (B), by adding  
17           “and” at the end; and

18           (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
19           lowing:

20           “(C) uses instructional materials that are  
21           designed to meet the needs of adult learners  
22           and English learners and are evidence-based (to  
23           the extent practicable), which may include, but  
24           shall not be required to include, the instruc-



1           tional materials disseminated by the State  
2           under section 223(a)(1)(D);”;

3           (C) in paragraph (6), by striking “speak-  
4           ing, mathematics, and English” and inserting  
5           “speaking and listening, mathematics, com-  
6           prehension, and English”; and

7           (A) in paragraph (10), by inserting “local  
8           educational agencies,” after “strong links  
9           with”; and  
10          (4) by adding at the end the following:

11          “(f) COST ANALYSIS.—In determining the amount of  
12          funds to be awarded in grants or contracts under this sec-  
13          tion, the eligible agency may consider the costs of pro-  
14          viding learning in context, including integrated education  
15          and training and workplace adult education and literacy  
16          activities, and the extent to which the eligible provider in-  
17          tends to serve individuals using such activities, in order  
18          to align the amount of funds awarded with such costs.”.

19      **SEC. 230. LOCAL APPLICATION.**

20          Section 232 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
21          tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3322) is amended—

22               (1) in paragraph (4), by inserting “and coordi-  
23               nate with the appropriate State entity” after “data”;

24               (2) in paragraph (6), by striking “; and” and  
25               inserting “, such as how the eligible provider may

1 provide adult education and literacy activities in a  
2 manner that is integrated with postsecondary prepa-  
3 ration activities to enable students to prepare for op-  
4 portunities to attain a recognized postsecondary cre-  
5 dential, including opportunities to earn recognized  
6 postsecondary credentials that are stackable along a  
7 career pathway within an in-demand industry sector  
8 or occupation”;

9 (3) by redesignating paragraph (7) as para-  
10 graph (8); and

11 (4) by inserting after paragraph (6) the fol-  
12 lowing:

13 “(7) a description of how the eligible provider  
14 will provide learning in context, including through  
15 partnerships with employers to offer workplace adult  
16 education and literacy activities and integrated edu-  
17 cation and training; and”.

18 **SEC. 231. LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE COST LIMITS.**

19 Section 233(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
20 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3323(a)) is amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “95” and in-  
22 serting “85”; and

23 (2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the  
24 following:

25 “(2) the remaining amount—

1           “(A) not to exceed 10 percent, may be  
 2           used for professional development for adult edu-  
 3           cators (which may include apprenticeship pro-  
 4           grams for adult educators); and

5           “(B) not to exceed 5 percent, shall be used  
 6           for planning, administration (including carrying  
 7           out the requirements of section 116), profes-  
 8           sional development of administrative staff, and  
 9           the activities described in paragraphs (3) and  
 10          (5) of section 232.”.

11 **SEC. 232. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.**

12          Section 242 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 13          tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3332) is amended—

14           (1) in subsection (b)—

15           (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “116;”  
 16           and inserting “116, including the dissemination  
 17           of effective practices used by States to use  
 18           statewide longitudinal data systems or other  
 19           sources of administrative data to determine pro-  
 20           gram performance and reduce the data collec-  
 21           tion and reporting burden on eligible pro-  
 22           viders;”; and

23           (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “, includ-  
 24           ing the Institute of Education Sciences”; and

25           (2) in subsection (c)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)—

2 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
3 “English language learners” and inserting  
4 “English learners”; and

5 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by inserting  
6 “skills” after “digital literacy”; and

7 (B) in paragraph (2)—

8 (i) in subparagraph (C)—

9 (I) in clause (i), by striking “rig-  
10 orous research” and inserting “evi-  
11 dence-based practices”; and

12 (II) in clause (vii)—

13 (aa) in subclause (I), by  
14 striking “adults with” and all  
15 that follows through the semi-  
16 colon and inserting “adults with  
17 disabilities, including adults with  
18 learning disabilities, and with  
19 adults who are English learn-  
20 ers;”;

21 (bb) in subclause (III), by  
22 striking “and” after the semi-  
23 colon;

1 (cc) in subclause (IV), by in-  
2 serting “and” after the semi-  
3 colon; and

4 (dd) by adding at the end  
5 the following:

6 “(V) programs that offer family  
7 literacy activities;”;

8 (ii) in subparagraph (F), by striking  
9 “and” after the semicolon;

10 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph  
11 (G) as subparagraph (J); and

12 (iv) by inserting after subparagraph  
13 (F) the following:

14 “(G) developing and rigorously evaluating  
15 programs for the preparation of effective adult  
16 educators and disseminating the results of such  
17 evaluations;

18 “(H) carrying out initiatives to support the  
19 effectiveness and impact of adult education,  
20 that States may adopt on a voluntary basis,  
21 through—

22 “(i) the development and dissemina-  
23 tion of staffing models, which may include  
24 full-time staffing models, that prioritize  
25 demonstrated effectiveness and continuous

1 improvement in supporting the learning of  
2 adult students; and

3 “(ii) the evaluation and improvement  
4 of program quality standards and accredi-  
5 tation requirements;

6 “(I) providing technical assistance to eligi-  
7 ble agencies regarding effective professional de-  
8 velopment for programs that offer adult edu-  
9 cation and literacy activities or family literacy  
10 activities; and”.

