115TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

S. 3234

To provide at-risk and disconnected youth with subsidized summer and year-round employment and to assist local community partnerships in improving high school graduation and youth employment rates, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

July 18, 2018

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

A BILL

- To provide at-risk and disconnected youth with subsidized summer and year-round employment and to assist local community partnerships in improving high school graduation and youth employment rates, 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 "Opening Doors for
 - 5 Youth Act of 2018".
 - 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
 - 7 Congress finds the following:

- 1 (1) The time between the early teens and mid-2 twenties represents a critical developmental period in 3 which individuals can gain the education and train-4 ing, entry-level work experiences, work-readiness 5 skills, and social networks needed to smoothly tran-6 sition into the labor market and build towards fu-7 ture professional success.
 - (2) Yet, nearly 5,000,000 young people ages 16 to 24 are out of school and unemployed, leaving them disconnected from the systems and institutions critical for developing the building blocks of independence and self-sufficiency.
 - (3) Communities of color experience the highest rates of youth disconnection: 25.4 percent of Native American youth, 18.9 percent of Black youth, and 14.3 percent of Latino youth between the ages of 16 and 24 were disconnected from school and work in 2015.
 - (4) Disconnected youth are also 3 times more likely than other youth to have a disability, twice as likely to live below the Federal poverty level, and significantly more likely to live in racially segregated neighborhoods. Disconnected young women and girls are 3 times more likely than other young women and girls to have a child, and young people involved in

- the juvenile justice system or aging out of the foster care system are at a high risk of disconnection.
 - (5) Disconnection from school and work can have significant consequences for youth, including decreased earning power and fewer future employment opportunities. According to a 2012 report entitled "The Economic Value of Opportunity Youth", disconnected youth will, on average, earn \$392,070 less than the average worker over their lifetimes.
 - (6) Failure to successfully connect young people to employment and educational opportunities also results in a significant loss in productivity for the overall economy, as well as increases in government spending. According to a recent report from Measure of America, in 2013, youth disconnection resulted in \$26,800,000,000 in public expenditures, including spending on health care, public assistance, and incarceration.
 - (7) Disconnected youth, commonly referred to as "opportunity youth" because of their tremendous potential, can add great social and economic value to our communities and the economy, if given the appropriate supports and resources. According to the Opportunity Index, an annual measurement of opportunity in a geographic region, the number of op-

- portunity youth, along with educational attainment and poverty rates, are strongly linked to overall opportunity in communities. When young adults do well, communities do well.
 - (8) Despite their talent and motivation, many opportunity youth lack access to the training, education, and entry-level jobs that can help them gain the work experience and credentials needed to successfully transition into the labor market.
 - (9) Lack of access to entry-level jobs can limit a young adult's ability to accrue early work experience and demonstrate productivity and work readiness to potential employers. Labor market shifts have also limited opportunities for young people without a high school diploma or with limited post-secondary credentials. According to a 2013 report from the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, by the year 2020, an estimated 65 percent of all jobs in the United States will require postsecondary education and training.
 - (10) Summer and year-round youth employment programs that connect young people with entry-level jobs give youth the work experience and opportunity for skill development needed to transition into the labor market and prevent points of dis-

1 connection, such as involvement in the criminal and 2 juvenile justice systems.

(11) Evidence suggests that summer youth employment programs may help in-school youth remain connected to the education system. A 2014 study of the New York City Summer Youth Employment Program found that youth older than age 16 increased their school attendance by 4 or 5 additional days after participating in a youth summer employment program. This attendance increase represented 25 percent of the total days students were permitted to miss school and still continue on to the next grade.

(12) Evidence shows that participation in summer youth employment programs also reduces the rate of violent crimes arrests. For example, a 2014 study of the One Summer Chicago Plus program shows that the program reduced violent crime arrests among at-risk youth by approximately 43 percent, with crime reduction benefits lasting more than a year after the program had ended. This reduction can have a significant impact for young people, given the impact of a criminal record on future employment prospects and wages.

- (13) Despite its benefits, summer youth em-ployment declined by more than 40 percent between 1999 and 2013, at a loss of more than 3,000,000 summer jobs for young people in the United States. A J.P. Morgan Chase study of 14 major cities in the United States found that summer youth employment programs were only able to provide opportunities for 46 percent of applicants in 2014.
 - (14) According to research by Measure of America, the overwhelming number of youth disconnected from school and work come from disconnected communities marked by high adult unemployment, poverty, and racial segregation, as well as low levels of adult education attainment. These communities often lack the resources and supports needed to prevent and reverse youth disconnection.
 - (15) Many at-risk or opportunity youth, finding that traditional pathways to educational attainment or employment are ill-matched to their individual needs, struggle to remain connected or reconnect to school and work.
 - (16) For some youth, individual barriers, such as unstable housing, lack of access to affordable child care or transportation, or involvement in the juvenile or criminal justice system, make it difficult

- to take advantage of existing employment and education pathways.
- 3 (17) According to the 2016 report entitled 4 "Supportive Services in Job Training and Edu-5 cation: A Research Review", studies suggest that 6 education and training programs that offer sup-7 portive services, such as child care, transportation, 8 and financial assistance, are associated with im-9 proved outcomes.
 - (18) Community-based preventions and interventions can address the distinct problems opportunity youth may face in the local community and provide a connection to the education and training, re-engagement, and supportive services needed to help these young people succeed.
 - (19) Previous Federal grant programs targeting communities with high rates of poverty have been successful in building the capacity of such communities to improve labor market participation and education attainment rates for young people.

21 SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-23 retary of Labor such sums as may be necessary to carry 24 out this Act.

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1 SEC. 4. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.

