107TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. R. 5015

To promote workforce development in rural areas and assist low income residents of rural communities in moving from welfare to work.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 25, 2002

Mrs. Clayton introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To promote workforce development in rural areas and assist low income residents of rural communities in moving from welfare to work.

- 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 "Rural Self-Sufficiency
- 5 and Workforce Advancement Act".
- 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
- 7 The Congress finds the following:
- 8 (1) Unemployment and underemployment rates
- 9 are higher in rural than in urban areas.

| 1 | (2) Jobs in rural areas are more heavily con- |
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| 2 | centrated in minimum wage, part-time, and seasonal |
| 3 | employment than in urban areas. |
| 4 | (3) Average earnings are lower and poverty |
| 5 | rates are higher in rural areas than in urban areas |
| 6 | (4) Work support services such as education |
| 7 | and job training, child care, and public transpor- |
| 8 | tation are less available in rural areas. |
| 9 | (5) Rural residents have less formal education |
| 10 | than do urban residents. |
| 11 | (6) Overall, the barriers to successfully moving |
| 12 | from welfare to work and to achieving economic sta- |
| 13 | bility and security among low-income families are |
| 14 | greater in rural than in urban and suburban areas |
| 15 | (7) Research on rural welfare reform has shown |
| 16 | that— |
| 17 | (A) State welfare reform programs have |
| 18 | found positive impacts on long-term welfare re- |
| 19 | cipients in urban areas but not in rural areas |
| 20 | (B) employment, earnings, and poverty |
| 21 | outcomes have been found to be worse for rura |
| 22 | single mothers than for urban single mothers |
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during the 1990s; and

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| 1 | (C) there is some evidence that it is more |
| 2 | difficult to reduce welfare caseloads in rural |
| 3 | areas than in urban ones. |
| 4 | (8) One of the main purposes of the 1996 wel- |
| 5 | fare reform law was to move all low-income families |
| 6 | toward economic self-sufficiency and not just those |
| 7 | residing in urban and suburban areas. |
| 8 | (9) Therefore, additional jobs, work supports, |
| 9 | and targeted resources are needed to support low-in- |
| 10 | come residents of rural areas in entering the work- |
| 11 | force and moving towards self-sufficiency. |
| 12 | SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR TRANSITIONAL JOBS PROGRAMS. |
| 13 | (a) In General.—The Secretary of Health and |
| 14 | Human Services (in this section referred to as the "Sec- |
| 15 | retary") shall make grants among eligible applicants, on |
| 16 | a competitive basis, in accordance with this section. |
| 17 | (b) Application Requirements.—An entity desir- |
| 18 | ing to receive a grant under this section shall submit to |
| 19 | the Secretary an application in such form and manner and |
| 20 | at such time as the Secretary may require. Any such appli- |
| 21 | cation shall include a description of— |
| 22 | (1) the local labor market of the eligible rural |
| 23 | area, the barriers that low income individuals face in |
| 24 | the labor market, and the problems associated with |

implementing welfare reform in the area;

- 1 (2) how the applicant's use of grant funds 2 under subsection (d) will address the problems re-3 ferred to in paragraph (1); and
- 4 (3) the criteria which the applicant will use to 5 select entities to participate in the provision of tran-6 sitional jobs and employment services under a tran-7 sitional jobs program established by the applicant, 8 as described in subsection (e).
- 9 (c) Basis for Competition.—In determining 10 whether to make a grant to an applicant under this sec-11 tion, the Secretary shall consider the following:
 - (1) The percentage by which the national average unemployment or poverty rate is exceeded by the unemployment or poverty rate in the area in which the program proposed in the application would seek to provide transitional jobs.
 - (2) The extent to which the program proposed in the application would be effective in helping the program participants achieve stable employment and job advancement.
 - (3) The extent to which the program proposed in the application would seek to place participants in transitional jobs that expand the diversity of the local economy and that are not in traditional rural