11 **SEC. 233. INTEGRATED ENGLISH LITERACY AND CIVICS**  
12 **EDUCATION.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 243(a) of the Workforce  
14 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3333(a)) is  
15 amended—

16 (1) by striking “From funds” and inserting the  
17 following:

18 “(1) EACH FISCAL YEAR.—Subject to para-  
19 graph (2), from funds”; and

20 (2) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(2) CERTAIN FISCAL YEARS.—With respect to  
22 fiscal year 2027 or a succeeding fiscal year, if  
23 amounts made available under section 211(a)(2) for  
24 such a fiscal year exceed, by at least 1 percent,  
25 grant amounts awarded to States under this section

1       for fiscal year 2026, the Secretary shall, from  
2       amounts made available under section 211(a)(2) for  
3       such fiscal year after fiscal year 2026—

4               “(A) reserve 1 percent of the amounts to  
5       award grants to outlying areas, in the manner  
6       determined appropriate by the Secretary of  
7       Labor for such outlying areas to carry out the  
8       activities described in paragraph (1); and

9               “(B) use the amounts remaining after such  
10       reservation to award grants to States under  
11       this section.”.

12       (b) ALLOTMENT.—Section 243(b)(1) of the Work-  
13       force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
14       3333(b)(1) is amended by amending the matter preceding  
15       subparagraph (A) as follows: “Subject to paragraph (2),  
16       from amounts made available under section 211(a)(2) for  
17       a fiscal year, and after reserving amounts in accordance  
18       with subsection (a)(2), if appropriate for such fiscal year,  
19       the Secretary shall allocate—”

20       (c) ENGLISH LEARNERS.—Section 243(c)(1) of the  
21       Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
22       3333(c)(1)) is amended by striking “English language  
23       learners” and inserting “English learners”.

## **TITLE III—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER LAWS**

### **SEC. 301. AMENDMENTS TO THE WAGNER-PEYSER ACT.**

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2(5) of the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49a(5)) is amended by inserting “the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa,” after “Guam,”.

(b) UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAW REQUIREMENT.—Section 5(b)(1) of the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49d(b)(1)) is amended by inserting “the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or American Samoa,” after “Guam,”.

(c) ALLOTMENTS.—Section 6 of the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49e) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “except for Guam” and inserting “except for Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa”;

(B) by striking “first allot to Guam and the Virgin Islands” and inserting the following: “first allot—

“(1) to Guam and the Virgin Islands”;

(C) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and



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

2 “(2) beginning with the first fiscal year for  
3 which the total amount available for allotments  
4 under this section is greater than the total amount  
5 available for allotments under this section for fiscal  
6 year 2024, and for each succeeding fiscal year, to  
7 each of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana  
8 Islands and American Samoa, an amount which is  
9 equal to one-half of the amount allotted to Guam  
10 under paragraph (1) for the corresponding fiscal  
11 year.”; and

12 (2) in subsection (b)(1), in the matter following  
13 subparagraph (B), by inserting “, the Common-  
14 wealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American  
15 Samoa,” after “Guam”.

16 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—Section 7 of the Wagner-  
17 Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49f) is amended—

18 (1) in subsection (a)—

19 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and re-  
20 ferral to employers” and inserting “referral to  
21 employers, and the services described in section  
22 134(c)(2)(A)(ii) of the Workforce Innovation  
23 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
24 3174(c)(2)(A)(ii)) when provided by the em-

1           ployment service office colocated with the one-  
2           stop delivery system”;

3           (B) in paragraph (3)—

4                 (i) in subparagraph (F), by striking  
5           the “and” at the end;

6                 (ii) by moving subparagraph (G) for  
7           ems to the right;

8                 (iii) in subparagraph (G), by striking  
9           the period at the end and inserting “;  
10          and”; and

11                (iv) by adding at the end the fol-  
12          lowing:

13                “(H) establishing a talent marketplace (as  
14          defined in section 3 of the Workforce Innova-  
15          tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102)).”;  
16          and

17          (2) in subsection (e), by inserting before the pe-  
18          riod at the end the following: “and in accordance  
19          with the requirements of section 134(c)(2)(A)(i)(I)  
20          of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
21          (29 U.S.C. 3174(c)(2)(A)(i)(I))”.

22          (e) WORKFORCE AND LABOR MARKET INFORMATION  
23          SYSTEM.—Section 15 of the Wagner-Peyser Act (29  
24          U.S.C. 491–2) is amended—

25                (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),  
3 by striking “timely manner” and inserting  
4 “manner that is as close to real-time as  
5 practicable”;

6 (ii) in clause (i), by striking “part-  
7 time, and seasonal workers” and inserting  
8 “part-time, contingent, and seasonal work-  
9 ers, and workers engaged in alternative  
10 employment arrangements”;

11 (iii) by redesignating clauses (iii) and  
12 (iv) as clauses (iv) and (v), respectively;  
13 and

14 (iv) by inserting after clause (ii), the  
15 following:

16 “(iii) real-time trends in new and  
17 emerging occupational roles, and in new  
18 and emerging skills by occupation and in-  
19 dustry, with particular attention paid to  
20 State and local conditions;”;