2	(a) In General.—Of the amount made available
3	under section 3, the Secretary of Labor shall allot (subject
4	to subsection (b))—
5	(1) 30 percent of such amount to carry out sec-
6	tion 5;
7	(2) 35 percent of such amount to carry out sec-
8	tion 6; and
9	(3) 35 percent of such amount to carry out sec-
10	tion 7.
11	(b) Reservation of Funds for Administrative
12	AND OTHER PURPOSES.—The Secretary of Labor shall re-
13	serve—
14	(1) not more than 5 percent of amounts avail-
15	able under each of paragraphs (1) through (3) of
16	subsection (a) for the costs of innovation and learn-
17	ing activities under section 10;
18	(2) not more than 5 percent of amounts avail-
19	able under each of paragraphs (1) through (3) of
20	subsection (a) for the costs of Federal administra-
21	tion of this Act; and
22	(3) not more than 2 percent of amounts avail-
23	able under each of paragraphs (1) through (3) of
24	subsection (a) for the costs of evaluations conducted
25	under section 11.

1	(c) Period of Availability.—The amount appro-
2	priated under this Act shall be available for obligation by
3	the Secretary of Labor until the date that is 4 years after
4	the date of enactment of this Act.
5	SEC. 5. SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR AT-
6	RISK YOUTH.
7	(a) In General.—Of the amount available under
8	section $4(a)(1)$ that is not reserved under section $4(b)$, the
9	Secretary of Labor shall, for the purpose of carrying out
10	summer employment programs under this section—
11	(1) after making the reservations described in
12	paragraphs (2) and (3), make an allotment of the
13	remainder of such amount in accordance with sec-
14	tion 127(b)(1)(C)(ii) of the Workforce Innovation
15	and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3162(b)(1)(C)(ii))
16	to each State that meets the requirements of section
17	102 or 103 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3112; 3113);
18	(2) reserve not more than one-quarter of 1 per-
19	cent of such amount to provide assistance to the
20	outlying areas; and
21	(3) reserve not more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ percent of such
22	amount to, on a competitive basis, make grants to,
23	or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements
24	with, Indian tribes, tribal organizations, Alaska Na-
25	tive entities, Indian-controlled organizations serving

Indians, or Native Hawaiian organizations to carry out summer employment programs consistent with the requirements of this section as determined by the Secretary.

(b) WITHIN STATE ALLOCATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Governor of a State, in accordance with the State plan developed under section 102 or 103 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3112, 3113), shall allocate the amount that is allotted to the State under subsection (a)(1) to local areas meeting the requirements under subsection (c) in accordance with the allocation described in section 128(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3163(b)(2)(A)(i)) for the purpose of developing and expanding summer employment programs under this section.

(2) Reallocation among local areas.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Governor may, after consultation with the State board, reallocate to eligible local areas within the State amounts that are made available to local areas from allocations made under this section (referred to in this paragraph as a "local alloca-

- tion") and that are available for reallocation in accordance with this paragraph.
 - (B) Amount.—The amount available for reallocation for a program year is equal to the amount by which the unobligated balance of the local allocation, at the end of the program year prior to the program year for which the determination under this paragraph is made, exceeds 20 percent of such allocation for the prior program year.
 - (C) Reallocation.—In making reallocations to eligible local areas of amounts available pursuant to subparagraph (B) for a program year, the Governor shall allocate to each eligible local area within the State an amount based on the relative amount of the local allocation for the program year for which the determination is made, as compared to the total amount of the local allocations for all eligible local areas in the State for such program year.
 - (D) ELIGIBLE LOCAL AREA.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term "eligible local area" means a local area that meets the requirements under subsection (c) and does not have an amount available for reallocation under

1	subparagraph (B) for the program year for
2	which the determination under such subpara-
3	graph is made.
4	(3) Local reservation.—Of the amount allo-

(3) Local Reservation.—Of the amount allocated to a local area under paragraph (1), not more than 7 percent of such amount may be used for the administrative costs of carrying out a summer youth employment program under this section, including costs for participating in regional and national opportunities for in-person peer learning under section 10(2).

(c) Local Plans.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—In order for a local area to be eligible for funds under this section, the local board of the local area shall develop and submit to the Governor in accordance with paragraph (2) a 4-year plan for the summer employment program. Such plan shall, at a minimum—
 - (A) not conflict with the local plan submitted by the local board under section 108 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3123), as determined by the Governor; and
- 24 (B) contain the contents required under 25 paragraph (3).

1	(2) Submission.—
2	(A) In general.—A plan required under
3	this subsection shall be submitted by the local
4	area to the Governor of such area at such time
5	and in such manner as the Governor may rea-
6	sonably require.
7	(B) Combined plans.—If a local area is
8	seeking funds under this section and section 6,
9	the plan required under this subsection may be
10	submitted in combination with a plan under
11	such section, in lieu of the local area submitting
12	2 separate plans.
13	(3) Contents.—At a minimum, each plan re-
14	quired under this subsection shall include—
15	(A) a description of how the local area will
16	carry out the activities described in subsection
17	(d) for each program year;
18	(B) a description of how the local area will
19	recruit eligible youth into the summer employ-
20	ment program;
21	(C) the number of eligible youth expected
22	to participate in the program each program
23	year;