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| 1 | occupations such as agriculture, mining, and for- |
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| 2 | estry. |
| 3 | (4) The extent to which the program proposed |
| 4 | in the application was developed in consultation and |
| 5 | coordination with appropriate stakeholders in the eli- |
| 6 | gible rural areas, including— |
| 7 | (A) potential program participants; |
| 8 | (B) employers; |
| 9 | (C) labor organizations; |
| 10 | (D) community-based organizations; and |
| 11 | (E) units of local government. |
| 12 | (d) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.— |
| 13 | (1) IN GENERAL.—Each grantee shall use the |
| 14 | grant funds to— |
| 15 | (A) establish a transitional jobs program |
| 16 | as described in subsection (e); |
| 17 | (B) provide each program participant with |
| 18 | an individualized plan of services as described |
| 19 | in subsection (f); and |
| 20 | (C) prepare and submit the reports de- |
| 21 | scribed in subsection (g). |
| 22 | (2) Limitation on administrative ex- |
| 23 | PENSES.—A grantee shall not use more than 10 per- |
| 24 | cent of the grant funds for administrative expenses |

- 1 (including expenses associated with preparing and 2 submitting the reports described in subsection (g)).
- (e) REQUIREMENTS FOR A TRANSITIONAL JOBS PRO-GRAM.—With respect to the transitional jobs program of
- 5 the grantee, the grantee shall ensure the following:

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- 6 (1) In General.—The transitional jobs pro-7 gram shall—
 - (A) place each program participant in a position of employment with an employer in the eligible rural area; and
 - (B) provide for the reimbursement of each such employer in an amount equal to 100 percent (50 percent in the case of any for-profit employer) of the sum of all wages paid to each program participant employed by such employer and all payroll taxes required to be paid by such employer with respect to each such participant.
 - MEANS TEST FOR PROGRAM PARTICI-PANTS.—Each program participant shall be an individual who has income that is less than 185 percent of the poverty line (as defined in section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, including any revision required by such section, applicable to a family of the size involved), and not less

- than 50 percent of all such participants in the program shall have income that is less than 100 percent of the poverty line (as of the date that such participants enroll in the program).
 - (3) DURATION OF EMPLOYMENT.—A program participant shall not be placed in a position of employment for more than 12 months.
 - (4) MINIMUM WAGE.—A program participant shall not be placed in a position of employment which is compensated at a rate less than the greatest applicable minimum wage provided under Federal or State law.

(5) Hours per week.—

- (A) IN GENERAL.—Each program participant shall be placed in a position of employment which provides for such number of hours of employment per week as equals or exceeds the relevant minimum and does not exceed the relevant maximum.
- (B) Relevant Maximum.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term "relevant maximum" means, with respect to any program participant for any week, the difference between 40 and the number of hours such participant

| 1 | participates in counseling, training, and services |
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| 2 | during such week under subsection $(f)(3)$. |
| 3 | (C) Relevant minimum.—For purposes |
| 4 | of subparagraph (A) and except as provided in |
| 5 | subparagraph (D), the term "relevant min- |
| 6 | imum" means, with respect to any program |
| 7 | participant for any week, the difference between |
| 8 | 30 and the number of hours such participant |
| 9 | participates in counseling, training, and services |
| 10 | during such week under subsection $(f)(3)$. |
| 11 | (D) EXCEPTION TO RELEVANT MIN- |
| 12 | IMUM.—With respect to any program partici- |
| 13 | pant for any week, the relevant minimum may |
| 14 | be determined by substituting "20" for "30" in |
| 15 | subparagraph (C) if such participant— |
| 16 | (i) is a parent with a child who— |
| 17 | (I) has not attained 6 years of |
| 18 | age; |
| 19 | (II) is disabled; or |
| 20 | (III) has other special needs; or |
| 21 | (ii) is an individual, or a member of |
| 22 | a class of individuals, identified by the Sec- |
| 23 | retary for purposes of this clause as eligi- |
| 24 | ble for reduced hours. |

