

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2402

To amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to address the need to increase on-the-job training and apprenticeship opportunities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 22, 2014

Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. BEGICH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to address the need to increase on-the-job training and apprenticeship opportunities, 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 “Work and Learn Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

7 (1) Success in the 21st century labor market
8 increasingly requires workers to demonstrate com-

1 petencies in thinking critically and applying new
2 skills to ever more complex technology.

3 (2) By 2020, the United States is expected to
4 experience a shortage of 3,000,000 workers with as-
5 sociate degrees or higher degrees, and 5,000,000
6 workers with technical certificates and credentials.

7 (3) Properly structured, on-the-job training pro-
8 grams should be part of the mission to get individ-
9 uals back to work.

10 (4) Apprenticeships, one common model for
11 providing workplace training, are a proven way to
12 help people develop in-demand skills and to meet the
13 needs of employers, yet the individuals in apprentice-
14 ships compose just 0.2 percent of the Nation’s work-
15 force.

16 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to
17 strengthen work-based programs of employment and
18 training activities.

19 **SEC. 3. LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS.**

20 Section 117(b)(2)(A) of the Workforce Investment
21 Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2832(b)(2)(A)) is amended—

22 (1) in clause (v), by striking “and” at the end;

23 and

24 (2) by inserting after clause (vi) the following:

1 “(vii) a representative who has exper-
 2 tise implementing work-based programs of
 3 employment and training activities that
 4 combine technical training with related in-
 5 struction, including such programs that
 6 begin by providing mentoring and job
 7 shadowing opportunities, which evolve into
 8 intensive internships and registered ap-
 9 prenticeships; and”.

10 **SEC. 4. PERFORMANCE.**

11 Section 136(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Workforce Investment
 12 Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2871(b)(2)(A)(i)) is amended—

13 (1) in subclause (III), by striking “and”;

14 (2) in subclause (IV), by striking the period
 15 and inserting “; and”; and

16 (3) by inserting after subclause (IV) the fol-
 17 lowing new subclause:

18 “(V) Completion of a registered
 19 apprenticeship.”.

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