1	(D) a description of the services, including
2	supportive services, that the program is ex-
3	pected to provide to eligible youth;
4	(E) reasonable goals for performance ac-
5	countability, as measured by the primary indi-
6	cators of performance described in subsection
7	(e)(1);
8	(F) an assurance that the program will be
9	aligned with the youth workforce investment ac-
10	tivities provided under chapter 2 of subtitle B
11	of title I of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
12	portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3161 et seq.);
13	(G) an assurance that the local area will
14	adhere to the labor standards described in sec-
15	tion 8; and
16	(H) any other information as the Governor
17	may reasonably require.
18	(d) Local Use of Funds.—
19	(1) In general.—
20	(A) DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.—A local
21	area that receives an amount allocated under
22	this section and, at the beginning of a program
23	year, is not carrying out a summer employment
24	program that meets all requirements under
25	paragraph (2)—

1	(i) shall use such amount to—
2	(I) plan, develop, and carry out a
3	summer employment program that
4	meets all such requirements; and
5	(II) conduct outreach to eligible
6	youth and employers; and
7	(ii) may—
8	(I) use such amount to develop
9	technology infrastructure, including
10	data and management systems, to
11	support such program; and
12	(II) use not more than 25 per-
13	cent of such amount to subsidize not
14	more than 75 percent of the wages of
15	each eligible youth participating in the
16	program.
17	(B) Expansion activities.—A local area
18	that receives an amount allocated under this
19	section and, at the beginning of a program
20	year, is carrying out a summer employment
21	program that meets all requirements under
22	paragraph (2)—
23	(i) shall use such amount to—
24	(I) increase the number of sum-
25	mer employment opportunities offered

1	through such program, including un-
2	subsidized or partly subsidized oppor-
3	tunities and opportunities in the pri-
4	vate sector;
5	(II) conduct outreach to eligible
6	youth and employers; and
7	(III) subsidize not more than 50
8	percent of the wages of each eligible
9	youth participating in the program;
10	and
11	(ii) may use such amount to enhance
12	the activities required under paragraph
13	(2)(B).
14	(2) Program requirements.—
15	(A) Program design.—
16	(i) In general.—A summer employ-
17	ment program receiving funding under this
18	section shall match each eligible youth par-
19	ticipating in the program with an appro-
20	priate employer, based on factors including
21	the needs of the employer and the age,
22	skill, and informed aspirations of the eligi-
23	ble youth, for a high-quality summer em-
24	ployment opportunity, which may not—
25	(I) be less than 4 weeks; and

1	(II) pay less than the greater of
2	the applicable Federal, State, or local
3	minimum wage.
4	(ii) Youth participant eligi-
5	BILITY.—An individual, to be eligible to
6	participate in a summer employment pro-
7	gram under this section for a program
8	year, shall, at the time the eligibility deter-
9	mination is made, be an out-of-school
10	youth or an in-school youth.
11	(B) Program elements.—Each summer
12	employment program receiving funding under
13	this section shall include—
14	(i) work-readiness training and edu-
15	cational programs for eligible youth to en-
16	hance their summer employment oppor-
17	tunity;
18	(ii) coaching and mentoring services
19	for eligible youth participating in the pro-
20	gram to enhance their summer employ-
21	ment opportunity and encourage comple-
22	tion of such opportunity through the pro-
23	gram;
24	(iii) coaching and mentoring services
25	for employers on how to successfully em-

1	ploy eligible youth participating in the pro-
2	gram in meaningful work;
3	(iv) career and college planning serv-
4	ices for eligible youth participating in the
5	program;
6	(v) high-quality financial literacy edu-
7	cation for eligible youth participating in
8	the program, including education on the
9	use of credit and financing higher edu-
10	cation, and access to safe and affordable
11	banking accounts with consumer protec-
12	tions;
13	(vi) providing supportive services to
14	eligible youth, or connecting such youth to
15	supportive services provided by another en-
16	tity, to enable their participation in the
17	program;
18	(vii) integrating services provided by
19	the program with year-round employment
20	programs, youth development programs,
21	secondary school programs, youth work-
22	force investment activities provided under
23	chapter 2 of subtitle B of title I of the
24	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
25	(29 U.S.C. 3161 et seq.), and skills train-

1	ing programs funded by the State or Fed-
2	eral Government;
3	(viii) referring at least 30 percent of
4	eligible youth participating in the program
5	from or to providers of youth services,
6	adult employment and training services,
7	vocational rehabilitation services, and adult
8	education and literacy services under the
9	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
10	(29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) or skills training
11	programs funded by the State or Federal
12	Government;
13	(ix) a rigorous evaluation of the pro-
14	gram using research approaches appro-
15	priate to the level of development and ma-
16	turity of the program, including random
17	assignment or quasi-experimental impact
18	evaluations, implementation evaluations,
19	pre-experimental studies, and feasibility
20	studies; and
21	(x) commitment and support from
22	mayors and county executives.
23	(C) Priority.—In carrying out a summer
24	employment program receiving funding under
25	this section, a local area shall—

1	(i) give priority to summer employ-
2	ment opportunities—
3	(I) in existing or emerging in-de-
4	mand industry sectors or occupations;
5	or
6	(II) that meet community needs
7	in the public, private, or nonprofit
8	sector; and
9	(ii) for any program year, use not less
10	than 75 percent of the amount allotted
11	under this section to provide summer em-
12	ployment opportunities for eligible youth
13	that are in-school youth.
14	(e) Performance Accountability.—
15	(1) Primary indicators of Performance.—
16	For activities funded under this section, the primary
17	indicators of performance shall include—
18	(A) the performance metrics described in
19	clauses $(i)(V)$ and $(ii)(I)$ of section
20	116(b)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation and
21	Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(b)(2)(A));
22	and
23	(B) a work-readiness indicator established
24	by the Secretary of Labor.

