

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 733

To provide for regional skills training alliances, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 1999

Mr. MORAN of Virginia (for himself and Mr. DREIER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To provide for regional skills training alliances, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Regional Skills Train-
5 ing Alliances Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION.**

7 For purposes of this Act, the term “Secretary”
8 means the Secretary of Commerce.

TITLE 1—SKILL GRANTS

SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall provide grants to eligible entities described in subsection (b) to assist such entities to improve the job skills necessary for employment in specific industries.

(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES DESCRIBED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity described in this subsection is a consortium that—

(A) shall consist of representatives from not less than 10 businesses (or a non-profit organization that represents not less than 10 businesses); and

(B) may consist of representatives from one or more of the following:

(i) Labor organizations.

(ii) State and local government.

(iii) Educational institutions.

(2) MAJORITY OF REPRESENTATIVES.—A majority of the representatives comprising the consortium shall be representatives described in paragraph (1)(A).

1 (3) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.—To the maxi-
2 mum extent practicable, each business, organization,
3 or government that forms an eligible entity under
4 paragraph (1) shall be located in the same geo-
5 graphic region of the United States.

6 (c) PRIORITY FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.—In provid-
7 ing grants under subsection (a), the Secretary shall give
8 priority to an eligible entity if a majority of representatives
9 forming the entity represent small-business concerns, as
10 described in section 3(a) of the Small Business Act (15
11 U.S.C. 632(a)).

12 (d) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT.—The amount of
13 a grant provided to an eligible entity under subsection (a)
14 may not exceed \$1,000,000 for any fiscal year.

15 **SEC. 102. APPLICATION.**

16 (a) CERTAIN STATES WITH MULTIPLE CONSOR-
17 TIA.—In a State in which two or more eligible entities seek
18 grants under section 101 for a fiscal year, as determined
19 by the Governor of the State, the Governor may solicit
20 proposals from the entities concerning the activities to be
21 carried out under the grants. If the Governor solicits such
22 proposals, based on the proposals received, the Governor
23 shall submit an application on behalf of 1 or more of the
24 entities to the Secretary at such time, in such manner,
25 and containing such information as the Secretary may rea-

1 sonably require. The provisions of this title relating to eli-
2 gible entities shall apply to each of the entities for which
3 the Governor applies.

4 (b) OTHER STATES.—In a State in which only one
5 eligible entity seeks a grant under section 101 for a fiscal
6 year, as determined by the Governor of the State, or in
7 which the Governor does not solicit proposals as described
8 in subsection (a), the Secretary may not provide a grant
9 under section 101 to the eligible entity unless such entity
10 submits to the Secretary an application at such time, in
11 such manner, and containing such information as the Sec-
12 retary may reasonably require.

13 **SEC. 103. USE OF AMOUNTS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not provide a
15 grant under section 101 to an eligible entity unless such
16 entity agrees to use amounts received from such grant to
17 improve the job skills necessary for employment by busi-
18 nesses in the industry with respect to which such entity
19 was established.

20 (b) CONDUCT OF PROGRAM.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program
22 described in subsection (a), the eligible entity may
23 provide for—

24 (A) an assessment of training and job skill
25 needs for the industry;

1 (B) development of a sequence of skill
2 standards that are benchmarked to advanced
3 industry practices;

4 (C) development of curriculum and train-
5 ing methods;

6 (D) purchase, lease, or receipt of donations
7 of training equipment;

8 (E) identification of training providers;

9 (F) development of apprenticeship pro-
10 grams;

11 (G) development of training programs for
12 dislocated workers;

13 (H) development of the membership of the
14 entity;

15 (I) provision of training programs for
16 workers; and

17 (J) development of training plans for busi-
18 nesses.

19 (2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.—In carrying
20 out the program described in subsection (a), the eli-
21 gible entity shall provide for development and track-
22 ing of performance outcome measures for the pro-
23 gram and the training providers involved in the pro-
24 gram.

1 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The eligible entity
2 may use not more than 10 percent of the amount of a
3 grant to pay for administrative costs associated with the
4 program described in subsection (a).

5 **SEC. 104. REQUIREMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS.**

6 The Secretary may not provide a grant under section
7 101 to an eligible entity unless such entity agrees that—

8 (1) it will make available non-Federal contribu-
9 tions toward the costs of carrying out activities
10 under section 103 in an amount that is not less than
11 \$2 for each \$1 of Federal funds provided under a
12 grant under section 101; and

13 (2) of such non-Federal contributions, not less
14 than \$1 of each such \$2 shall be from businesses
15 participating in the eligible entity.

16 **SEC. 105. LIMIT ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.**

17 The Secretary may use not more than 5 percent of
18 the funds made available to carry out this title to pay for
19 Federal administrative costs associated with making
20 grants under this title.

21 **SEC. 106. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
23 this Act \$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2000,
24 2001, and 2002.

1 **TITLE II—PLANNING GRANTS**

2 **SEC. 201. AUTHORIZATION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce, act-
4 ing through the Director of the National Institute of
5 Standards and Technology, and in consultation with the
6 Secretary of Labor, shall provide grants to States to en-
7 able the States to assist businesses, organizations, and
8 agencies described in section 101(b) in conducting plan-
9 ning to form consortia described in such section.

10 (b) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT.—The amount of
11 a grant provided to a State under subsection (a) may not
12 exceed \$500,000 for any fiscal year.

13 **SEC. 202. APPLICATION.**

14 The Secretary may not provide a grant under section
15 201 to a State unless such State submits to the Secretary
16 an application at such time, in such manner, and contain-
17 ing such information as the Secretary may reasonably re-
18 quire.

19 **SEC. 203. REQUIREMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS.**

20 The Secretary may not provide a grant under section
21 201 to a State unless such State agrees that it will make
22 available non-Federal contributions toward the costs of
23 carrying out activities under this title in an amount that
24 is not less than \$1 for each \$1 of Federal funds provided
25 under a grant under section 201.

1 **SEC. 204. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
3 this title \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.

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