

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6568

To direct the Secretary of Labor to conduct a study and report back to Congress on the feasibility of creating pilot programs to evaluate reforming Federal job training programs for long-term unemployed workers.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 5, 2012

Mr. DOLD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Labor to conduct a study and report back to Congress on the feasibility of creating pilot programs to evaluate reforming Federal job training programs for long-term unemployed 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 “Back to Work Blue-  
5       print Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STUDY ON REFORM OF FEDERAL JOB TRAINING**  
2 **PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of Labor shall conduct  
4 a study on the feasibility of implementing a series of pilot  
5 programs under the Workplace Investment Act of 1998  
6 (in this Act referred to as “WIA”) in an effort to partly  
7 reform certain Federal job training programs for long-  
8 term unemployed workers.

9 (b) DESCRIPTION OF THE PILOT PROGRAM TO BE  
10 STUDIED.—The study shall examine the feasibility of es-  
11 tablishing up to 10 pilot programs at WIA one-stop cen-  
12 ters in geographically distinct regions of the United  
13 States. The pilot program would consist of the following:

14 (1) Each participating one-stop center would  
15 issue certificates to qualifying unemployed individ-  
16 uals who—

17 (A) have been unemployed and actively  
18 seeking work for six or more consecutive  
19 months; and

20 (B) are determined to be reasonably em-  
21 ployable by job counselors at the participating  
22 one-stop center.

23 (2) Each issued certificate would be valid for a  
24 reimbursement amount of \$7,000 to be paid to  
25 qualifying employers from a reserve account estab-  
26 lished at the participating one-stop center.

1           (3) Each certificate would be presented to a  
2       participating employer who agrees to hire the indi-  
3       vidual and provide any necessary training to the in-  
4       dividual. Each certificate could be redeemed by the  
5       employer only—

6           (A) upon the completion of 6 months of  
7       consecutive employment of the individual; and

8           (B) once the employee has received at least  
9       \$15,000 in compensation from the employer for  
10      consecutive employment for a period of less  
11      than 10 months.

12       (4) Each certificate would expire—

13           (A) 6 months after the certificate is issued  
14      if no qualifying employment has been found for  
15      the individual to whom it was issued;

16           (B) if the individual's employment is ter-  
17      minated for any reason prior to the completion  
18      of the 6-month period described in paragraph  
19      (3)(A); or

20           (C) one year after the date the 6-month  
21      period of qualifying employment begins if no  
22      qualifying employer has redeemed the certificate  
23      in accordance with paragraph (3).

24       (5) Each one-stop center would be required to  
25      conduct quantitative assessments of the efficacy of

1 the program by tracking the job placement and re-  
2 tention of individuals participating in the program  
3 and comparing the job placement and retention re-  
4 sults to other WIA-funded programs available  
5 through the one-stop center.

6 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days  
7 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
8 of Labor shall transmit to Congress a report on the find-  
9 ings of the study, including an identification of any legisla-  
10 tive changes that would be necessary to implement the  
11 pilot programs outlined in subsection (b).

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