

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 574

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers a credit against income tax for employees who participate in qualified apprenticeship programs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 25, 2015

Mr. SCOTT (for himself and Mr. BOOKER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers a credit against income tax for employees who participate in qualified apprenticeship programs.

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 “Leveraging and Ener-
5 gizing America’s Apprenticeship Programs Act” or the
6 “LEAP Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CREDIT FOR EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATING IN QUALI-**
 2 **FIED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of sub-
 4 chapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of
 5 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new
 6 section:

7 **“SEC. 45S. EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATING IN QUALIFIED AP-**
 8 **PRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 38, the
 10 apprenticeship credit determined under this section for the
 11 taxable year is an amount equal to the sum of the applica-
 12 ble credit amounts (as determined under subsection (b))
 13 for each apprentice of the employer that exceeds the appli-
 14 cable apprenticeship level (as determined under subsection
 15 (e)) during such taxable year.

16 “(b) APPLICABLE CREDIT AMOUNT.—For purposes
 17 of subsection (a), the applicable credit amount for each
 18 apprentice for each taxable year is equal to—

19 “(1) in the case of an apprentice who has not
 20 attained 25 years of age at the close of the taxable
 21 year, \$1,500, or

22 “(2) in the case of an apprentice who has at-
 23 tained 25 years of age at the close of the taxable
 24 year, \$1,000.

25 “(c) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF YEARS WHICH
 26 CREDIT MAY BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—The appren-

1 ticeship credit shall not be allowed for more than 2 taxable
 2 years with respect to any apprentice.

3 “(d) APPRENTICE.—For purposes of this section, the
 4 term ‘apprentice’ means any employee who is employed by
 5 the employer—

6 “(1) in an officially recognized apprenticeable
 7 occupation, as determined by the Office of Appren-
 8 ticeship of the Employment and Training Adminis-
 9 tration of the Department of Labor, and

10 “(2) pursuant to an apprentice agreement reg-
 11 istered with—

12 “(A) the Office of Apprenticeship of the
 13 Employment and Training Administration of
 14 the Department of Labor, or

15 “(B) a recognized State apprenticeship
 16 agency, as determined by the Office of Appren-
 17 ticeship of the Employment and Training Ad-
 18 ministration of the Department of Labor.

19 “(e) APPLICABLE APPRENTICESHIP LEVEL.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this sec-
 21 tion, the applicable apprenticeship level shall be
 22 equal to—

23 “(A) in the case of any apprentice de-
 24 scribed in subsection (b)(1), the amount equal
 25 to 80 percent of the average number of such

1 apprentices of the employer for the 3 taxable
 2 years preceding the taxable year for which the
 3 credit is being determined, rounded to the next
 4 lower whole number; and

5 “(B) in the case of any apprentices de-
 6 scribed in subsection (b)(2), the amount equal
 7 to 80 percent of the average number of such
 8 apprentices of the employer for the 3 taxable
 9 years preceding the taxable year for which the
 10 credit is being determined, rounded to the next
 11 lower whole number.

12 “(2) FIRST YEAR OF NEW APPRENTICESHIP
 13 PROGRAMS.—In the case of an employer which did
 14 not have any apprentices during any taxable year in
 15 the 3 taxable years preceding the taxable year for
 16 which the credit is being determined, the applicable
 17 apprenticeship level shall be equal to zero.

18 “(f) COORDINATION WITH OTHER CREDITS.—The
 19 amount of credit otherwise allowable under sections 45A,
 20 51(a), and 1396(a) with respect to any employee shall be
 21 reduced by the credit allowed by this section with respect
 22 to such employee.

23 “(g) CERTAIN RULES TO APPLY.—Rules similar to
 24 the rules of subsections (i)(1) and (k) of section 51 shall
 25 apply for purposes of this section.”.

1 (b) CREDIT MADE PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS

2 CREDIT.—Subsection (b) of section 38 of the Internal
3 Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “plus” at
4 the end of paragraph (35), by striking the period at the
5 end of paragraph (36) and inserting “, plus”, and by add-
6 ing at the end the following new paragraph:

7 “(37) the apprenticeship credit determined
8 under section 45S(a).”.

9 (c) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—Subsection (a)
10 of section 280C of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is
11 amended by inserting “45S(a),” after “45P(a),”.

12 (d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
13 for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1
14 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by add-
15 ing at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 45S. Employees participating in qualified apprenticeship programs.”.

16 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
17 this section shall apply to individuals commencing appren-
18 ticeship programs after the date of the enactment of this
19 Act.

20 **SEC. 3. LIMITATION ON GOVERNMENT PRINTING COSTS.**

21 Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment
22 of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and
23 Budget shall coordinate with the heads of Federal depart-
24 ments and independent agencies to—

1 (1) determine which Government publications
2 could be available on Government websites and no
3 longer printed and to devise a strategy to reduce
4 overall Government printing costs over the 10-year
5 period beginning with fiscal year 2015, except that
6 the Director shall ensure that essential printed docu-
7 ments prepared for social security recipients, medi-
8 care beneficiaries, and other populations in areas
9 with limited Internet access or use continue to re-
10 main available;

11 (2) establish government wide Federal guide-
12 lines on employee printing; and

13 (3) issue guidelines requiring every department,
14 agency, commission, or office to list at a prominent
15 place near the beginning of each publication distrib-
16 uted to the public and issued or paid for by the Fed-
17 eral Government—

18 (A) the name of the issuing agency, de-
19 partment, commission, or office;

20 (B) the total number of copies of the docu-
21 ment printed;

22 (C) the collective cost of producing and
23 printing all of the copies of the document; and

- 1 (D) the name of the entity publishing the
- 2 document.