21 (B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting  
22 “(including, to the extent practicable, real-  
23 time)” after “current”; and

24 (C) in subparagraph (G), by striking  
25 “user-friendly manner and” and inserting

1 “manner that makes the data, information, and  
2 analysis available on-demand and is user-friend-  
3 ly,”;

4 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(F)—

5 (A) in clause (i), by striking “; and” and  
6 inserting “(including, to the extent practicable,  
7 provided in real-time);”;

8 (B) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause  
9 (iii); and

10 (C) by inserting after clause (i), as so  
11 amended, the following:

12 “(ii) the capabilities of digital tech-  
13 nology and modern data collection ap-  
14 proaches are effectively utilized; and”;

15 (3) in subsection (e)(2)(H), by striking “section  
16 116(i)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
17 tunity Act” and inserting “section 116(j)(2) of the  
18 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act”; and

19 (4) by amending subsection (g) to read as fol-  
20 lows:

21 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
22 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
23 \$52,892,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027 through  
24 2032.”.

1 **SEC. 302. JOB TRAINING GRANTS.**

2 Section 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and  
3 Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 3224a)  
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 “(c) JOB TRAINING GRANTS.—

6 “(1) ALLOTMENT.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds available  
8 under section 286(s)(2) of the Immigration and  
9 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(s)(2)), the Sec-  
10 retary of Labor shall, for each fiscal year—

11 “(i) return permanently 12 percent of  
12 such amounts in each fiscal year to the  
13 general fund of the Treasury;

14 “(ii) use \$65,000,000 of such funds to  
15 carry out the program established under  
16 section 173 of the Workforce Innovation  
17 and Opportunity Act; and

18 “(iii) using the funds remaining after  
19 carrying out clauses (i) and (ii), make al-  
20 lotments to each State that receives an al-  
21 lotment under section 132(b) of the Work-  
22 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
23 U.S.C. 3172(b)) for the purpose of pro-  
24 viding training services through individual  
25 training accounts for eligible dislocated  
26 workers as described in paragraph (2)(A).

1                   “(B) RESERVATION; ALLOTMENT AMONG  
2 STATES.—

3                   “(i) RESERVATION.—From the  
4 amount made available under subpara-  
5 graph (A)(iii) for a fiscal year, the Sec-  
6 retary shall reserve not more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1  
7 percent of such amount to provide assist-  
8 ance to the outlying areas for the purpose  
9 described in paragraph (2)(A).

10                   “(ii) ALLOTMENT AMONG STATES.—  
11 Subject to clause (iii) of this subpara-  
12 graph, the Secretary shall use the remain-  
13 der of the amount made available under  
14 subparagraph (A)(iii) (in this subpara-  
15 graph referred to as the ‘remainder  
16 amount’) for a fiscal year to make allot-  
17 ments to States described in subparagraph  
18 (A)(iii) on the following basis:

19                   “(I)  $\frac{33}{100}$  and  $\frac{1}{3}$  percent shall be  
20 allotted on the basis of the relative  
21 number of unemployed individuals in  
22 each such State, compared to the total  
23 number of unemployed individuals in  
24 all such States.

1           “(II) 33 and  $\frac{1}{3}$  percent shall be  
2           allotted on the basis of the relative  
3           number of disadvantaged adults in  
4           each such State, compared to the total  
5           number of disadvantaged adults in all  
6           such States.

7           “(III) 33 and  $\frac{1}{3}$  percent shall be  
8           allotted on the basis of the relative  
9           number of individuals in the civilian  
10          labor force in each such State, com-  
11          pared to the total number in the civil-  
12          ian labor force in all such States.

13          “(iii) SMALL STATE MINIMUM.—The  
14          Secretary shall ensure that no State shall  
15          receive an allotment under this subpara-  
16          graph for a fiscal year that is less than—

17               “(I) in the case of a fiscal year  
18               for which the remainder amount is  
19               not more than \$180,000,000,  $\frac{3}{10}$  of 1  
20               percent of such remainder amount;  
21               and

22               “(II) in the case of a fiscal year  
23               for which the remainder amount ex-  
24               ceeds \$180,000,000, the total of—

1                   “(aa)  $\frac{3}{10}$  of 1 percent of  
2                   \$180,000,000; and

3                   “(bb)  $\frac{2}{5}$  of 1 percent of  
4                   such excess amount.

5                   “(iv) DISADVANTAGED ADULT DE-  
6                   FINED.—For purposes of this subpara-  
7                   graph and subparagraph (C), the term  
8                   ‘disadvantaged adult’ has the meaning  
9                   given such term in section  
10                  132(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV) of the Workforce In-  
11                  novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
12                  3172(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV)).

13                  “(v) REALLOTMENT.—

14                  “(I) IN GENERAL.—The Sec-  
15                  retary of Labor shall, in accordance  
16                  with this clause, reallocate to eligible  
17                  States amounts that are made avail-  
18                  able to States from allotments made  
19                  under this subparagraph (referred to  
20                  individually in this subsection as a  
21                  ‘State allotment’) and that are avail-  
22                  able for reallocation.

