and provide assistance to States for responding to public health challenges posed by emerging contaminants, and for other purposes.

S. 916

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 916, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with regard to the provision of emergency medical services.

S. 918

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 918, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

S.J. RES. 16

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 16, a joint resolution approving the discontinuation of the process for consideration and automatic implementation of the annual proposal of the Independent Medicare Advisory Board under section 1899A of the Social Security Act.

S. CON. RES. 12

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 12, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that those who served in the bays, harbors, and territorial seas of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975, should be presumed to have served in the Republic of Vietnam for all purposes under the Agent Orange Act of 1991.

S. RES. 60

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 60, a resolution designating May 5, 2017, as the ''National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls''.

S. RES. 106

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 106, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate to support the territorial integrity of Georgia.

S. RES. 108

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 108, a resolution reaffirming the commitment of the United States to the United States-Egypt partnership.

S. RES. 136

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 136, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 102nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. NELSON):

S. 959. A bill to restore protections for Social Security, Railroad retirement, and Black Lung benefits from administrative offset; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President. Every day, Social Security provides vital benefits to millions of Americans who worked and paid into the system. To ensure workers would receive full access to these fundamental lifeline benefits, for many years, the law protected these earned benefits from attempts to recover debts. However, 20 years ago, Congress suddenly reversed course, and made a change to the law that allowed the government to cut Social Security and other hard-earned benefit payments in order to collect student loan and other federal debts, like home loans owed to the Veterans Administration, and food stamp overpayments. Now, more and more seniors are finding themselves subject to government garnishment of their already modest Social Security benefits in order to recoup student loan debts. In fact, the New York Times published an editorial recently titled, ''Haunted by Student Debt Past Age 50'' that highlighted the worsening struggle that seniors face with student debt.

Student loan debt is becoming an increasingly serious problem in Oregon and across the Nation, with students and their families burdened by crushing student loan debt. Even in the best circumstances, many families will struggle to pay off crippling loans for years to come. However, for people who rely on benefits like Social Security after retirement, disability, or the death of a family member, making payments on student loans or other Federal debts can become an insurmountable hardship.

Because of the lifeline nature of these earned benefits, for more than 40 years the law prevented all creditors from collecting hard-earned Social Security, railroad retirement, and black lung benefits to recoup debts. The only exceptions included unpaid Federal taxes, child support or alimony payments, and court-ordered victim restitution. These protections helped ensure that our social safety net programs were functioning as intended—something I think we can all agree is essential to preserving Social Security and other earned benefits.

Astonishingly, when the law changed as part of a 1996 omnibus budget bill, these changes were never fully debated in Congress. This means Members of Congress never had the chance to really explore how this policy would affect beneficiaries. The legislation ultimately included some protections for the most vulnerable, but even those protections have not been updated in 20 years.

We now realize what a profound effect the loss of these protections has had on retirees and individuals with disabilities, who often live on fixed incomes. More and more seniors and people with disabilities are having their Social Security and other lifeline benefits taken away to pay federal debts. For example, according to a GAO report, in 2004, about 8,000 seniors were living in poverty after having their benefits garnished to recover a student debt. In 2015, over 67,000 seniors were subject to garnishment for a student debt and living in poverty. Congress should restore sanity to the system, and reestablish the protections that these beneficiaries deserve.

That is why I, along with Senators BROWN, MERKLEY, FEINSTEIN, HIRONO, SCHATZ, LEAHY, NELSON, WHITEHOUSE, GILLIBRAND, SANDERS, and WARREN are reintroducing the Protection of Social Security Benefits Restoration Act. The bill would restore the strong protections in the law that prevented the government from taking away earned benefits to pay federal debts, and guarantee beneficiaries will be able to maintain a basic standard of living by receiving the benefits they have earned. The bill is supported by Social Security Works, the Arc of the United States, Latinos for a Secure Retirement, Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action, PSARA, AFL-CIO, the Economic Opportunity Institute, the National Organization for Women, Justice in Aging, Gray Panthers NYC, Alliance for Retired Americans, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, Global Policy Solutions, AARP, the American Federation of Government Employees, and the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers of America, UAW.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 959

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Protection of Social Security Benefits Restoration Act''.