| 1 | (6) Requirements related to worker pro- |
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| 2 | TECTIONS.—With respect to the program, the grant- |
| 3 | ee shall ensure the following: |
| 4 | (A) LIMIT ON PROGRAM PARTICIPATION.— |
| 5 | An employer with more than 20 employees shall |
| 6 | not employ a program participant if more than |
| 7 | 5 percent of such employer's workforce would |
| 8 | consist of program participants as a result of |
| 9 | such employment. An employer with 20 or |
| 10 | fewer employees shall not employ more than 1 |
| 11 | program participant at a time or employ any |
| 12 | program participant for more than 12 months |
| 13 | during any 18-month period. |
| 14 | (B) Nondisplacement.—An employer |
| 15 | shall not— |
| 16 | (i) displace an employee or position |
| 17 | (including partial displacement such as re- |
| 18 | duction in hours, wages, or benefits) or im- |
| 19 | pair a contract or collective bargaining |
| 20 | agreement, as a result of the employment |
| 21 | of a program participant, or |
| 22 | (ii) assign any program participant to |
| 23 | fill any established unfilled vacancy or to |
| 24 | perform any service, duty, or activity with |
| 25 | respect to which an individual has recall |

| 1 | rights pursuant to a collective bargaining |
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| 2 | agreement or applicable personnel proce- |
| 3 | dures, or which had been performed by or |
| 4 | assigned to an employee who— |
| 5 | (I) resigned or was discharged |
| 6 | during the preceding 12 months; |
| 7 | (II) is subject to a reduction in |
| 8 | force; |
| 9 | (III) is on leave; |
| 10 | (IV) is on strike; or |
| 11 | (V) is being locked out. |
| 12 | (C) Promotional opportunity.—An |
| 13 | employer shall not assign any program partici- |
| 14 | pant to an employment position if any employee |
| 15 | of such employer is eligible and qualified to be |
| 16 | promoted to such position. |
| 17 | (D) Consultation.—Before placing any |
| 18 | program participant, the grantee shall consult |
| 19 | with the appropriate local labor organizations |
| 20 | representing employees in the area who are en- |
| 21 | gaged in the same or similar work as that pro- |
| 22 | posed for the participant, to ensure compliance |
| 23 | with this paragraph. |
| 24 | (f) Requirements for Individualized Plans of |
| 25 | Services.— |

| 1 | (1) IN GENERAL.—The grantee shall develop an |
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| 2 | individual plan of services for each program partici- |
| 3 | pant designed to prepare such participant for em- |
| 4 | ployment positions available in the local economy |
| 5 | which offer the potential for advancement and |
| 6 | growth. |
| 7 | (2) Counseling and training.—Each plan |
| 8 | developed under paragraph (1) shall provide for— |
| 9 | (A) case management services to monitor |
| 10 | the progress of the participant; |
| 11 | (B) appropriate education, training, and |
| 12 | other services to prepare the participant for em- |
| 13 | ployment; |
| 14 | (C) job placement assistance; and |
| 15 | (D) counseling and other services to aid |
| 16 | the participant in obtaining and retaining em- |
| 17 | ployment. |
| 18 | (3) Duration.—Each plan developed under |
| 19 | paragraph (1) shall provide for at least 6 (and not |
| 20 | more than 15) hours per week of counseling, train- |
| 21 | ing, and services for each program participant dur- |
| 22 | ing the 24-month period beginning on the date that |
| 23 | such participant is placed in a position of employ- |

ment under the program.