23                  “(II) AMOUNT.—The amount  
24                  available for reallocation for a pro-  
25                  gram year is equal to the amount by



1 which the unobligated balance of the  
2 State allotment, at the end of the pro-  
3 gram year prior to the program year  
4 for which the determination under  
5 this subclause is made, exceeds 20  
6 percent of such allotment for the prior  
7 program year.

8 “(III) REALLOTMENT.—In mak-  
9 ing reallotments to eligible States of  
10 amounts available pursuant to sub-  
11 clause (II) for a program year, the  
12 Secretary shall allot to each eligible  
13 State an amount based on the relative  
14 amount of the State allotment for the  
15 program year for which the deter-  
16 mination is made, as compared to the  
17 total amount of the State allotments  
18 for all eligible States for such pro-  
19 gram year.

20 “(IV) ELIGIBILITY.—For pur-  
21 poses of this subsection, an ‘eligible  
22 State’ means a State that does not  
23 have an amount available for reallot-  
24 ment under subclause (II) for the pro-

1                   gram year for which the determina-  
2                   tion under subclause (II) is made.

3                   “(C) WITHIN STATE ALLOCATIONS.—

4                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Governor  
5                   shall allocate the funds allotted to the  
6                   State under subparagraph (B) for a fiscal  
7                   year to the local areas in the State on the  
8                   following basis:

9                   “(I) 33 and  $\frac{1}{3}$  percent of the  
10                  funds on the basis described in sub-  
11                  paragraph (B)(ii)(I).

12                  “(II) 33 and  $\frac{1}{3}$  percent of the  
13                  funds on the basis described in sub-  
14                  paragraph (B)(ii)(II).

15                  “(III) 33 and  $\frac{1}{3}$  percent of the  
16                  funds on the basis described in sub-  
17                  paragraph (B)(ii)(III).

18                  “(ii) APPLICATION.—For purposes of  
19                  carrying out clause (i)—

20                  “(I) references in subparagraph  
21                  (B)(ii) to a State shall be deemed to  
22                  be references to a local area; and

23                  “(II) references in subparagraph  
24                  (B)(ii) to all States shall be deemed to

1 be references to all local areas in the  
2 State involved.

3 “(iii) REALLOCATION AMONG LOCAL  
4 AREAS.—

5 “(I) IN GENERAL.—The Gov-  
6 ernor may, in accordance with this  
7 clause and after consultation with the  
8 State board, reallocate to eligible local  
9 areas within the State amounts that  
10 are made available to local areas from  
11 allocations made under this subpara-  
12 graph (referred to individually in this  
13 subsection as a ‘local allocation’) and  
14 that are available for reallocation.

15 “(II) AMOUNT.—The amount  
16 available for reallocation for a pro-  
17 gram year is equal to the amount by  
18 which the unobligated balance of the  
19 local allocation, at the end of the pro-  
20 gram year prior to the program year  
21 for which the determination under  
22 this subclause is made, exceeds 20  
23 percent of such allocation for the  
24 prior program year.

1                   “(III) REALLOCATION.—In mak-  
2                   ing reallocations to eligible local areas  
3                   of amounts available pursuant to sub-  
4                   clause (II) for a program year, the  
5                   Governor shall allocate to each eligible  
6                   local area within the State an amount  
7                   based on the relative amount of the  
8                   local allocation for the program year  
9                   for which the determination is made,  
10                  as compared to the total amount of  
11                  the local allocations for all eligible  
12                  local areas in the State for such pro-  
13                  gram year.

14                  “(IV) ELIGIBILITY.—For pur-  
15                  poses of this subsection, an eligible  
16                  local area means a local area that  
17                  does not have an amount available for  
18                  reallotment under subclause (II) for  
19                  the program year for which the deter-  
20                  mination under subclause (II) is  
21                  made.

22                  “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—

23                         “(A) IN GENERAL.—Funds allocated pur-  
24                         suant to paragraph (1) to a local area shall be  
25                         used to pay, through the use of an individual

1 training account in accordance with section  
2 134(c)(3)(F)(iii) of the Workforce Innovation  
3 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
4 3174(c)(3)(F)(iii)), an eligible provider of train-  
5 ing services from the list of eligible providers of  
6 training services described in section 122(d) of  
7 such Act (29 U.S.C. 3152(d)) for training serv-  
8 ices provided to eligible dislocated workers in  
9 the local area.

10 “(B) REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL  
11 AREAS.—As a condition of receipt of funds  
12 under paragraph (1), a local area shall agree to  
13 each of the following:

14 “(i) REQUIRED NOTICE TO WORK-  
15 ERS.—Prior to an eligible dislocated work-  
16 er selecting a program of training services  
17 from the list of eligible providers of train-  
18 ing services under section 122(d) of the  
19 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
20 (29 U.S.C. 3152(d)), the local area shall  
21 inform such dislocated worker of any op-  
22 portunities the dislocated worker may have  
23 to participate in on-the-job training or em-  
24 ployer-directed skills development funded  
25 through such local area.