SEC. 2. PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY, RAILROAD RETIREMENT, AND BLACK LUNG BENEFITS FROM ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSET.

(a) PROHIBITION ON ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSET AUTHORITY.—

(1) ASSIGNMENT UNDER SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.—Section 207 of the Social Security Act

(42 U.S.C. 407) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) Subparagraphs (A), (C), and (D) of section 3716(c)(3) of title 31, United States Code, as such subparagraphs were in effect on the date before the date of enactment of the Protection of Social Security Benefits Restoration Act, shall be null and void and of no effect.".

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 14(a) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 (45 U.S.C. 231m(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ". The provisions of section 207(d) of the Social Security Act shall apply with respect to this title to the same extent as they apply in the case of title II of such Act.".

(B) Section 2(e) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (45 U.S.C. 352(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following: "The provisions of section 207(d) of the Social Security Act shall apply with respect to this title to the same extent as they apply in the case of title II of such Act."

(b) REPEAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSET AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 3716(c) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking "(3)(A)(i) Notwithstanding" and all that follows through "any overpayment under such program).";

(B) by striking subparagraphs (C) and (D); and

(C) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as paragraph (3).

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (5) of such section is amended by striking "the Commissioner of Social Security and".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any collection by administrative offset occurring on or after the date of enactment of this Act of a claim arising before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 974. A bill to promote competition in the market for drugs and biological products by facilitating the timely entry of lower-cost generic and biosimilar versions of those drugs and biological products; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, over the past few years, the national headlines have been dominated by stories about the high cost of pharmaceuticals. We have seen jaw-dropping examples, such as the unconscionable price increase overnight by Turing Pharmaceuticals of their drug for patients with HIV, from $13.50 to $750 per pill.

Pharmaceutical companies should be compensated for their important work developing lifesaving treatments. But when companies engage in predatory practices at the expense of consumers, we must act. That is why today I am reintroducing the Creating and Restoring Equal Access to Equivalent Samples, or CREATES, Act, bipartisan legislation to end inappropriate delay tactics that are used by some brand-name drug manufacturers to block competition from more affordable generic drugs. I am glad to be joined by Senators GRASSLEY, KLOBUCHAR, LEE, and FEINSTEIN, and several other Senators of both parties in introducing this bill today.

The first delay tactic addressed by the CREATES Act involves the withholding of drug samples that generic manufacturers need to gain regulatory approval. Federal law requires generic competitors to prove that their low-cost alternative is as equally safe and effective as the brand-name drug with which they wish to compete. Unfortunately, some brand-name companies are preventing generic manufacturers from obtaining the samples they need to make the necessary comparison. This simple delay tactic uses regulatory safeguards as a weapon to block competition. The FDA has reported receiving more than 100 inquiries from generic product developers who were unable to access samples of a brand-name drug to compare their generic product.

The second delay tactic addressed by the CREATES Act involves the development of shared safety protocols. For some high-risk drugs, Federal law requires a generic drug manufacturer to join the brand-name drug manufacturer in a single, shared safety protocol for distribution of the drug. Despite this requirement, some brand-name companies are refusing to negotiate shared safety protocols with potential generic competitors, again undermining those competitors' ability to gain FDA approval for their generic versions of such drugs.

The revised version of the CREATES Act also allows the FDA more discretion to approve alternative safety protocols, rather than require parties to develop shared safety protocols. Any safety protocol approved by the FDA must meet the rigorous statutory standards already in place.

These exclusionary practices thwart competition and deny consumers the benefit of lower drug prices. I share the concerns of Vermonters and Americans across the country that many prescription drugs are simply too expensive. When brand companies can artificially raise the price of drugs by using predatory practices, patients suffer. Illnesses get worse. Families, government programs, and other payers in the healthcare system ultimately bear those added, unnecessary costs.

This legislation is not a silver bullet to address all of the complex problems driving the high costs of medications. In addition to the delayed entry of generic drugs, I am troubled by the rising cost of treatments for opioid overdoses, which remain expensive for local law enforcement agencies, even though there are generic competitors. In Vermont, many patients are grappling with the extremely high cost of a new drug for hepatitis C that will likely have years of market exclusivity before generic alternatives can be made. Last year we learned the price of EpiPen had increased by almost 500 percent since 2009, now costing roughly $600 for a two-pack. The sharp increase in price combined with the relatively short shelf life of the product—1 year to 18 months—has put this lifesaving drug out of reach for many.

