

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5663

To amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to deliver high-quality career and technical education opportunities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 7, 2016

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. LOEBSACK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to deliver high-quality career and technical education 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 “Critical Thinking, Col-
5 laboration, Communication, and Creativity for Careers
6 Act” or the “Four C’s for Careers Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DELIVERING HIGH-QUALITY CAREER AND TECH-**
2 **NICAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES.**

3 Section 135 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
4 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2355) is amend-
5 ed—

6 (1) in subsection (b)—

7 (A) in paragraph (3), by striking “an in-
8 dustry, which may include work-based learning
9 experiences;” and inserting “a range of indus-
10 tries identified through effective and sustained
11 business and community partnerships, including
12 work-based learning experiences;”;

13 (B) in paragraph (5)—

14 (i) by inserting “induction programs
15 (as the term is defined in section 200 of
16 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
17 U.S.C. 1021)), as well as preparation and”
18 after “provide”; and

19 (ii) in subparagraph (A)—

20 (I) in clause (iii) by striking “;
21 and” and inserting a semicolon; and

22 (II) by adding at the end the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(v) teaching high-quality dual and
25 concurrent enrollment career and technical
26 education programs that are designed to

1 expand opportunities for students to earn
2 postsecondary credit and relevant certifi-
3 cations;

4 “(vi) encouraging best practices
5 among communities of practitioners, in-
6 cluding using blended learning programs
7 (as such term is defined in section 4102 of
8 the Elementary and Secondary Education
9 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7112)); and

10 “(vii) strategies for improving the
11 critical thinking, communications, collabo-
12 ration, and creativity skills of students
13 participating in career and technical edu-
14 cation programs;”;

15 (C) in paragraph (7), by inserting “, such
16 as developing and using open educational re-
17 sources and creating physical environments that
18 support student engagement” after “relevant
19 technology”;

20 (D) in paragraph (8) by striking “and” at
21 the end;

22 (E) in paragraph (9) by striking the period
23 and inserting a semicolon; and

24 (F) by adding at the end the following new
25 paragraphs:

1 “(10) train career guidance and academic coun-
2 selors to effectively use labor market information in
3 assisting students with postsecondary education and
4 career planning;

5 “(11) support public private partnerships de-
6 signed to provide students with the credentials and
7 skills required to secure employment in relevant
8 fields; and

9 “(12) if determined appropriate by the local
10 educational agency, support programs that coordi-
11 nate and integrate—

12 “(A) academic and career and technical
13 education content through coordinated instruc-
14 tional strategies, which may include experiential
15 learning opportunities and promoting skills nec-
16 essary for in-demand occupations or industries
17 in the State in which such local educational
18 agency is located; and

19 “(B) work-based learning opportunities
20 that provide students with in-depth interaction
21 with industry professionals and, if appropriate,
22 academic credit.”; and

23 (2) in subsection (c)—

24 (A) in paragraph (19)(D) by striking
25 “and”;

1 (B) in paragraph (20) by striking the pe-
 2 riod and inserting “; and”; and

3 (C) by adding at the end the following new
 4 paragraph:

5 “(21) to conduct a comprehensive needs assess-
 6 ment to identify the strategies, tools, and resources
 7 required for promoting greater engagement and co-
 8 ordination with business and industry, including ex-
 9 ploring the unique technology, transportation, and
 10 other special needs of rural and low-income commu-
 11 nities.”.

12 **SEC. 3. PROMOTING CRITICAL THINKING, COLLABORA-**
 13 **TION, COMMUNICATION, AND CREATIVITY.**

14 The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education
 15 Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) is amended—

16 (1) in section 3(5)(B) (20 U.S.C.
 17 2302(5)(B))—

18 (A) by inserting “, creativity, communica-
 19 tion,” after “reasoning”; and

20 (B) by inserting “collaboration skills,”
 21 after “employability skills”;

22 (2) in section 113(b)(2)(C) (20 U.S.C.
 23 2323(b)(2)(C)), by inserting “and acquisition of crit-
 24 ical thinking, collaboration, communication, and cre-
 25 ativity skills” after “self-sufficiency”; and

1 (3) in section 122(c)(7) (20 U.S.C.
2 2342(c)(7))—

3 (A) in subparagraph (B) by striking “and”
4 at the end;

5 (B) in subparagraph (C) by inserting
6 “and” after the semicolon; and

7 (C) by adding at the end the following new
8 subparagraph:

9 “(D) improve the critical thinking, commu-
10 nications, collaboration, and creativity skills of
11 students participating in career and technical
12 education programs, including by—

13 “(i) integrating such skills into
14 coursework through project-based learning;

15 “(ii) building the capacity of edu-
16 cators to teach such skills; and

17 “(iii) providing ongoing support to
18 help students achieve such skills;”.

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