1 “(ii) AMOUNTS AVAILABLE.—Except  
2 as provided in clause (iv)(II), a local  
3 area—

4 “(I) may not limit the maximum  
5 amount available for an individual  
6 training account for an eligible dis-  
7 located worker under subparagraph  
8 (A) to an amount that is less than  
9 \$5,000; and

10 “(II) may not pay an amount,  
11 through the use of an individual train-  
12 ing account under subparagraph (A),  
13 for training services provided to an el-  
14 igible dislocated worker that exceeds  
15 the costs of such services.

16 “(iii) WIOA FUNDS.—A local area  
17 may not use funds made available to the  
18 local area for a fiscal year pursuant to sec-  
19 tion 134(c)(1)(B) of the Workforce Innova-  
20 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
21 3174(c)(1)(B)) to make payments under  
22 subparagraph (A) until the funds allocated  
23 to the local area pursuant to paragraph (1)  
24 of this subsection for such fiscal year have  
25 been exhausted.

1                   “(iv) EXHAUSTION OF ALLOCA-  
2                   TIONS.—Upon the exhaustion of the funds  
3                   allocated to the local area pursuant to  
4                   paragraph (1) of this subsection, for the  
5                   purpose of paying, through the use of indi-  
6                   vidual training accounts under subpara-  
7                   graph (A), the costs of training services for  
8                   eligible dislocated workers in the local area  
9                   seeking such services, the local area—

10                   “(I) shall use any funds made  
11                   available to the local area pursuant to  
12                   section 134(c)(1)(B) of the Workforce  
13                   Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
14                   U.S.C. 3174(c)(1)(B)) to pay for such  
15                   costs under subparagraph (A) (other  
16                   than any costs that exceed the limit  
17                   set by the local area pursuant to  
18                   clause (ii) or subclause (II)); and

19                   “(II) for any eligible dislocated  
20                   worker who is not a low-income indi-  
21                   vidual, may limit the maximum  
22                   amount available for the individual  
23                   training account under subparagraph  
24                   (A) for such worker to an amount  
25                   that is less than \$5,000.

1           “(3) ELIGIBLE DISLOCATED WORKER.—A dis-  
2       located worker shall be an eligible dislocated worker  
3       for purposes of this subsection if the dislocated  
4       worker—

5           “(A) meets the requirements under section  
6       134(c)(3)(A)(i) of the Workforce Innovation  
7       and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
8       3174(c)(3)(A)(i)) to be eligible for training  
9       services; and

10          “(B) has not received training services  
11       through an individual training account under  
12       this subsection or under section  
13       134(c)(3)(F)(iii) of the Workforce Innovation  
14       and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
15       3174(c)(3)(F)(iii)) during the preceding 5-year  
16       period or, if such a worker has received such  
17       training services during such period, the worker  
18       has been granted an exception by the local area  
19       due to an exceptional circumstance, as deter-  
20       mined by the local area.

21          “(4) EXCESS DEMAND.—Upon the exhaustion  
22       of the funds allocated to a local area pursuant to  
23       paragraph (1) of this subsection and any funds that  
24       may be available to such local area pursuant to sec-  
25       tion 134(c)(1)(B) of the Workforce Innovation and



1 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(c)(1)(B)) for the  
2 purpose described in paragraph (2)(A) of this sub-  
3 section, the local area—

4 “(A) may request additional funds for such  
5 purpose from the Governor under section  
6 134(a)(2)(A)(i)(III) of the Workforce Innova-  
7 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
8 3174(a)(2)(A)(i)(III)); and

9 “(B) shall not be required to pay for train-  
10 ing services or establish an individual training  
11 account for an eligible dislocated worker.

12 “(5) DEFINITIONS.—Except as otherwise speci-  
13 fied, a term used in this subsection shall have the  
14 meaning given such term in section 3 of the Work-  
15 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
16 3102).

17 “(6) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
18 this subsection shall be construed to provide an indi-  
19 vidual with an entitlement to a service under this  
20 subsection or under title I of the Workforce Innova-  
21 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.)  
22 or to mandate a State or local area to provide a  
23 service if Federal funds are not available for such  
24 service.”.

1 **SEC. 303. ACCESS TO NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF NEW**  
2 **HIRES.**

3 Section 453(j)(8) of the Social Security Act (42  
4 U.S.C. 653(j)(8)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

6 (A) by inserting “or conducting the report-  
7 ing and evaluation activities required under sec-  
8 tion 116 of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
9 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141)” after “State  
10 law”; and

11 (B) by striking “such program” and in-  
12 serting “such programs”; and

13 (2) in subparagraph (C)(i), by striking “pur-  
14 poses of administering a program referred to” and  
15 inserting “the purposes specified”.

16 **SEC. 304. REFERENCES TO OTHER LAWS.**

17 (a) REFERENCES TO PROVISIONS OF THE WORK-  
18 FORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT.—

19 (1) Section 8041(g)(2)(C) of the SUPPORT for  
20 Patients and Communities Act (29 U.S.C.  
21 3225a(g)(2)(C)) is amended by striking “section  
22 172(f) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3227(f))” and insert-  
23 ing “section 175(h) of such Act (29 U.S.C.  
24 3227(h))”.

25 (2) Section 60302(23) of the Digital Equity Act  
26 of 2021 (47 U.S.C. 1721(23)) is amended by strik-

1 ing “section 3(66) of the Workforce Innovation and  
2 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(66))” and insert-  
3 ing “section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
4 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102)”.

