

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1807

To amend the trade adjustment assistance program under the Trade Act of 1974 to establish a demonstration project to provide self-employment training and assistance to eligible adversely affected workers.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 11, 2003

Mr. REYNOLDS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To amend the trade adjustment assistance program under the Trade Act of 1974 to establish a demonstration project to provide self-employment training and assistance to eligible adversely affected workers.

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 “Trade Adjustment As-  
5 sistance for Self-Employment Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR SELF-EMPLOY-**  
2 **MENT TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE UNDER**  
3 **THE TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PRO-**  
4 **GRAM.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROJECT.—Subchapter C of  
6 chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C.  
7 2311 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 246  
8 the following new section:

9 **“SEC. 246A. DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR SELF-EMPLOY-**  
10 **MENT TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

12 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year  
13 after the date of enactment of the Trade Adjustment  
14 Assistance for Self-Employment Act of 2003, the  
15 Secretary shall establish an alternative trade adjust-  
16 ment assistance program for workers that provides  
17 the benefits described in paragraph (2).

18 “(2) BENEFITS.—

19 “(A) TRAINING.—A State shall use the  
20 funds provided to the State under section 241  
21 to provide, for a period not to exceed 2 years,  
22 to a worker described in paragraph (3)(B), self-  
23 employment training.

24 “(B) PAYMENT FOR START-UP COSTS.—A  
25 State shall use the funds provided to the State  
26 under section 241 to provide to a worker de-

1 scribed in paragraph (3)(B) who successfully  
2 completes the self-employment training de-  
3 scribed in subparagraph (A), and for which a  
4 self-employment business plan described in  
5 paragraph (3)(B)(ii) is approved, an amount to  
6 pay, in whole or in part, the start up costs at-  
7 tributable to the business enterprise of the indi-  
8 vidual.

9 “(3) ELIGIBILITY.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
11 provide the opportunity for 1 or more workers  
12 in a group of workers on whose behalf a peti-  
13 tion is filed under section 221 to request that  
14 the individual workers be certified for the alter-  
15 native trade adjustment assistance program  
16 under this section at the time the petition is  
17 filed. The Secretary shall determine whether the  
18 individual workers in the group are eligible for  
19 the alternative trade adjustment assistance pro-  
20 gram by the date specified in section 223(a).

21 “(B) INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY.—A worker  
22 that the Secretary has certified as eligible for  
23 the alternative trade adjustment assistance pro-  
24 gram under subparagraph (A) may elect to re-

1           ceive benefits under the alternative trade ad-  
2           justment assistance program if the worker—

3                   “(i) is covered by a certification under  
4                   subchapter A of this chapter;

5                   “(ii) agrees to submit to the appro-  
6                   priate State agency for approval a self-em-  
7                   ployment business plan;

8                   “(iii) is likely to obtain self-employ-  
9                   ment in accordance with such plan not  
10                  later than 26 weeks after the date of sepa-  
11                  ration from the adversely affected employ-  
12                  ment;

13                  “(iv) is likely to be engaged in self-  
14                  employment on a full-time basis; and

15                  “(v) is likely not to return to the em-  
16                  ployment from which the worker was sepa-  
17                  rated.

18           “(4) TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS.—

19                   “(A) TRAINING.—The amount of payments  
20                   described in paragraph (2)(A) made on behalf  
21                   of a worker may not exceed \$2,500 per worker  
22                   during the 2-year eligibility period.

23                   “(B) START-UP COSTS.—The amount of  
24                   payments described in paragraph (2)(B) made

1 to a worker may not exceed \$10,000 per worker  
2 during the 2-year eligibility period.

3 “(5) LIMITATION ON OTHER BENEFITS.—Ex-  
4 cept as provided in section 238(a)(2)(B), if a worker  
5 is receiving payments pursuant to the program es-  
6 tablished under paragraph (1), the worker shall not  
7 be eligible to receive any other benefits under this  
8 title.

9 “(b) TERMINATION.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
11 graph (2), no payments may be made by a State  
12 under the program established under subsection  
13 (a)(1) after the date that is 5 years after the date  
14 on which such program is implemented by the State.

15 “(2) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph  
16 (1), a worker receiving payments under the program  
17 established under subsection (a)(1) on the termi-  
18 nation date described in paragraph (1) shall con-  
19 tinue to receive such payments provided that the  
20 worker meets the criteria described in subsection  
21 (a)(3)(B).

22 “(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘self-em-  
23 ployment training’ means entrepreneurial training, busi-  
24 ness counseling, technical assistance, and related activi-  
25 ties, including training and services provided by federally-

1 funded resource partners of the Small Business Adminis-  
2 tration, that are engaged in for the purpose of establishing  
3 a business and becoming self-employed, as approved by the  
4 appropriate State agency, or the Secretary, in consultation  
5 with the Administrator of the Small Business Administra-  
6 tion.”.

7 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
8 tents of the Trade Act of 1974 is amended by striking  
9 the second item relating to section 246 and inserting the  
10 following:

“Sec. 246. Demonstration project for self-employment training and assist-  
ance.”.

11 **SEC. 3. BENEFIT INFORMATION TO WORKERS.**

12 Section 225(a) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C.  
13 2275(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following  
14 new sentence: “In providing full information to workers  
15 about benefit allowances, training, and other employment  
16 services available under this chapter in accordance with  
17 this subsection, the Secretary shall include information on  
18 the demonstration project for self-employment training  
19 and assistance under section 246A.”.

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