1	(2) Failure to meet local performance
2	ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.—If a local area fails,
3	for any program year, to meet performance account-
4	ability goals identified in its local plan under sub-
5	section (c)(3)(E), the Governor, or, upon request by
6	the Governor, the Secretary of Labor, shall provide
7	the local area with technical assistance, which may
8	include assistance in the development of a perform-
9	ance improvement plan.
10	(f) Supplement and Not Supplant.—Any funds
11	made available for summer employment programs under
12	this section shall supplement and not supplant other State
13	or local public funds expended for summer youth employ-
14	ment programs or other youth activities funded under sec-
15	tion 129 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
16	(29 U.S.C. 3164).
17	(g) Reports.—
18	(1) In general.—For each year that a local
19	area receives funds under this section to carry out
20	a summer employment program, the local area shall
21	submit to the Secretary of Labor and the Governor
22	a report with—
23	(A) the number of eligible youth partici-
24	pating in the program, including the number of

1	such youth that are in-school youth and that
2	are out-of-school youth;
3	(B) the number of eligible youth partici-
4	pating in the program who complete a summer
5	employment opportunity through the program;
6	(C) the expenditures made from the
7	amounts allocated under this section, including
8	expenditures made to provide eligible youth par-
9	ticipating in such program with supportive serv-
10	ices;
11	(D) a description of how the local area has
12	used amounts allocated under this section to de-
13	velop or expand a summer youth employment
14	program, including a description of program ac-
15	tivities and services provided to eligible youth
16	including supportive services provided and the
17	number of eligible youth participating in such
18	program and accessing such services;
19	(E) the source and amount of funding for
20	the wages of each eligible youth participating in
21	the program;
22	(F) information specifying the levels of
23	performance achieved with respect to the pri-
24	mary indicators of performance for the program

described in subsection (e)(1);

1	(G) the average number of hours and
2	weeks worked and the average amount of wages
3	earned by eligible youth participating in the
4	program;
5	(H) the percent of eligible youth partici-
6	pating in the program that are placed in—
7	(i) an employment opportunity in the
8	nonprofit sector;
9	(ii) an employment opportunity in the
10	public sector; and
11	(iii) an employment opportunity in the
12	private sector; and
13	(I) any other information that the Sec-
14	retary of Labor determines necessary to mon-
15	itor the effectiveness of the summer employ-
16	ment program.
17	(2) DISAGGREGATION.—The information re-
18	quired to be reported under subparagraphs (A), (B),
19	and (G) of paragraph (1) shall be disaggregated by
20	race, ethnicity, sex, age, and the subpopulations de-
21	scribed in subclauses (I) through (VI) of section
22	129(a)(1)(B)(iii) of the Workforce Innovation and
23	Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(1)(B)(iii)).

SEC. 6. YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT FOR OPPORTUNITY

- 2 YOUTH.
- 3 (a) In General.—Of the amount available under
- 4 section 4(a)(2) that is not reserved under section 4(b), the
- 5 Secretary of Labor shall, for the purpose of carrying out
- 6 year-round employment programs under this section—
- 7 (1) after making the reservation described in
- 8 paragraph (2), make an allotment of the remainder
- 9 of such amount in accordance with section
- 10 127(b)(1)(C)(ii) of the Workforce Innovation and
- 11 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3162(b)(1)(C)(ii)) to
- each State that meets the requirements of section
- 13 102 or 103 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3112, 3113); and
- 14 (2) reserve not more than one-quarter of 1 per-
- cent of such amount to provide assistance to the
- outlying areas.
- 17 (b) WITHIN STATE ALLOCATIONS.—
- 18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Governor of a State, in
- accordance with the State plan developed under sec-
- tion 102 or 103 of the Workforce Innovation and
- 21 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3112, 3113), shall allo-
- cate the amounts that are allotted to the State
- under subsection (a)(1) to local areas meeting the
- requirements under subsection (c) in accordance
- with the allocation described section 128(b)(2)(A)(i)
- of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

1 (29 U.S.C. 3163(b)(2)(A)(i)) for the purpose of developing and expanding year-round employment programs under this section.

(2) Reallocation among local areas.—

- (A) IN GENERAL.—The Governor may, after consultation with the State board, reallocate to eligible local areas within the State amounts that are made available to local areas from allocations made under this section (referred to in this paragraph as a "local allocation") and that are available for reallocation in accordance with this paragraph.
- (B) Amount.—The amount available for reallocation for a program year is equal to the amount by which the unobligated balance of the local allocation, at the end of the program year prior to the program year for which the determination under this paragraph is made, exceeds 20 percent of such allocation for the prior program year.
- (C) Reallocation.—In making reallocations to eligible local areas of amounts available pursuant to subparagraph (B) for a program year, the Governor shall allocate to each eligible local area within the State an amount based on

- the relative amount of the local allocation for the program year for which the determination is made, as compared to the total amount of the local allocations for all eligible local areas in the State for such program year.
 - (D) ELIGIBLE LOCAL AREA.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term "eligible local area" means a local area that meets the requirements under subsection (c) and does not have an amount available for reallocation under subparagraph (B) for the program year for which the determination under such subparagraph is made.
- (3) Local Reservation.—Of the amount allocated to a local area under paragraph (1), not more than 7 percent of such amount may be used for the administrative costs of carrying out a year-round employment program under this section, including costs for participating in regional and national opportunities for in-person peer learning under section 10.

