

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4299

To authorize a capitalization of self-sustainable social services grant program to provide workforce development opportunities and training to people with barriers to employment.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. WATSON, Mr. CARNAHAN, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. DICKS, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. BRALEY of Iowa) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To authorize a capitalization of self-sustainable social services grant program to provide workforce development opportunities and training to people with barriers to employment.

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. CAPITALIZATION GRANTS TO BUILD JOBS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants
5 in accordance with this section for projects proposed by
6 eligible applicants who—

1 (1) demonstrate the potential effectiveness of
2 the proposed project to develop capitalization proce-
3 dures for the creation of jobs and the delivery of
4 self-sustainable social services to people with barriers
5 to employment; and

6 (2) provide evidence of the ability of the eligible
7 applicant to coordinate with community colleges and/
8 or other organizations at the State and local level.

9 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

10 (1) the term “capitalization procedures” means
11 the use of capital funding to build, renovate, provide
12 leasehold improvements, or purchase real property;

13 (2) the term “eligible applicant” means a non-
14 profit organization whose mission is to provide work-
15 force development opportunities and training to peo-
16 ple with barriers to employment, a local workforce
17 investment board established under section 117 of
18 the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.
19 2832), a State, a political subdivision of a State, or
20 an Indian tribe;

21 (3) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
22 of Labor; and

23 (4) the term “self-sustainable social services”
24 means education, training, and career services for
25 people with barriers to employment that are sus-

1 tained by the independent business model of the
2 grantee and do not require federal funding for basic
3 programmatic expenses, although this provision does
4 not preclude applicants from participating in other
5 Federal programs.

6 (c) PRIORITY.—Applicants demonstrating prior expe-
7 rience using capitalization to build sustainable job training
8 and job creation projects will be given priority in the first
9 round of grants, including organizations awarded grants
10 under section 413(h)(3)(A) of the Social Security Act and
11 organizations that are similarly situated in other regions
12 that also have the capacity to replicate the model imple-
13 mented under section 413(h)(3)(A).

14 (d) SINGLE GRANTEE.—The Secretary may choose to
15 grant funds to a single national organization to distribute
16 funds among its member local organizations if the national
17 organization includes in its membership local organiza-
18 tions that were previously awarded grants under section
19 413(h)(3)(A) and those prior grantees agree to provide
20 technical assistance to new grantees.

21 (e) APPLICATION.—Each eligible applicant desiring a
22 grant under this section shall submit an application to the
23 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied
24 by such information as the Secretary may require.

1 (f) ASSESSMENTS AND REPORTS BY GRANTEES.—An
2 eligible applicant that receives a grant under this section
3 shall assess and report on the outcomes of self-sustainable
4 social services that result from newly capitalized entities,
5 including the identity of each service operator, the number
6 of jobs created, demographic information about service re-
7 cipients, including education level, literacy level, prior
8 work experience and identified barriers to employment, the
9 nature of education, training, or other services received,
10 the reason for leaving the program, and outcomes related
11 to the placement of the service recipients in an unsub-
12 sidized job, including 9-month employment retention,
13 wage at placement, benefits, and earnings progression, as
14 specified by the Secretary.

15 (g) EVALUATIONS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized
17 to conduct evaluation and research, either directly or
18 through grants or contracts, to determine the effec-
19 tiveness of capitalization in providing workforce de-
20 velopment opportunities and training to people with
21 barriers to employment after the grantee has had 3
22 years to capitalize and build or expand its programs.

23 (2) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amount
24 appropriated for a fiscal year, an amount equal to
25 1 percent of such amount for each such fiscal year

1 shall be reserved for use by the Secretary to conduct
2 evaluations.

3 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for car-
5 rying out this section and to remain available until ex-
6 pended—

- 7 (1) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;
8 (2) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and
9 (3) such sums as may be necessary for fiscal
10 years 2012 through 2014.

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