

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1900

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow the Secretary of Education to award job training Federal Pell Grants.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 30, 2015

Mr. KAINE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow the Secretary of Education to award job training Federal Pell Grants.

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 “Jumpstart Our Busi-
5 nesses by Supporting Students Act of 2015” or the
6 “JOBS Act of 2015”.

7 **SEC. 2. JOB TRAINING FEDERAL PELL GRANTS.**

8 Section 401 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
9 U.S.C. 1070a) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing:

1 “(k) JOB TRAINING FEDERAL PELL GRANT PRO-
2 GRAM.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For the award years begin-
4 ning on July 1, 2016, the Secretary shall carry out
5 a program through which the Secretary shall award
6 job training Federal Pell Grants to students in job
7 training programs. Each job training Federal Pell
8 Grant awarded under this subsection shall have the
9 same terms and conditions, and be awarded in the
10 same manner, as a Federal Pell Grant awarded
11 under subsection (a), except as follows:

12 “(A) A student who is eligible to receive a
13 job training Federal Pell Grant under this sub-
14 section is a student who—

15 “(i) has not yet attained a bacca-
16 laurate degree or postbaccalaureate de-
17 gree;

18 “(ii) attends an institution of higher
19 education as defined in section 102;

20 “(iii) is enrolled, or accepted for en-
21 rollment, in a job training program at such
22 institution of higher education; and

23 “(iv) meets all other eligibility re-
24 quirements for a Federal Pell Grant (ex-

1 cept with respect to the type of program of
2 study, as provided in clause (iii)).

3 “(B) The amount of a job training Federal
4 Pell Grant for an eligible student shall be deter-
5 mined under subsection (b)(2)(A), except
6 that—

7 “(i) the maximum Federal Pell Grant
8 awarded under this subsection for an
9 award year shall be 50 percent of the max-
10 imum Federal Pell Grant awarded under
11 subsection (b) applicable to that award
12 year;

13 “(ii) no increase shall be calculated
14 under subsection (b)(7)(B) for a student
15 receiving a job training Federal Pell Grant
16 under this subsection; and

17 “(iii) subsection (b)(4) shall not
18 apply.

19 “(2) INCLUSION IN TOTAL ELIGIBILITY PE-
20 RIOD.—Any period during which a student receives
21 a job training Federal Pell Grant under this sub-
22 section shall be included in calculating the student’s
23 period of eligibility for Federal Pell Grants under
24 subsection (c), and any regulations under such sub-
25 section regarding students who are enrolled in an

undergraduate program on less than a full-time basis shall similarly apply to students who are enrolled in a job training program at an eligible institution on less than a full-time basis.

“(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the following definitions apply:

“(A) ELIGIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAM.—The term ‘eligible career pathway program’ means a program that is part of a career pathway, as defined under section 3(7) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(7)), that is a combination of rigorous and high-quality education, training, and other services that—

“(i) aligns with the skill needs of industries in the State or regional economy involved;

“(ii) prepares an individual to be successful in any of a full range of secondary or postsecondary education options, including apprenticeships registered under the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the ‘National Apprenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.);

“(iii) includes counseling to support an individual in achieving the individual’s education and career goals;

“(iv) includes, as appropriate, education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster;

“(v) organizes education, training, and other services to meet the particular needs of an individual in a manner that accelerates the educational and career advancement of the individual to the extent practicable;

“(vi) enables an individual to attain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and at least 1 recognized post-secondary credential; and

“(vii) helps an individual enter or advance within a specific occupation or occupational cluster.

“(B) **JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.**—The term ‘job training program’ means a career and technical education program at an institution of higher education that—

1 “(i) provides not less than 150 clock
2 hours of instructional time over a period of
3 not less than 8 weeks;

4 “(ii) provides training aligned with
5 the requirements of employers in the State
6 or local area, which may include in-demand
7 industry sectors or occupations in the
8 State or local area, as defined under sec-
9 tion 3(23) of the Workforce Innovation
10 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
11 3102(23));

12 “(iii) provides a student, upon comple-
13 tion of the program, with a recognized
14 postsecondary credential, as defined under
15 section 3(52) of the Workforce Innovation
16 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
17 3102(52)), that is recognized by employers
18 in the relevant industry, including creden-
19 tials recognized by industry or sector part-
20 nerships in the State or local area where
21 the industry is located;

22 “(iv) has been determined, by the in-
23 stitution of higher education, to provide
24 academic content, an amount of instruc-

1 tional time, and a recognized postsec-
2 ondary credential that are sufficient to—

3 “(I) meet the hiring requirements
4 of potential employers; and

5 “(II) allow the students to apply
6 for any licenses or certifications that
7 may be required to be employed in the
8 field for which the job training is of-
9 fered;

10 “(v) may include integrated or basic
11 skills courses; and

12 “(vi) may be offered as part of an eli-
13 gible career pathways program.”.

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