| 1 | (4) STIPEND.—Under each plan developed |
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| 2 | under paragraph (1), the grantee shall pay the pro- |
| 3 | gram participant a weekly stipend in an amount |
| 4 | equal to the product of— |
| 5 | (A) the hourly wage earned by such partic- |
| 6 | ipant in the position of employment in which |
| 7 | such participant is placed under the program, |
| 8 | and |
| 9 | (B) the number of hours of counseling, |
| 10 | training, and services in which the participant |
| 11 | took part during such week. |
| 12 | (g) Annual Reports.— |
| 13 | (1) In general.—Each grantee shall submit to |
| 14 | the Secretary an annual report described in para- |
| 15 | graph (2) for each year during which any program |
| 16 | participant participated in a transitional jobs pro- |
| 17 | gram under subsection (e) or received a stipend |
| 18 | under subsection $(f)(4)$. |
| 19 | (2) FORM AND CONTENTS.—Each report sub- |
| 20 | mitted under paragraph (1) shall be submitted at |
| 21 | such time and in such form and manner as the Sec- |
| 22 | retary may require, and shall include— |
| 23 | (A) demographic information about each |
| 24 | participant, including education level, literacy |
| 25 | level, and prior work experience; |

| 1 | (B) the identity of each entity that pro- |
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| 2 | vided counseling, training, or services to any |
| 3 | participant under subsection (f) and a descrip- |
| 4 | tion of the counseling, training, or services so |
| 5 | provided; |
| 6 | (C) the number of participants who left the |
| 7 | program before completing the program and the |
| 8 | reasons therefore; |
| 9 | (D) the number of participants who did |
| 10 | and did not secure unsubsidized employment |
| 11 | during— |
| 12 | (i) the 60-day period beginning on the |
| 13 | date that such participant completed the |
| 14 | program; and |
| 15 | (ii) the 60-day period beginning on |
| 16 | the date that such participant completed |
| 17 | the plan of services described in subsection |
| 18 | (f); and |
| 19 | (E) information regarding the unsubsidized |
| 20 | employment secured by participants during the |
| 21 | periods described in subparagraph (D), includ- |
| 22 | ing industry, occupation, starting wages and |
| 23 | hours, availability of employer sponsored health |
| 24 | insurance, and sick and vacation leave. |
| 25 | (h) Program Assessment.— |

- 1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct 2 a study regarding the employment and earnings sta-3 tus of program participants as of the date which is 4 12 months after the date such participant completes 5 the plan of services described in subsection (f).
 - (2) STATISTICAL SAMPLING.—The Secretary shall conduct the study under paragraph (1) by using such method of statistical sampling as the Secretary determines appropriate to obtain an accurate representation of the employment and earnings status of all program participants.
 - (3) Grantee cooperation.—Each grantee shall provide such information as the Secretary may request for purposes of carrying out this subsection.
 - (4) Report.—The Secretary shall submit a report to Congress describing the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1) and including such conclusions, analysis, and recommendations as the Secretary considers appropriate.
- 20 (i) Deadline for Expenditure of Grant 21 Funds.—
- 22 (1) RETURN OF UNEXPENDED FUNDS.—A
 23 grantee to which funds are provided under this sec24 tion shall remit to the Secretary any portion of such
 25 funds which are not expended within 3 years after

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- date on which such funds are received by the grantee, except to the extent that the grantee demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that
 the grantee had good cause for not expending the
 funds.
- 6 (2) REDISTRIBUTION OF UNEXPENDED
 7 FUNDS.—The Secretary shall redistribute any funds
 8 remitted under paragraph (1) among other eligible
 9 applicants who have not received a grant under this
 10 section.

