

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3577

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to establish a competitive grant program to provide grants to States to carry out targeted employment and training projects.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2017

Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, and Ms. DELBENE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to establish a competitive grant program to provide grants to States to carry out targeted employment and training projects.

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 “Results Through Inno-
5 vation Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. TARGETED EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**
2 **PROJECTS.**

3 Section 16(h)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act of
4 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2025(h)(1)) is amended by adding at the
5 end the following:

6 “(G) TARGETED EMPLOYMENT AND
7 TRAINING PROJECTS.—

8 “(i) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—

9 The Secretary shall establish and carry out
10 a program that provides grants, on a com-
11 petitive basis, to States to carry out 3-year
12 projects as determined by the Secretary to
13 provide targeted employment and training
14 services designed—

15 “(I) to raise short-term and long-
16 term employment and increase earn-
17 ings for members of households that
18 receive supplemental nutrition assist-
19 ance program benefits by using inno-
20 vative approaches to remove barriers
21 to employment and training;

22 “(II) to support a holistic, 2-gen-
23 eration approach to serving house-
24 holds;

1 “(III) to explore alternative inte-
2 grated models for providing supportive
3 services; or

4 “(IV) to target hard-to-serve
5 populations such as homeless individ-
6 uals, recently incarcerated individuals,
7 or individuals with other substantial
8 barriers to employment.

9 “(ii) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
10 FOR APPLICANTS.—To be eligible to re-
11 ceive in a fiscal year a grant under clause
12 (i) to carry out a project, a State shall
13 submit to the Secretary a separate applica-
14 tion for such project that—

15 “(I) contains such terms and
16 conditions as the Secretary may re-
17 quire;

18 “(II) except as provided in this
19 subparagraph, proposes to carry out a
20 project that satisfies the requirements
21 of sections 6(d) and 20;

22 “(III) proposes to carry out a
23 project that provides at least one of
24 the following—

1 “(aa) services or benefits au-
2 thorized under section 6(d)(4) or
3 20;

4 “(bb) other services or bene-
5 fits designed to remove barriers
6 or provide enhanced case man-
7 agement for—

8 “(AA) members of
9 households participating in
10 the supplemental nutrition
11 assistance program who are
12 employed or participating in
13 an allowable employment
14 and training activity;

15 “(BB) members of
16 households participating in
17 the supplemental nutrition
18 assistance program who for-
19 merly participated in em-
20 ployment and training and
21 who are employed for a pe-
22 riod of up to 180 days after
23 an individual who received
24 employment and training
25 services under the program

1 gains employment, or 90
2 days after the household has
3 exceeded the gross income
4 limit for program eligibility,
5 whichever occurs first; or

6 “(CC) household mem-
7 bers of individuals described
8 in subitem (AA) or (BB) if
9 such benefits or services are
10 necessary for supporting the
11 employment or employment
12 and training activities of an
13 individual described in sub-
14 item (AA) or (BB); and

15 “(cc) technical assistance for
16 other States, local governments,
17 or employment and training pro-
18 viders to assist in expanding or
19 replicating proven approaches;

20 “(IV) specifies that such project
21 will provide for the voluntary partici-
22 pation in employment and training
23 programs by members of households
24 that do not include an individual who
25 receives cash assistance under part A

1 of title IV of the Social Security Act
2 (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);

3 “(V) provides that such project
4 will be carried out by the State agency
5 directly, or through a State or local
6 government entity or a nonprofit pri-
7 vate entity; and

8 “(VI) provides that the State
9 agency may use not more than 5 per-
10 cent of such grant for activities asso-
11 ciated with administering the project,
12 such as oversight and data reporting.

13 “(iii) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In se-
14 lecting for approval on a competitive basis
15 applications for grants under this subpara-
16 graph, the Secretary shall—

17 “(I) consider the capacity and
18 relevant experience of the State agen-
19 cy (and the State or local government
20 entity or the nonprofit private entity
21 (if any)) that is proposed to carry out
22 the project to achieve the goals of
23 such project specified in the applica-
24 tion, in providing effective employ-
25 ment and training programs (includ-

1 ing employment and training pro-
2 grams under this Act and part A of
3 title IV of the Social Security Act (42
4 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)) for low-skill indi-
5 viduals;

6 “(II) consider whether such
7 project has relevance for and could be
8 replicated in other States;

9 “(III) consider the capacity of
10 the applicant to measure the outcomes
11 of such project;

12 “(IV) ensure that the projects,
13 when considered as a group, will be
14 carried out in a range of rural and
15 urban areas, including those with high
16 levels of poverty; and

17 “(V) in order to expand the num-
18 ber of households served or replicate
19 successful strategies in other areas,
20 give priority to—

21 “(aa) projects with proven
22 results under the pilot projects
23 authorized by subparagraph (F);
24 and

1 “(bb) other successful pro-
2 grams, as measured by increased
3 employment and earnings under
4 the reporting requirements in
5 paragraph (5).

6 “(iv) REPORTING.—

7 “(I) PERFORMANCE REPORTS BY
8 GRANT RECIPIENTS.—States that re-
9 ceive grants made under this subpara-
10 graph shall—

11 “(aa) measure and report
12 the performance of their projects
13 in accordance with paragraph
14 (5);

15 “(bb) include a cost-benefit
16 analysis that shows the benefits
17 to project participants and to
18 taxpayers under this Act; and

19 “(cc) satisfy any other re-
20 porting requirements the Sec-
21 retary considers to be appro-
22 priate.

23 “(II) ANNUAL REPORT BY THE
24 SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall
25 submit to the Committee on Agri-

1 culture of the House of Representa-
2 tives and the Committee on Agri-
3 culture, Nutrition, and Forestry of
4 the Senate an annual report that in-
5 cludes a description of the outcomes
6 measured by each State operating a
7 project (during the project period and
8 any subsequent evaluation period as
9 determined by the Secretary) and of
10 the extent to which such State
11 achieved the goals of the project.

12 “(v) FUNDING.—

13 “(I) AUTHORIZATION OF APPRO-
14 PRIATIONS.—There are authorized to
15 be appropriated to carry out this sub-
16 paragraph—

17 “(aa) \$300,000,000 for fis-
18 cal year 2019;

19 “(bb) \$350,000,000 for fis-
20 cal year 2020;

21 “(cc) \$300,000,000 for each
22 of the fiscal years 2021 and
23 2022;

1 “(dd) \$400,000,000 for each
2 of the fiscal years 2023 and
3 2024;

4 “(ee) \$500,000,000 for each
5 of the fiscal years 2025 and
6 2026; and

7 “(ff) \$600,000,000 for each
8 of the fiscal years 2027 and each
9 fiscal year thereafter.

10 “(II) MAINTENANCE OF EF-
11 FORT.—Funds made available under
12 this subparagraph may be used by
13 States only to supplement, not to sup-
14 plant, Federal or non-Federal funds
15 used to provide current employment
16 and training activities and services.”.

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