

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5380

To direct the Secretary of Labor to establish a competitive grant program for community colleges to train veterans for local jobs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 3, 2016

Mr. ISRAEL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Labor to establish a competitive grant program for community colleges to train veterans for local jobs.

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 “Revamping the Edu-
5 cation of our Veterans to Align Manufacturing through
6 Partnerships with Community Colleges Act of 2016” or
7 “REVAMP with Community Colleges Act of 2016”.

8 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

9 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) In October 2014, the unemployment rate
2 for veterans who had returned from Iraq and Af-
3 ghanistan was 7.2 percent, a rate above the national
4 average. Unemployment among returning female vet-
5 erans was even higher, and also was above the na-
6 tional average.

7 (2) Such veterans have benefits to use under
8 chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code.

9 (3) Manufacturing companies have approxi-
10 mately 285,000 vacancies they are struggling to fill.

11 **SEC. 3. GRANT PROGRAM TO TRAIN VETERANS FOR LOCAL**
12 **JOBS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
14 with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall establish a
15 program to award competitive grants to eligible commu-
16 nity colleges (as described in subsection (b)) to train cov-
17 ered veterans for jobs in the local community.

18 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to be eligible to receive
19 a grant under this section, a community college shall sub-
20 mit an application to the Secretary that demonstrates, to
21 the satisfaction of the Secretary, that the local community
22 in which the community college is located has—

23 (1) employment opportunities that require
24 trained workers; and

1 (2) a significant population of covered veterans
2 that might pursue the employment opportunities de-
3 scribed in paragraph (1) if given access to necessary
4 training.

5 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—A community college receiving
6 a grant under this section shall use amounts under the
7 grant to—

8 (1) conduct an analysis of—

9 (A) the demand for additional trained em-
10 ployees among local employers, including local
11 manufacturers; and

12 (B) the skills and training possessed by
13 covered veterans seeking employment with local
14 employers, including local manufacturers;

15 (2) carry out an existing, or develop and imple-
16 ment a new, certificate or degree program at the
17 community college that provides training to covered
18 veterans that addresses the demand for additional
19 trained employees among local employers, including
20 local manufacturers; and

21 (3) facilitate the establishment of an advisory
22 board that consists of representatives from the local
23 business community and the employee from the De-
24 partment of Veterans Affairs detailed under section
25 4—

1 (A) to provide assistance regarding the
2 training described in paragraph (2); and

3 (B) to assist covered veterans who have
4 successfully completed the training described in
5 paragraph (2) in their pursuit of local employ-
6 ment opportunities.

7 **SEC. 4. DETAIL OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
8 **EMPLOYEE.**

9 The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall detail an em-
10 ployee of the Department of Veterans Affairs to partici-
11 pate on the supervisory board established in section
12 3(c)(3).

13 **SEC. 5. GRANT AMOUNT.**

14 To the maximum extent practicable, the amount of
15 a grant under section 3 shall not exceed \$2,000,000.

16 **SEC. 6. REPORT.**

17 Not later than one year after the date of enactment
18 of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a re-
19 port—

20 (1) evaluating the success of the program estab-
21 lished under section 3; and

22 (2) making recommendations as to whether the
23 program should be continued, and if so, whether the
24 program should be expanded.

1 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) **COMMUNITY COLLEGE.**—The term “commu-
4 nity college” has the meaning given the term “junior
5 or community college” in section 312(f) of the High-
6 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058(f)).

7 (2) **COVERED VETERAN.**—The term “covered
8 veteran” means a veteran receiving educational as-
9 sistance under chapter 33 of title 38, United States
10 Code.

11 (3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
12 the Secretary of Labor.

13 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—There is authorized to be appro-
15 priated to the Secretary \$250,000,000 for fiscal year 2017
16 to carry out this Act.

17 (b) **AVAILABILITY.**—Amounts appropriated pursuant
18 to the authorization of appropriations under subsection (a)
19 are authorized to remain available until expended.

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