5 (b) RELATED PROVISIONS.—

6 (1) Section 286(s)(2) of the Immigration and  
7 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(s)(2)) is amended by  
8 striking “demonstration programs and projects” and  
9 inserting “the programs, activities, and uses”.

10 (2) Section 1154 of title 10, United States  
11 Code, is amended—

12 (A) in paragraphs (2)(C) and (3)(D) of  
13 subsection (a), by striking “Job Corps center as  
14 defined” and inserting “Job Corps campus as  
15 described”;

16 (B) in subsection (d)(4)(A)(ii), by striking  
17 “Job Corps centers” and inserting “Job Corps  
18 campuses”; and

19 (C) in subsection (e)(2)(E), by striking  
20 “Job Corps center” and inserting “Job Corps  
21 campus”.

1       **TITLE IV—DEPARTMENT OF**  
2       **LABOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

3       **SEC. 401. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSFORMING TO**  
4               **COMPETITIVE INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT.**

5           (a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated  
6 under subsection (c), the Secretary (acting through the  
7 Office of Disability Employment Policy in partnership  
8 with the Employment and Training Administration), in  
9 partnership with the Administration for Community Liv-  
10 ing of the Department of Health and Human Services and  
11 the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Serv-  
12 ices of the Department of Education, shall establish a  
13 Center for Technical Assistance for Transforming to Com-  
14 petitive Integrated Employment to—

15           (1) provide technical assistance to employers  
16 who are transitioning from employing individuals  
17 with disabilities using special certificates on such  
18 transition, which shall include technical assistance  
19 on providing services that result in competitive inte-  
20 grated employment;

21           (2) provide technical assistance to State agen-  
22 cies seeking to support such employers described in  
23 paragraph (1) on such transition described in para-  
24 graph (1) on coordination and alignment of services  
25 and funding in support of such transition, including

1 technical assistance on how such services and fund-  
2 ing can result in competitive integrated employment;

3 (3) in providing the technical assistance de-  
4 scribing in paragraphs (1) and (2), coordinate such  
5 technical assistance with education materials and op-  
6 portunities made available through existing technical  
7 assistance provided by—

8 (A) the Office of Disability Employment  
9 Policy;

10 (B) the Employment and Training Admin-  
11 istration;

12 (C) the Administration for Community  
13 Living of the Department of Health and  
14 Human Services; and

15 (D) the Office of Special Education and  
16 Rehabilitative Services of the Department of  
17 Education; and

18 (4) in providing the technical assistance de-  
19 scribed in paragraphs (1) and (2), make use of tech-  
20 nical assistance that is in existence on the date of  
21 enactment of this Act, including the CIE Trans-  
22 formation Hub, the Advancing State Policy Integra-  
23 tion for Recovery and Employment Initiative, and  
24 the National Expansion of Employment Opportuni-  
25 ties Network.

1 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) COMPETITIVE INTEGRATED EMPLOY-  
3 MENT.—The term “competitive integrated employ-  
4 ment” has the meaning given the term in section  
5 7(5) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C.  
6 705(5)).

7 (2) DISABILITY.—The term “disability” in-  
8 cludes any intellectual, developmental, mental health,  
9 or other disability.

10 (3) INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.—The  
11 term “individuals with disabilities” means individ-  
12 uals described in section 14(c)(1) of the Fair Labor  
13 Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 214(c)(1)).

14 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
15 the Secretary of Labor.

16 (5) SPECIAL CERTIFICATE.—The term “special  
17 certificate” means a special certificate issued under  
18 section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of  
19 1938 (29 U.S.C. 214(c)).

20 (6) STATE.—The term “State” means each of  
21 the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Com-  
22 monwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territory of  
23 Guam.

1 **TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

2 **SEC. 501. REPORT ON DATA CAPABILITY AND INTEROPER-**  
3 **ABILITY OF FEDERAL AND STATE DATABASES**  
4 **AND DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS.**

5 The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
6 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) is amended by striking section 505  
7 and inserting the following:

8 **“SEC. 505. REPORT ON DATA CAPABILITY AND INTEROPER-**  
9 **ABILITY OF FEDERAL AND STATE DATABASES**  
10 **AND DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the  
12 United States shall prepare and submit an interim report  
13 and a final report to Congress regarding existing Federal  
14 and State databases and data exchange agreements, as of  
15 the date of the report, and the interoperability of data in  
16 such databases and agreements, that contain job training  
17 information relevant to the administration of programs  
18 authorized under this Act (as amended by the A Stronger  
19 Workforce for America Act of 2026) and the amendments  
20 made by this Act (as so amended).