(c) Local Plans.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In order for a local area to be eligible for funds under this section, the local board of the local area shall develop and submit to

1	the Governor in accordance with paragraph (2) a 4-
2	year plan for the year-round employment program.
3	Such plan shall, at a minimum—
4	(A) not conflict with the local plan sub-
5	mitted by the local board under section 108 of
6	the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
7	(29 U.S.C. 3123), as determined by the Gov-
8	ernor; and
9	(B) contain the contents required under
10	paragraph (3).
11	(2) Submission.—
12	(A) IN GENERAL.—A plan required under
13	this subsection shall be submitted by the local
14	area to the Governor of such area at such time
15	and in such manner as the Governor may rea-
16	sonably require.
17	(B) Combined plans.—If a local area is
18	seeking funds under this section and section 5,
19	the plan required under this subsection may be
20	submitted in combination with a plan under
21	such section, in lieu of the local area submitting
22	2 separate plans.
23	(3) Contents.—At a minimum, each plan re-
24	quired under this subsection shall include—

1	(A) a description of how the local area will
2	carry out the activities described in subsection
3	(d) for each program year;
4	(B) a description of how the local area will
5	recruit eligible youth to participate in the pro-
6	gram;
7	(C) the number of eligible youth expected
8	to participate in the program each program
9	year;
10	(D) a description of the services provided,
11	including supportive services, that the program
12	is expected to provide to eligible youth;
13	(E) reasonable goals for performance ac-
14	countability, as measured by the primary indi-
15	cators of performance described in subsection
16	(e)(1);
17	(F) an assurance that the program will be
18	aligned with the youth investment activities pro-
19	vided under chapter 2 of subtitle B of title I of
20	the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
21	(29 U.S.C. 3161 et seq.);
22	(G) an assurance that the local area will
23	adhere to the labor standards outlined in sec-
24	tion 8; and

1	(H) any other information as the Governor
2	may reasonably require.
3	(d) Local Use of Funds.—
4	(1) In general.—
5	(A) DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.—A local
6	area that receives an amount allocated under
7	this section and, at the beginning of a program
8	year, is not carrying out a year-round employ-
9	ment program that meets all of the require-
10	ments under paragraph (2)—
11	(i) shall use such amount to—
12	(I) plan, develop, and carry out a
13	year-round employment program that
14	meets all such requirements; and
15	(II) conduct outreach to eligible
16	youth and employers; and
17	(ii) may—
18	(I) use such amount to develop
19	technology infrastructure, including
20	data and management systems, to
21	support such program; and
22	(II) use not more than 30 per-
23	cent of such amount to subsidize the
24	wages of each eligible youth partici-
25	pating in such program.

1	(B) Expansion activities.—A local area
2	that receives an amount allocated under this
3	section and, at the beginning of a program
4	year, is carrying out a year-round employment
5	program that meets all requirements under
6	paragraph (2)—
7	(i) shall use such amount to—
8	(I) increase the number of year-
9	round employment opportunities of-
10	fered through such program, including
11	unsubsidized or partly subsidized op-
12	portunities and opportunities in the
13	private sector;
14	(II) conduct outreach to eligible
15	youth and employers; and
16	(III) subsidize the wages of each
17	eligible youth participating in such
18	program; and
19	(ii) may use such amount to enhance
20	the activities required under paragraph
21	(2)(B).
22	(2) Local elements.—
23	(A) Program design.—
24	(i) In general.—A year-round em-
25	ployment program receiving funding under

1	this section shall match each eligible youth
2	participating in the program with an ap-
3	propriate employer, based on factors in-
4	cluding the needs of the employer and the
5	age, skill, and informed aspirations of the
6	participant, for high-quality year-round
7	employment, which may not—
8	(I) be less than 180 days and
9	more than 1 year;
10	(II) pay less than the greater of
11	the applicable Federal, State, or local
12	minimum wage; and
13	(III) employ the eligible youth for
14	less than 20 hours per week.
15	(ii) Employer share of wages.—A
16	year-round employment program receiving
17	funding under this section shall require not
18	less than 25 percent of the wages of each
19	eligible youth participating in the program
20	to be paid by the employer, except this re-
21	quirement may be waived for not more
22	than 10 percent of eligible youth partici-
23	pating in the program that have a signifi-
24	cant barrier to employment as defined by

1	the local board of the local area carrying
2	out the program.
3	(iii) Youth participant eligi-
4	BILITY.—An individual, to be eligible to
5	participate in a year-round employment
6	program under this section for a program
7	year, shall, at the time the eligibility deter-
8	mination is made, be an out-of-school
9	youth or an in-school youth.
10	(B) Program elements.—A year-round
11	program receiving funding under this section
12	shall include—
13	(i) work-readiness training and edu-
14	cational programs for eligible youth to en-
15	hance their year-round employment oppor-
16	tunity;
17	(ii) coaching and mentoring services
18	for eligible youth participating in the pro-
19	gram to enhance their year-round employ-
20	ment opportunity and encourage comple-
21	tion of such opportunity through the pro-
22	gram;
23	(iii) coaching and mentoring services
24	for employers on how to successfully em-

1	ploy each eligible youth participating in the
2	program in meaningful work;
3	(iv) career and college planning serv-
4	ices for eligible youth participating in the
5	program;
6	(v) high-quality financial literacy edu-
7	cation for eligible youth participating in
8	the program, including education on the
9	use of credit and financing higher edu-
10	cation, and access to safe and affordable
11	banking accounts with consumer protec-
12	tions;
13	(vi) providing supportive services to
14	eligible youth, or connecting such youth to
15	supportive services provided by another en-
16	tity, to enable participation in the pro-
17	gram;
18	(vii) integration of services provided
19	by the program with youth development
20	programs, secondary school programs,
21	youth workforce investment activities
22	under chapter 2 of subtitle B of title I of
23	the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
24	Act (29 U.S.C. 3161 et sea.), and skills