(j) REGULATIONS AND NONCOMPLIANCE.—

- (1) REGULATIONS.—Within 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section, including procedures for the reporting of alleged violations of this section and remedies for such violations.
- (2) Noncompliance.—If a grantee fails to comply with any requirement of this title, the Secretary may take such actions as are necessary to obtain reimbursement of any grant funds which were misused or remain unused.
- 23 (k) Definitions.—In this section:
- 24 (1) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—The term "eligible applicant" means any of the following:

| 1 | (A) A unit of local government. |
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| 2 | (B) A community-based non-profit organi- |
| 3 | zation. |
| 4 | (C) A labor organization. |
| 5 | (D) An Indian tribe (as defined in section |
| 6 | 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu- |
| 7 | cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b)). |
| 8 | (E) A community, technical, or vocational |
| 9 | college. |
| 10 | (F) A local welfare, human service, or |
| 11 | workforce development agency. |
| 12 | (G) An entity determined to be appropriate |
| 13 | by the Secretary. |
| 14 | (H) A combination of the entities described |
| 15 | in this paragraph. |
| 16 | (2) Eligible rural area.— |
| 17 | (A) IN GENERAL.—Within 180 days after |
| 18 | the date of the enactment of this section, the |
| 19 | Secretary shall define the term "eligible rura |
| 20 | area" for purposes of this section. |
| 21 | (B) Considerations.—The Secretary |
| 22 | shall consider including in the definition the fol- |
| 23 | lowing factors: |
| 24 | (i) Poverty level. |

| 1 | (ii) Trends pertaining to persistent |
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| 2 | poverty, joblessness, and population loss. |
| 3 | (iii) Loss of agricultural or other nat- |
| 4 | ural resource-based employment. |
| 5 | (iv) Significant labor market depend- |
| 6 | ency on a single industry sector. |
| 7 | (l) Appropriations.— |
| 8 | (1) In general.—Out of any money in the |
| 9 | Treasury of the United States not otherwise appro- |
| 10 | priated, there are appropriated to the Secretary |
| 11 | \$75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through |
| 12 | 2007 to carry out this section. |
| 13 | (2) Limitation on use of funds for admin- |
| 14 | ISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of any amount made avail- |
| 15 | able under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year, not more |
| 16 | than 10 percent of such amount may be used by the |
| 17 | Secretary for administrative expenses and evalua- |
| 18 | tions. |
| 19 | SEC. 4. GRANTS TO IMPLEMENT RURAL WORKFORCE IN- |
| 20 | VESTMENT PLANS. |
| 21 | (a) Purposes.—The purposes of this section are— |
| 22 | (1) to provide rural communities with flexible |
| 23 | resources to address labor market and workforce de- |
| 24 | ficiencies; |

| 1 | (2) to implement innovative community and |
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| 2 | workforce development strategies that strengthen |
| 3 | rural economies and provide low-income individuals |
| 4 | with jobs that will enable them to become economi- |
| 5 | cally independent; and |
| 6 | (3) to provide the targeted resources necessary |
| 7 | to ensure that rural, economically depressed regions |
| 8 | do not continue to fall behind urban and suburban |
| 9 | regions in welfare reform efforts. |
| 10 | (b) Grant Authority.—The Secretary of Health |
| 11 | and Human Services (in this section referred to as the |
| 12 | "Secretary") shall make grants among eligible applicants. |
| 13 | on a competitive basis, in accordance with this section. |
| 14 | (c) Application Requirements.—An entity desir- |
| 15 | ing to receive a grant under this section shall submit to |
| 16 | the Secretary an application at such time and in such form |
| 17 | and manner as the Secretary may require. Any such appli- |
| 18 | cation shall include a proposed rural workforce investment |
| 19 | plan described in subsection (d). |
| 20 | (d) Rural Workforce Investment Plan.— |
| 21 | (1) Plan requirements.—Any rural work- |
| 22 | force investment plan submitted by the applicant |
| 23 | shall include— |
| 24 | (A) a description of the workforce needs of |
| 25 | the eligible rural area; |