Think for a moment about the impact of price hikes on the family of a patient facing a life-threatening illness. Across the country, hardworking Americans feel like the system is rigged against them by corporations that are looking to make a profit at any price. With examples like Turing and Mylan, it is no wonder they feel that way.

The CREATES Act is one piece of the puzzle, addressing anticompetitive behavior that delays the creation of affordable generic drugs. Drug affordability is a bipartisan issue that affects each and every American. These reforms will make a difference. I hope other Senators will join us in supporting these bipartisan reforms.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 975. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the Indian coal production tax credit; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the legislation to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the Indian coal production tax credit be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 975

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PERMANENT EXTENSION OF INDIAN COAL PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 45(e)(10)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "per ton of Indian coal—" and all that follows and inserting the following: "per ton of Indian coal—

"(i) produced by the taxpayer at an Indian coal production facility, and

"(ii) sold (either directly by the taxpayer or after sale or transfer to one or more related persons) to an unrelated person.".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to coal produced and sold after January 1, 2017.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. HELLER):

S. 977. A bill to permit occupational therapists to conduct the initial assessment visit and complete the comprehensive assessment under a Medicare home health plan of care for certain rehabilitation cases; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I wish to introduce the Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act of 2017. I am pleased that my colleague, the senior Senator from Nevada, Mr. HELLER, has agreed to cosponsor this bipartisan, no-cost legislation that would allow occupational therapists to perform the initial home health assessment visit and comprehensive assessments in cases in which occupational therapy is ordered by the physician, along with speech language pathology and/or physical therapy services, and skilled nursing care is not required. Our bill will help ensure that Medicare beneficiaries receive timely access to essential home health therapy care.

Occupational therapists have long been recognized as a valuable component of our Nation's healthcare workforce and a critical aspect of home healthcare because of their focus on patients' functional capabilities and their expertise in home safety. Physicians frequently order occupational therapy as part of an initial plan of care for patients requiring home health care, alongside the qualifying services of physical therapy, speech-language pathology, and skilled nursing. Under certain circumstances, an occupational therapist is allowed to perform the comprehensive assessment to determine a Medicare beneficiary's continuing need for home healthcare. However, under current Medicare law, occupational therapists are not permitted to conduct the initial assessment for home health cases, even when occupational therapy is included in the physician's order and when the case is exclusively related to rehabilitation therapy. Additionally, occupational therapists are not allowed to complete the comprehensive assessment unless occupational therapy is the qualifying service.

By permitting occupational therapists to perform initial home health assessment visits and comprehensive assessments in limited circumstances, the Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act can help prevent delays in the time it takes for Medicare beneficiaries to receive essential home healthcare, especially in underserved areas where access to physical therapists and speech language pathologists may be limited. On January 13, 2017, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, or CMS, released the final conditions of participation, or COPs, for home health agencies participating in Medicare and Medicaid. These new COPs expand the content of the home health comprehensive assessment to include the patient's functional, psychosocial, and cognitive status, all of which are areas of expertise for occupational therapists. The new COPs also require the creation of a patient-centered plan of care that is informed by the comprehensive assessment. As a result of their comprehensive education and unique training, occupational therapists are qualified to perform the necessary assessments to adhere to these new CMS home health guidelines.

It is important to note that the Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act would apply only to rehabilitation therapy cases in which skilled nursing care is not required. Nurses would still be required to conduct the initial assessment for all home health cases in which skilled nursing care is ordered by the physician. Also, although the legislation would allow occupational therapists to conduct the initial home health assessment visit and comprehensive assessments, it would not alter the existing criteria for establishing eligibility for the Medicare home health benefit.