1	training programs funded by the State or
2	Federal Government;
3	(viii) referring at least 30 percent of
4	eligible youth participating in the program
5	from or to providers of youth services.
6	adult employment and training services
7	vocational rehabilitation services, and adult
8	education and literacy services under the
9	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
10	(29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.), or skills training
11	programs funded by the State or Federal
12	Government;
13	(ix) a rigorous evaluation of such pro-
14	gram using research approaches appro-
15	priate to the level of development and ma-
16	turity of the program, including random
17	assignment or quasi-experimental impact
18	evaluations, implementation evaluations,
19	pre-experimental studies, and feasibility
20	studies; and
21	(x) commitment and support from
22	mayors or county executives.
23	(C) Priority.—In carrying out a year-
24	round employment program receiving funding

1	under this section, a local area shall give pri-
2	ority to year-round employment opportunities—
3	(i) in existing or emerging in-demand
4	industry sectors or occupations; or
5	(ii) that meet community needs in the
6	public, private, or nonprofit sector.
7	(e) Performance Accountability.—
8	(1) In general.—For activities funded under
9	this section, the primary indicators of performance
10	shall include—
11	(A) the performance metrics described in
12	clauses $(i)(III)$, $(i)(V)$, $(ii)(I)$, and $(ii)(II)$ of
13	section 116(b)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innova-
14	tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
15	3141(b)(2)(A); and
16	(B) a work-readiness indicator established
17	by the Secretary of Labor.
18	(2) Failure to meet local performance
19	ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.—If a local area fails,
20	for any program year, to meet performance account-
21	ability goals identified in its plan under subsection
22	(e)(3)(E), the Governor, or, upon request by the
23	Governor, the Secretary of Labor, shall provide the
24	local area with technical assistance, which may in-

1	clude assistance in the development of a perform-
2	ance improvement plan.
3	(f) Supplement and Not Supplant.—Any funds
4	made available for year-round employment programs
5	under this section shall supplement and not supplant other
6	State or local public funds expended for year-round youth
7	employment programs or other youth activities funded
8	under section 129 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
9	tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164).
10	(g) Reports.—
11	(1) IN GENERAL.—For each year that a local
12	area receives funds under this section for a year-
13	round employment program, the local area shall sub-
14	mit to the Secretary of Labor and the Governor a
15	report with—
16	(A) the number of eligible youth partici-
17	pating in the program;
18	(B) the number of eligible youth partici-
19	pating in the program who complete a year-
20	round employment opportunity through the pro-
21	gram;
22	(C) the expenditures made from the
23	amounts allocated under this section, including
24	expenditures made to provide eligible youth par-

1	ticipating in the program with supportive serv-
2	ices;
3	(D) a description of how the local area has
4	used amounts allocated under this section to de-
5	velop or expand a year-round employment pro-
6	gram, including a description of the program
7	activities and services, including the supportive
8	services provided and the number of eligible
9	youth participating in the program and access-
10	ing such services;
11	(E) the source and amount of funding for
12	the wages of each eligible youth participating in
13	the program;
14	(F) information specifying the levels of
15	performance achieved with respect to the pri-
16	mary indicators of performance described in
17	subsection (e)(1) for the program;
18	(G) the average number of hours and
19	weeks worked and the average amount of wages
20	earned by eligible youth participating in the
21	program;
22	(H) the percent of eligible youth partici-
23	pating in the program that are placed in—
24	(i) an employment opportunity in the
25	nonprofit sector;

1	(ii) an employment opportunity in the
2	public sector; and
3	(iii) an employment opportunity in the
4	private sector;
5	(I) the number of eligible youth partici-
6	pating in the program who are asked by the
7	employer to remain employed by the employer
8	after the end of the year-round employment and
9	the number of youth participants remaining em-
10	ployed by the employer for not less than 90
11	days after the end of the year-round employ-
12	ment; and
13	(J) any other information that the Sec-
14	retary of Labor determines necessary to mon-
15	itor the effectiveness of the program.
16	(2) DISAGGREGATION.—The information re-
17	quired to be reported under subparagraphs (A), (B),
18	and (G) of paragraph (1) shall be disaggregated by
19	race, ethnicity, sex, age, and each subpopulation de-
20	scribed in subclauses (I) through (VI) of section
21	129(a)(1)(B)(iii) of the Workforce Innovation and
22	Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(1)(B)(iii)).

1	SEC. 7. CONNECTING-FOR-OPPORTUNITIES COMPETITIVE
2	GRANT PROGRAM.
3	(a) In General.—Of the amount available under
4	section 4(a)(3) that is not reserved under section 4(b), the
5	Secretary of Labor shall, in consultation with the Sec-
6	retary of Education, award grants on a competitive basis
7	to assist local community partnerships in improving high
8	school graduation and youth employment rates.
9	(b) Local Community Partnerships.—
10	(1) Mandatory partners.—A local commu-
11	nity partnership awarded a grant under this section
12	shall, at a minimum, include in the partnership—
13	(A) a unit of general local government;
14	(B) a local educational agency;
15	(C) an institution of higher education;
16	(D) a local board;
17	(E) a community-based organization with
18	experience or expertise in working with youth;
19	(F) a public agency serving youth under
20	the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system or
21	criminal justice system;
22	(G) a State or local child welfare agency;
23	and
24	(H) an agency administering programs
25	under part A of title IV of the Social Security
26	Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.).