| 1 | (B) a description of the basic services in |
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| 2 | the eligible rural area that are available to as |
| 3 | sist low-income individuals in achieving eco |
| 4 | nomic security and stability; |
| 5 | (C) a description of the opportunities for |
| 6 | economic diversification and innovation in the |
| 7 | eligible rural area, with particular attention to |
| 8 | entrepreneurial support and innovation; |
| 9 | (D) a description of the current and future |
| 10 | human resource capacity of the eligible rura |
| 11 | area; |
| 12 | (E) an identification of innovative public |
| 13 | and private collaborations in the eligible rura |
| 14 | area that will build workforce capacity and pro |
| 15 | vide low-income individuals with support in |
| 16 | achieving economic stability and security; |
| 17 | (F) a clear explanation of how the pro |
| 18 | posed activities and use of grant funds will in |
| 19 | crease the ability of low-income individuals to |
| 20 | get and keep jobs that lead to economic security |
| 21 | and stability; |
| 22 | (G) an identification of the entity which |
| 23 | will manage any grant funds awarded to such |
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applicant; and

| 1 | (H) a listing of annual performance goals |
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| 2 | and a description of the strategies to be used to |
| 3 | meet such goals. |
| 4 | (2) Workforce investment activities.— |
| 5 | The activities proposed to be carried out with grant |
| 6 | funds under the plan may include activities to— |
| 7 | (A) support the development and training |
| 8 | of rural workforces to facilitate the transition of |
| 9 | individuals from welfare to work and their |
| 10 | movement into jobs that provide them opportu- |
| 11 | nities for advancement; |
| 12 | (B) provide assistance to entities in the eli- |
| 13 | gible rural area that provide workforce develop- |
| 14 | ment services; |
| 15 | (C) assist with job training, workforce de- |
| 16 | velopment, and other needs related to the devel- |
| 17 | opment and maintenance of strong local and re- |
| 18 | gional economies including such facilities, infra- |
| 19 | structure, and other physical assets as are de- |
| 20 | termined by the Secretary; |
| 21 | (D) assist in the development of collabora- |
| 22 | tions that link public, private, and philanthropic |
| 23 | resources to achieve solutions to rural workforce |
| 24 | problems and enable low-income individuals re- |

| 1 | siding in rural areas to move from dependency |
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| 2 | to economic security; and |
| 3 | (E) provide funds that will enable commu- |
| 4 | nities to solve problems associated with the dis- |
| 5 | tance between rural residents and available |
| 6 | jobs. |
| 7 | (e) Basis for Competition.— |
| 8 | (1) Determinations by secretary.—The |
| 9 | Secretary shall not make a grant to an eligible appli- |
| 10 | cant under this section unless the Secretary has de- |
| 11 | termined that— |
| 12 | (A) the plan submitted by the applicant |
| 13 | meets the requirements of subsection (d); |
| 14 | (B) the management and organizational |
| 15 | structure of the applicant is sufficient to over- |
| 16 | see plan activities; |
| 17 | (C) the applicant is able to provide the |
| 18 | grantee share required by subsection (g); |
| 19 | (D) the applicant agrees to achieve, to the |
| 20 | maximum extent practicable, the annual per- |
| 21 | formance goals referred to in subsection |
| 22 | (d)(1)(H); |
| 23 | (E) the grant will not supplant non-Fed- |
| 24 | eral funds currently expended to support the |
| 25 | purposes of this section; |

| 1 | (F) the entity identified by the applicant to |
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| 2 | manage the grant funds meets such require- |
| 3 | ments as the Secretary shall establish to ensure |
| 4 | that such entity is qualified and reliable; and |
| 5 | (G) the applicant and the plan of such ap- |
| 6 | plicant adequately represents the interests of all |
| 7 | demographic groups in the eligible rural area. |
| 8 | (2) Preferences.—In awarding grants under |
| 9 | this section, the Secretary shall give a preference to |
| 10 | eligible applicants— |
| 11 | (A) that exhibit entrepreneurial innovation, |
| 12 | particularly in a public-private partnership; |
| 13 | (B) that represent a broad coalition of in- |
| 14 | terests described in subparagraphs (A) through |
| 15 | (G) of section $3(k)(1)$; |
| 16 | (C) that address deficiencies in job pro- |
| 17 | motion, job retention, and workforce develop- |
| 18 | ment services; |
| 19 | (D) that encourage economic diversifica- |
| 20 | tion in the eligible rural area; |
| 21 | (E) whose rural workforce investment plan |
| 22 | strengthens workforce and community develop- |
| 23 | ment so that low-income people can get and |
| 24 | keep jobs that will enable them to increase their |