21 “(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The report required under  
22 subsection (a) shall—

23 “(1) list existing Federal and State databases  
24 and data exchange agreements described in sub-  
25 section (a) and, for each, describe—

1           “(A) the purposes of the database or  
2 agreement;

3           “(B) the data elements, such as wage and  
4 employment outcomes, contained in the data-  
5 base or accessible under the agreement;

6           “(C) the data elements described in sub-  
7 paragraph (B) that are shared between States;

8           “(D) the Federal and State workforce  
9 training programs from which each Federal and  
10 State database derives the data elements de-  
11 scribed in subparagraph (B);

12           “(E) the number and type of common data  
13 elements across such databases and data ex-  
14 change agreements;

15           “(F) the number and type of Federal and  
16 State agencies having access to such data;

17           “(G) the number and type of private re-  
18 search organizations having access to, through  
19 grants, contracts, or other agreements, such  
20 data;

21           “(H) whether the database or data ex-  
22 change agreement provides for opt-out proce-  
23 dures for individuals whose data is shared  
24 through the database or data exchange agree-  
25 ment; and



1           “(I) the volume of data being shared and  
2           applied to improve performance accountability  
3           and effectiveness of programs under this Act;

4           “(2) study the effects that access by State  
5           workforce agencies and the Secretary of Labor to  
6           the databases and data exchange agreements de-  
7           scribed in subsection (a) would have on efforts to  
8           carry out this Act and the amendments made by this  
9           Act, and on individual privacy;

10          “(3) explore opportunities to enhance—

11               “(A) the quality, reliability, timeliness, and  
12               reporting frequency of the data included in such  
13               databases and data exchange agreements; and

14               “(B) the commonality and interoperability  
15               of data elements included in such databases and  
16               data exchange agreements;

17          “(4) describe, for each database or data ex-  
18          change agreement considered by the study described  
19          in subsection (a), the number of individuals whose  
20          data is contained in each database or accessible  
21          through the data agreement, and the specific data  
22          elements contained in each that could be used to  
23          personally identify an individual;

1           “(5) include the number of data breaches hav-  
2           ing occurred since 2014 to data systems adminis-  
3           tered by Federal and State agencies;

4           “(6) include the number of data breaches re-  
5           garding any type of personal data having occurred  
6           since 2014 to private research organizations with  
7           whom Federal and State agencies contract for stud-  
8           ies;

9           “(7) include a survey of the security protocols  
10          used for protecting personal data, including best  
11          practices shared amongst States for access to, and  
12          administration of, data elements stored and rec-  
13          ommendations for improving security protocols for  
14          the safe warehousing of data elements;

15          “(8) include an evaluation of the State wage  
16          interchange system developed by the Department of  
17          Labor and report on the effectiveness of the system  
18          in facilitating data exchange between State agencies  
19          for the purpose of assessing and reporting on State  
20          and local performance for the programs authorized  
21          under this Act;

22          “(9) include an assessment of the feasibility,  
23          costs, and potential impacts of establishing federally-  
24          designated, transparent, interoperable, and non-  
25          proprietary data exchange standards using human

1 readable and machine actionable data formats for  
2 necessary categories of information that a State  
3 agency operating a program under this Act may re-  
4 ceive through each database or data exchange agree-  
5 ment described in subsection (a);

6 “(10) include a survey of—

7 “(A) customer service and outcome man-  
8 agement systems utilized by States for pro-  
9 grams under each title of this Act;

10 “(B) the level of interoperability (if any) of  
11 such systems;

12 “(C) whether any State has successfully  
13 connected such a system serving a program  
14 under a title of this Act with such a system  
15 serving a program under another title of this  
16 Act; and

17 “(D) the benefits achieved through any  
18 such connection; and

19 “(11) describe the most significant develop-  
20 ments and advancements pertaining to Federal and  
21 State databases and data exchange agreements de-  
22 scribed in subsection (a) since the final report was  
23 submitted by the Comptroller General to Congress  
24 under this section, as in effect on the day before the

1 date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for  
2 America Act of 2026.

3 “(c) TIMING OF REPORTS.—

4 “(1) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 18  
5 months after the date of enactment of the A Stronger  
6 er Workforce for America Act of 2026, the Comp-  
7 troller General shall prepare and submit to Congress  
8 an interim report regarding the initial findings of  
9 the report required under this section.

10 “(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years  
11 after the date of enactment of the A Stronger Work-  
12 force for America Act of 2026, the Comptroller Gen-  
13 eral shall prepare and submit to Congress the final  
14 report required under this section.”.

15 **SEC. 502. EFFECTIVE DATES; TRANSITION AUTHORITY.**

16 (a) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—This Act, and the amend-  
18 ments made by this Act, shall take effect on the first  
19 day of the first full program year after the date of  
20 enactment of this Act, except as otherwise provided  
21 in this Act.

22 (2) PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYS-  
23 TEM.—The amendments made to section 116 of the  
24 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
25 U.S.C. 3141) by this Act shall take effect on the

1 first day of the second full program year after the  
2 date of enactment of this Act, except that—

3 (A) the amendments to clauses (iii)  
4 through (v) of subsection (b)(3)(A) of that sec-  
5 tion 116 shall take effect on January 1, 2027;  
6 and

7 (B) the amendment to paragraph (1) of  
8 subsection (d) of that section 116, the amend-  
9 ments to subsections (i) and (j) of that section  
10 116 that are made by section 119(g) of this  
11 Act, and the amendment to subsection (k) of  
12 that section 116, shall take effect on the day  
13 that is 1 year after the date of enactment of  
14 this Act.

15 (3) ONE-STOP DELIVERY SYSTEM.—The amend-  
16 ments made to section 121 of the Workforce Innova-  
17 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3151) by this  
18 Act shall take effect on the first day of the second  
19 full program year after the date of enactment of this  
20 Act.

