

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6134

To establish a National TechCorps program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

Mr. BERA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a National TechCorps program, 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 “TechCorps Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. OPM DATABASE OF TECHCORPS-ELIGIBLE POSI-**
6 **TIONS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the
8 date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office
9 of Personnel Management shall establish and maintain an

1 electronic database of job vacancies across the Govern-
 2 ment relating to information technology. The Director
 3 shall consult with each Federal agency in establishing and
 4 periodically updating the database.

5 (b) PUBLICATION.—The database of vacant positions
 6 described under subsection (a) shall be published and
 7 available on the USA Jobs Internet Web site, and each
 8 position in the database shall be described on such Web
 9 site as a “TechCorps-eligible position”.

10 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF TECHCORPS.**

11 Section 122(a) of the National and Community Serv-
 12 ice Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12572(a)) is amended by add-
 13 ing at the end the following:

14 “(6) TECHCORPS.—The Corporation shall enter
 15 into an interagency agreement (other than a grant
 16 agreement) with another Federal agency under sec-
 17 tion 121(b) to carry out a TechCorps program under
 18 which—

19 “(A) individuals apply to service as a
 20 TechCorps member—

21 “(i) prior to graduating from a pro-
 22 gram of study at institution of education
 23 leading to degree or certificate relating to
 24 information technology, but not earlier

1 than the last academic year of such pro-
2 gram of study; or

3 “(ii) after graduating from such a
4 program of study;

5 “(B) individuals described in subparagraph
6 (A)(i) are recruited not earlier than the last
7 academic year of their program of study;

8 “(C) individuals described in subparagraph
9 (A) desiring to serve as TechCorps members
10 shall commit to employment with the Federal
11 agency in a job relating to information tech-
12 nology for not less than a 2-year period; and

13 “(D) upon receiving and accepting such
14 employment, such an individual shall be a
15 TechCorps member, which membership may not
16 exceed a 4-year period.”.

17 **SEC. 4. LOAN DEFERMENT AND LOAN FORGIVENESS.**

18 (a) LOAN DEFERMENT.—Section 455(f)(2) of the
19 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087e) is
20 amended—

21 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “or” at
22 the end;

23 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period
24 at the end and inserting “; or”; and

25 (3) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(E) during which the borrower is serving
 2 as a TechCorps member under section
 3 122(a)(6) of the National and Community Serv-
 4 ice Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12572(a)(6)).”.

5 (b) LOAN FORGIVENESS.—Part D of title IV of the
 6 Higher Education Act of 1965 is amended by adding at
 7 the end the following:

8 **“SEC. 460A. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR TECHCORPS MEM-**
 9 **BERS.**

10 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall
 11 carry out a program of canceling the obligation to repay
 12 a qualified loan amount in accordance with subsection (b)
 13 for loans made under this part to any borrower—

14 “(1) who has served as a TechCorps member
 15 under section 122(a)(6) of the National and Com-
 16 munity Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12572(a)(6))
 17 for not less than a 2-year period; and

18 “(2) is not in default on any loans for which
 19 the borrower seeks forgiveness.

20 “(b) QUALIFIED LOAN AMOUNT.—

21 “(1) 2 YEARS OF SERVICE.—The Secretary
 22 shall cancel an amount equal to 50 percent of the
 23 loan obligation on any loans made under this part
 24 to a borrower described in subsection (a) that are

1 outstanding after the borrower's completion of 2
2 years of service as TechCorps member.

3 “(2) ADDITIONAL YEARS OF SERVICE.—With
4 respect to a borrower who receives the loan cancella-
5 tion under paragraph (1), and serves an additional
6 year or two additional years as TechCorps member
7 upon the completion of such 2-year service, the Sec-
8 retary shall cancel an amount equal to 25 percent of
9 the loan obligation on any loans made under this
10 part to the borrower that are outstanding after the
11 borrower's completion of each such additional year
12 of service.

13 “(3) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The aggregate loan
14 obligation of a borrower that may be cancelled under
15 this section may not exceed the amount equal to the
16 maximum aggregate amount of Federal Direct Staf-
17 ford Loans and Federal Direct Unsubsidized Staf-
18 ford Loans that may be awarded to a dependent stu-
19 dent under this part.

20 “(c) TAX TREATMENT.—The amount of a loan, and
21 interest on a loan, which is canceled under this section
22 shall not be considered income for purposes of the Internal
23 Revenue Code of 1986.

1 “(d) PREVENTION OF DOUBLE BENEFITS.—No bor-
 2 rower may, for the same voluntary service, receive a ben-
 3 efit under both this section and—

4 “(1) section 428K;

5 “(2) section 455(m); or

6 “(3) subtitle D of title I of the National and
 7 Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12601
 8 et seq.).”.

9 **SEC. 5. GAO STUDY ON IT STAFFING NEEDS OF THE FED-**
 10 **ERAL GOVERNMENT.**

11 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
 12 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
 13 shall—

14 (1) study the projected staffing needs for jobs
 15 related to information technology in the Federal
 16 Government during the 10-year period beginning on
 17 the date of enactment of this Act, including the
 18 number of such jobs that will become available or
 19 will be created during such period; and

20 (2) submit to Congress the results of such
 21 study.

○