

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1729

To amend the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to the trade adjustment assistance program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 28, 2007

Mr. HAYES (for himself, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. COBLE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. SHULER, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, and Mr. WATT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to the trade adjustment assistance program, 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 “Trade Adjustment As-
5 sistance Reform Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF DISPLACED TEXTILE AND APPAREL**
2 **WORKERS FOR TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSIST-**
3 **ANCE.**

4 Section 222 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C.
5 2272) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)—

7 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
8 by striking “A group” and inserting “Subject to
9 subsection (d), a group”; and

10 (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by amending
11 clause (ii) to read as follows:

12 “(ii) there has been or is likely to be an in-
13 crease in imports of articles that are like or directly
14 competitive with articles which are or were produced
15 by such firm or subdivision.”; and

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

17 “(d) **TEXTILE AND APPAREL WORKERS.**—In the case
18 of workers in a firm that produces textiles or apparel prod-
19 ucts, the Secretary shall make the determination under
20 subsection (a) of the eligibility of such workers for trade
21 adjustment assistance under this chapter without regard
22 to paragraph (2) of subsection (a).”.

23 **SEC. 3. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES FOR STATES.**

24 Section 241 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C.
25 2313) is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(d) Funds that the Secretary provides to a State
2 to cover administrative costs associated with the perform-
3 ance of the State’s responsibilities under section 239 shall
4 be sufficient to cover all costs of the State associated with
5 operating the trade adjustment assistance program, in-
6 cluding case worker costs.”.

7 **SEC. 4. INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR TRAINING.**

8 Section 236(a)(2)(A) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19
9 U.S.C. 2296(a)(2)(A)) is amended by striking
10 “\$220,000,000” and inserting “\$440,000,000”.

11 **SEC. 5. INCREASE IN CREDIT FOR HEALTH INSURANCE**
12 **COSTS OF TAA AND PBGC PENSION RECIPI-**
13 **ENTS; SIMPLIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY DE-**
14 **TERMINATIONS.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 35 of the
16 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking
17 “65 percent” and inserting “80 percent”.

18 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b) of
19 section 7527 of such Code is amended by striking “65 per-
20 cent” and inserting “80 percent”.

21 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
22 this section shall apply to amounts paid in taxable years
23 beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

24 (d) JOINT PROGRAM TO SIMPLIFY TAA PROCESS.—
25 The Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Labor

1 shall each, after consultation with each other, carry out
2 compatible and coordinated programs to simplify the pro-
3 cess for individuals to become eligible for a trade readjust-
4 ment allowance, the credit allowed under section 35 of the
5 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the program for the
6 advance payment of such credit under section 7527 of
7 such Code.

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