21 (4) YOUTH WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVI-  
22 TIES.—The amendments made to section 129 of the  
23 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
24 U.S.C. 3164) by this Act shall take effect on the

1 first day of the second full program year after the  
2 date of enactment of this Act.

3 (5) ADULT AND DISLOCATED WORKER ACTIVITIES.—The amendments made to section 134 of the  
4 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
5 U.S.C. 3174) by this Act shall take effect on the  
6 first day of the second full program year after the  
7 date of enactment of this Act.  
8

9 (6) JOB CORPS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION  
10 REQUIREMENTS.—The amendments made to section  
11 159 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
12 Act (29 U.S.C. 3209) by this Act shall take effect  
13 on the first day of the second full program year  
14 after the date of enactment of this Act.

15 (b) TRANSITION AUTHORITY.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to section 503(a)  
17 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
18 (29 U.S.C. 3343(a)), the Secretary of Labor shall,  
19 effective on the date of enactment of this Act, have  
20 the authority to take such steps as are necessary to  
21 provide for the orderly implementation of the  
22 amendments to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) by this Act,  
23 including addressing cross references to provisions  
24

1 specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection  
2 (a)(2).

3 (2) TERMINATION.—The authority described in  
4 paragraph (1) shall terminate on the first day of the  
5 second full program year after the date of enactment  
6 of this Act.

7 (c) TRANSITION PERIOD FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—

8 (1) ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS OF TRAINING SERV-  
9 ICES.—Each Governor and local board shall imple-  
10 ment the requirements of section 122 of the Work-  
11 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
12 3152), as amended by this Act, not later than the  
13 first day of the second full program year after the  
14 date of enactment of this Act. In order to facilitate  
15 early implementation of that section 122, the Gov-  
16 ernor may establish transition procedures under  
17 which eligible providers of training services under  
18 chapter 1 of subtitle B of title I of the Workforce  
19 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3151 et  
20 seq.), as such chapter was in effect on the day be-  
21 fore the date of enactment of this Act, may continue  
22 to be eligible to provide such services until December  
23 31, 2027, or until such earlier date as the Governor  
24 determines to be appropriate.

25 (2) STATE PLANS AND LOCAL PLANS.—

1 (A) MODIFICATION OF PLANS.—Not later  
2 than the first day of the second full program  
3 year after the date of enactment of this Act—

4 (i) each Governor of a State shall sub-  
5 mit to the Secretary of Labor any modi-  
6 fications to the State plan in effect for  
7 such State that are necessary for the State  
8 plan to comply with the amendments made  
9 by this Act to section 102 of the Workforce  
10 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
11 U.S.C. 3112); and

12 (ii) each local board shall submit to  
13 the Governor of a State any modifications  
14 to the local plan in effect for the local area  
15 served by the local board that are nec-  
16 essary for the local plan to comply with the  
17 amendments made by this Act to section  
18 108 of the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
19 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3123).

20 (B) NEW PLANS.—Not later than the first  
21 day of the fourth full program year after the  
22 date of enactment of this Act—

23 (i) each Governor of a State shall sub-  
24 mit to the Secretary of Labor a new State  
25 plan for such State that complies with the



1 requirements of section 102 of the Work-  
2 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
3 U.S.C. 3112), as amended by this Act; and

4 (ii) each local board shall submit to  
5 the Governor of a State a new local plan  
6 for the local area served by the local board  
7 that complies with the requirements of sec-  
8 tion 108 of the Workforce Innovation and  
9 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3123), as  
10 amended by this Act.

11 (3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the  
12 terms “local board”, “local plan”, “State”, “State  
13 plan”, and “training services” have the meanings  
14 given the terms in section 3 of the Workforce Inno-  
15 vation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

16 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

17 (1) REPEAL.—Subsections (a) through (e) of  
18 section 503 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
19 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3343) are repealed.

20 (2) REGULATIONS.—Section 503 of such Act is  
21 amended—

22 (A) by redesignating subsections (f) and  
23 (g) as subsections (a) and (b), respectively;

24 (B) by amending subsection (a), as so re-  
25 designated, to read as follows:

1 “(a) REGULATIONS.—

2 “(1) PROPOSED REGULATIONS.—Not later than  
3 180 days after the date of enactment of the A  
4 Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026, the  
5 Secretary shall develop and publish in the Federal  
6 Register proposed regulations relating to the transi-  
7 tion to, and implementation of, the A Stronger  
8 Workforce for America Act of 2026, including the  
9 amendments to this Act made by the A Stronger  
10 Workforce for America Act of 2026.

11 “(2) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than 12  
12 months after the date of enactment of the A Strong-  
13 er Workforce for America Act of 2026, the Secretary  
14 shall develop and publish in the Federal Register  
15 final regulations relating to the transition to, and  
16 implementation of, the A Stronger Workforce for  
17 America Act of 2026, including the amendments to  
18 this Act made by the A Stronger Workforce for  
19 America Act of 2026.”; and

20 (C) in subsection (b), as so redesignated,  
21 by striking “subsection (f)” and inserting “sub-  
22 section (a)”.

1           (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made  
2       by this subsection shall take effect on the date of en-  
3       actment of this Act.

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