1	(2) OPTIONAL PARTNERS.—A local community
2	partnership awarded a grant under this section may,
3	in addition to the required partners under paragraph
4	(1), include in the partnership—
5	(A) one-stop centers;
6	(B) employers or employer associations;
7	(C) representatives of labor organizations;
8	(D) entities that carry out programs that
9	receive funding under the Juvenile Justice and
10	Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (34 U.S.C.
11	11101 et seq.);
12	(E) public agencies or community-based
13	organizations with expertise in providing coun-
14	seling services, including trauma-informed and
15	gender-responsive counseling;
16	(F) public housing agencies, collaborative
17	applicants, as defined in section 401 of the
18	McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
19	U.S.C. 11360), or private nonprofit organiza-
20	tions that serve homeless youth and households
21	or foster youth; and
22	(G) other appropriate State and local
23	agencies.
24	(c) APPLICATION.—A local community partnership
25	desiring a grant under this section shall submit to the Sec-

1	retary of Labor an application at such time, in such man-
2	ner, and containing such information as the Secretary may
3	reasonably require. At a minimum, each application shall
4	include a comprehensive plan that—
5	(1) demonstrates sufficient need for the grant
6	in the local population, which need may be dem-
7	onstrated with indicators including—
8	(A) a high rate of high school dropouts
9	and youth unemployment; and
10	(B) a high percentage or number of low-in-
11	come individuals in the local population;
12	(2) demonstrates the capacity of each local
13	community partnership to carry out the activities de-
14	scribed in subsection (d);
15	(3) does not conflict with the local plan sub-
16	mitted by the local board under section 108 of the
17	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
18	U.S.C. 3123), the local plan for career and technical
19	education programs authorized under the Carl D.
20	Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of
21	2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) (if not part of the
22	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act local

plan), and the State plan for programs under part

A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.

601 et seq.); and

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1	(4) includes an assurance that the local commu-
2	nity partnership will adhere to the labor standards
3	outlined in section 8.
4	(d) Use of Funds.—A local community partnership
5	receiving a grant under this section shall use the grant
6	funds—
7	(1) to target and serve individuals not younger
8	than age 14 or older than age 24;
9	(2) to make appropriate use of education, child
10	welfare, social services, and workforce development
11	data collection systems to facilitate the local commu-
12	nity partnership's ability to target and serve the in-
13	dividuals described in paragraph (1);
14	(3) to develop wide-ranging pathways to higher
15	education and employment, including—
16	(A) using not less than 50 percent of the
17	grant funds to help individuals described in
18	paragraph (1) complete their secondary school
19	education through various alternative means
20	including through high-quality, flexible pro-
21	grams that utilize evidence-based interventions
22	and provide differentiated services (or path-
23	ways) to students—

1	(i) who are returning to education
2	after exiting secondary school without a
3	regular high school diploma; or
4	(ii) who, based on their grade or age,
5	are significantly off track to accumulate
6	sufficient academic credits to meet high
7	school graduation requirements, as estab-
8	lished by the State;
9	(B) creating career pathways, focused on
10	paid work-based learning consisting of on-the-
11	job training and classroom instruction, that—
12	(i) will lead to credential attainment;
13	and
14	(ii) includes, to the maximum extent
15	practicable, learning through registered ap-
16	prenticeship programs and pre-apprentice-
17	ship programs;
18	(C) connecting individuals described in
19	paragraph (1) with professionals who can pro-
20	vide such individuals with pre-employment and
21	employment counseling and assist such individ-
22	uals in—
23	(i) finding and securing employment
24	or work-based learning opportunities that
25	pay not less than the greater of the appli-

1	cable Federal, State, or local minimum
2	wage;
3	(ii) identifying and assessing eligibility
4	for training programs and funding for such
5	programs;
6	(iii) completing necessary paperwork
7	for applying for and enrolling in such pro-
8	grams; and
9	(iv) identifying additional services, if
10	needed;
11	(D) connecting individuals described in
12	paragraph (1) with providers of—
13	(i) youth services, adult employment
14	and training services, vocational rehabilita-
15	tion services, and adult education and lit-
16	eracy services, under the Workforce Inno-
17	vation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
18	3101 et seq.);
19	(ii) career planning services; and
20	(iii) federally and State funded pro-
21	grams that provide skills training; and
22	(E) ensuring that such individuals success-
23	fully transition into pre-apprenticeship pro-
24	grams, registered apprenticeship programs, or
25	programs leading to recognized postsecondary

1	credentials in in-demand industry sectors or oc-
2	cupations;
3	(4) to provide a comprehensive system aimed at
4	preventing the individuals described in paragraph
5	(1) from disconnecting from education, training, and
6	employment, and aimed at re-engaging any such in-
7	dividual who has been so disconnected, by—
8	(A) providing school-based dropout preven-
9	tion and community-based dropout recovery
10	services, including establishing or improving
11	school district early warning systems that—
12	(i) connect such systems to data gath-
13	ering and reporting systems established
14	under the Workforce Innovation and Op-
15	portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) for
16	the purpose of identifying the individuals
17	described in paragraph (1); and
18	(ii) engage any such identified indi-
19	vidual using targeted, evidence-based inter-
20	ventions to address the specific needs and
21	issues of the individual, including chronic
22	absenteeism; and
23	(B) providing the individuals described in
24	paragraph (1) with access to re-engagement
25	services for training programs and employment