| 1 | earnings and economic independence and sta- |
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| 2 | bility; |
| 3 | (F) from communities or regions where the |
| 4 | unemployment or poverty rate exceeds 120 per- |
| 5 | cent of the national average unemployment or |
| 6 | poverty rate; |
| 7 | (G) from the rural counties which are most |
| 8 | isolated from a population center; |
| 9 | (H) whose rural workforce investment plan |
| 10 | provides for collaboration and coordination with |
| 11 | local Workforce Investment Boards established |
| 12 | pursuant to section 117 of the Workforce In- |
| 13 | vestment Act of 1998, and transitional jobs |
| 14 | programs established under section 3 of this |
| 15 | Act; and |
| 16 | (I) whose rural workforce investment plan |
| 17 | addresses other workforce development needs |
| 18 | identified by the Secretary. |
| 19 | (f) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—Each grantee shall use |
| 20 | the grant funds to— |
| 21 | (1) implement the rural workforce investment |
| 22 | plan approved by the Secretary under subsection (e); |
| 23 | and |
| 24 | (2) prepare the annual reports described in sub- |
| 25 | section (h). |

1 (g) Cost Sharing.—

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- (1) In General.—Each grantee shall provide cash, services, materials, and other contributions (excluding grant funds), which have a combined value of not less than 25 percent of the grant funds, to carry out the activities described in subsection (f).
- 7 (2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the re-8 quirement of paragraph (1) with respect to any 9 grantee if the Secretary determines that such re-10 quirement would create a barrier to full participation 11 in the program.
- 12 (h) ANNUAL REPORTS.—With respect to each year 13 covered by the workforce investment plan, each grantee
- 14 shall submit to the Secretary a report at such time and
- 15 in such form and manner as the Secretary may require.
- 16 Each such report shall include a description of the grant-
- 17 ee's success or failure in meeting the annual performance
- 18 goals referred to in subsection (d)(1)(H).
- 19 (i) Duties of the Secretary.—The Secretary 20 shall—
- 21 (1) provide advice and technical assistance to 22 applicants and grantees regarding workforce devel-23 opment and the means by which to assist rural low-24 income individuals and families attain jobs, develop

- basic life skills, and achieve economic security and
 stability;
 - (2) evaluate the progress of grantees in achieving the annual performance goals referred to in subsection (d)(1)(H); and
 - (3) with respect to any year for which a grantee submits a report under subsection (h), submit a report to the President and to the Congress describing the effects on eligible rural areas of the grants made under this section and such other information as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(j) REGULATIONS AND NONCOMPLIANCE.—

- (1) REGULATIONS.—Within 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section, including procedures for the reporting of alleged violations of this section and remedies for such violations.
- (2) Noncompliance.—If a grantee fails to comply with any requirement of this title, the Secretary may take such actions as are necessary to obtain reimbursement of any grant funds which were misused or remain unused.
- 24 (k) Definitions.—In this section:

- 1 (1) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—The term "eligible 2 applicant" means a consortium of entities described 3 in subparagraphs (A) through (G) of section 3(k)(1) 4 which represent the public, nonprofit, and private 5 sector interests in the eligible rural area, including 6 the interests of demographic groups which compose 7 such sectors.
- 8 (2) ELIGIBLE RURAL AREA.—The term "eligible 9 rural area" has the meaning given such term under 10 section 3(k)(2).
- 11 (l) APPROPRIATIONS.—Out of any money in the 12 Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, 13 there are appropriated to the Secretary \$75,000,000 for 14 each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007 to carry out this 15 section.

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