1	opportunities and using providers of youth serv-
2	ices under the Workforce Innovation and Op-
3	portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) to con-
4	duct intake and refer such individuals and their
5	families to the appropriate re-engagement serv-
6	ice; and
7	(5) to provide a comprehensive system of sup-
8	port for the individuals described in paragraph (1)
9	including—
10	(A) connecting such individuals with pro-
11	fessionals who can—
12	(i) provide case management and
13	counseling services; and
14	(ii) assist such individuals in—
15	(I) developing achievable short-
16	term goals and long-term goals; and
17	(II) overcoming any social, ad-
18	ministrative, or financial barrier that
19	may hinder the achievement of such
20	goals; and
21	(B) providing or connecting participants
22	with available supportive services.
23	(e) Priority in Awards.—In awarding grants
24	under this section, the Secretary of Labor shall give pri-

ority to applications submitted by local community part-2 nerships that include a comprehensive plan that— 3 (1) serves and targets communities with a high 4 percentage of low-income individuals and high rates 5 of high school dropouts and youth unemployment; 6 and 7 (2) allows the individuals described in para-8 graph (1) to earn academic credit through various 9 means, including high-quality career and technical 10 education, dual enrollment programs, or work-based 11 learning. 12 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—The Secretary shall ensure that consideration is given to geographic distribution (such as urban and rural areas) in awarding 14 15 grants under this section. 16 (g) Performance Accountability.—For activities funded under this section, the primary indicators of performance shall include— 18 19 performance metrics described in 20 clauses (i)(III), (i)(IV), (i)(V), (ii)(I), and (ii)(II) of 21 section 116(b)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation 22 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(b)(2)(A)); 23 (2) the four-year adjusted cohort graduation

rate and the extended-year adjusted cohort gradua-

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1	tion rate in a State that chooses to use such a grad-
2	uation rate; and
3	(3) the rate of attaining a recognized equivalent
4	of a diploma, such as a general equivalency diploma.
5	(h) Reports.—For each year that a local community
6	partnership administers a program under this section, the
7	local community partnership shall submit to the Secretary
8	of Labor and, if applicable, the State a report on—
9	(1) the number of youth participants in the pro-
10	gram, including the number of in-school and out-of-
11	school youth, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, sex,
12	age, and status as a subpopulation described in any
13	of subclauses (I) through (VII) of section
14	129(a)(1)(B)(iii) of the Workforce Innovation and
15	Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(1)(B)(iii));
16	(2) the expenditures made from the amounts al-
17	located under this section, including any expendi-
18	tures made to provide youth participants with sup-
19	portive services;
20	(3) a description of program activities and serv-
21	ices provided, including supportive services provided
22	and the number of youth participants accessing such
23	services;
24	(4) information specifying the levels of perform-
25	ance achieved with respect to the primary indicators

1	of performance described in subsection (g) for the
2	program, disaggregated as described in paragraph
3	(1); and
4	(5) any other information that the Secretary of
5	Labor determines necessary to monitor the effective-
6	ness of the program.
7	SEC. 8. LABOR STANDARDS.
8	Any activity funded under this Act shall be subject
9	to—
10	(1) the requirements and restrictions, including
11	the labor standards, that apply to activities under
12	title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
13	Act (29 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.) as provided under sec-
14	tion 181 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
15	tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3241);
16	(2) the requirements for nondiscrimination that
17	apply to activities under such title as provided under
18	section 188 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3248); and
19	(3) any other applicable Federal law.
20	SEC. 9. PRIVACY.
21	Nothing in this Act—
22	(1) shall be construed to supersede the privacy
23	protections afforded parents and students under sec-
24	tion 444 of the General Education Provisions Act
25	(20 U.S.C. 1232g); or

1	(2) shall be construed to permit the develop-
2	ment of a national database of personally identifi-
3	able information on individuals receiving services
4	under this Act.
5	SEC. 10. INNOVATION AND LEARNING.
6	Out of the amount reserved under section 4(b)(1), the
7	Secretary of Labor shall—
8	(1) provide technical assistance to ensure pro-
9	viders have sufficient organizational capacity, staff
10	training, and expertise to effectively implement the
11	programs under this Act;
12	(2) create regional and national opportunities
13	for in-person peer learning; and
14	(3) provide on a competitive basis subgrants to
15	States and local areas to—
16	(A) conduct pilot programs and dem-
17	onstration programs using emerging and evi-
18	dence-based best practices and models for youth
19	employment programs; and
20	(B) evaluate such programs using designs
21	that employ the most rigorous analytical and
22	statistical methods that are reasonably feasible.
23	SEC. 11. EVALUATION AND REPORTS.
24	(a) EVALUATION.—Not earlier than 1 year, or later
25	than 2 years, after the date described in section 4(c), the

- 1 Secretary of Labor shall conduct an evaluation of the pro-
- 2 grams administered under this Act.
- 3 (b) Reports to Congress.—Not later than 5 years
- 4 after the date described in section 4(c), the Secretary of
- 5 Labor shall transmit to the Committee on Education and
- 6 the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the
- 7 Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of
- 8 the Senate, a final report on the results of the evaluation
- 9 conducted under subsection (a).
- 10 SEC. 12. DEFINITIONS.
- 11 In this Act:
- 12 (1) ESEA TERMS.—The terms "extended-year
- adjusted cohort graduation rate", "evidence-based",
- "four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate", "local
- educational agency", and "secondary school" have
- the meanings given such terms in section 8101 of
- the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
- 18 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).
- 19 (2) Indian Terms.—The terms "Alaska Native
- 20 entity", "Indian", "Indian tribe", "National Hawai-
- 21 ian organization", and "tribal organization" have
- the meanings given such terms in section 166 of the
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
- 24 U.S.C. 3221).

- 1 (3) Institution of Higher Education.—The 2 term "institution of higher education" has the 3 meaning given such term in section 101 of the High-4 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).
 - (4) REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—
 The term "registered apprenticeship program" has
 the meaning given such term in section 171(b) of
 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
 U.S.C. 3226(b)).
 - (5) OTHER WIOA TERMS.—The terms "administrative costs", "career and technical education", "career pathway", "career planning", "community-based organization", "Governor", "in-demand industry sector or occupation", "in-school youth", "local area", "local board", "low-income individual", "onestop center", "on-the-job training", "outlying area", "out-of-school youth", "school dropout", "State", "State board", "supportive services", "unemployed individual", and "unit of general local government" have the meanings given such terms in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

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