I urge my colleagues to join me and Senator HELLER and to support the Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act to correct the discrepancy in Medicare regulations between therapy providers and to help ensure timely access to essential, high-quality home health therapy care for Medicare beneficiaries.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 977

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. PERMITTING OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS TO CONDUCT THE INITIAL ASSESSMENT VISIT AND COMPLETE THE COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT UNDER A MEDICARE HOME HEALTH PLAN OF CARE FOR CERTAIN REHABILITATION CASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 484.55(a)(2) or 484.55(b)(3) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, or any other provision of law, an occupational therapist may be designated to conduct the initial assessment visit and to complete the comprehensive assessment for an individual who is eligible for home health services under title XVIII of the Social Security Act if the referral order by the physician—

(1) does not include skilled nursing care;

(2) includes occupation therapy; and

(3) includes physical therapy or speech language pathology.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (a) shall be construed to provide for initial eligibility for coverage of home health services under title XVIII of the Social Security Act solely on the basis of a need for occupational therapy.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 983. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit for certain youth employees, and to extend empowerment zones; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 983

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Helping to Encourage Real Opportunities (HERO) for At-Risk Youth Act''.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF WORK OPPORTUNITY CREDIT FOR CERTAIN YOUTH EMPLOYEES.

(a) EXPANSION OF CREDIT FOR SUMMER YOUTH.—

(1) CREDIT ALLOWED FOR YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT.—Section 51(d)(7)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by striking clauses (i) and (iii) and redesignating clauses (ii) and (iv) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively,

(B) in clause (i) (as so redesignated), by striking ''(or if later, on May 1 of the calendar year involved),'' and inserting '', and'', and

(C) by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iii) who will be employed for not more than 20 hours per week during any period between September 16 and April 30 in which such individual is regularly attending any secondary school.''.

(2) INCREASE IN CREDIT AMOUNT.—Section 51(d)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subparagraph (F) of section 51(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''summer''.

(B) Paragraph (7) of section 51(d) of such Code is amended—

(i) by striking ''summer'' each place it appears in subparagraphs (A),

(ii) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by striking ''subparagraph (A)(iv)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (A)(ii)'', and

(iii) by striking ''SUMMER'' in the heading thereof.

(b) CREDIT FOR AT-RISK YOUTH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 51(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (I), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (J) and inserting '', or'' , and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(K) an at-risk youth.''.

(2) AT-RISK YOUTH.—Paragraph (14) of section 51(d) of such Code is amended to read as follows:

''(14) AT-RISK YOUTH.—The term 'at-risk youth' means any individual who is certified by the designated local agency—

''(A) as—

''(i) having attained age 16 but not age 25 on the hiring date,

''(ii) as not regularly attending any secondary, technical, or post-secondary school during the 6-month period preceding the hiring date,

''(iii) as not regularly employed during such 6-month period, and

''(iv) as not readily employable by reason of lacking a sufficient number of basic skills, or

''(B) as—

''(i) having attained age 16 but not age 21 on the hiring date, and

''(ii) an eligible foster child (as defined in section 152(f)(1)(C)) who was in foster care during the 12-month period ending on the hiring date.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to individuals who begin work for the employer after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF EMPOWERMENT ZONES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1391(d)(1)(A)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''December 31, 2016'' and inserting ''December 31, 2019''.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN TERMINATION DATES SPECIFIED IN NOMINATIONS.—In the case of a designation of an empowerment zone the nomination for which included a termination date which is contemporaneous with the date specified in subparagraph (A)(i) of section 1391(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as in effect before the enactment of this Act), subparagraph (B) of such section shall not apply with respect to such designation if, after the date of the enactment of this section, the entity which made such nomination amends the nomination to provide for a new termination date in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary's designee) may provide.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 984. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for summer and year-round employment opportunities for youth ages 14 through 24; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 984

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Creating Pathways for Youth Employment Act''.

SEC. 2. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating subtitle E as subtitle F; and

(2) by inserting after subtitle D the following:

''Subtitle E—Youth Employment Opportunities

''SEC. 176. DEFINITIONS.

''In this subtitle:

''(1) ELIGIBLE YOUTH.—The term 'eligible youth' means an individual who—

''(A) is not younger than age 14 or older than age 24; and

''(B) is—

''(i) an in-school youth;

''(ii) an out-of-school youth; or

''(iii) an unemployed individual.

''(2) HARDEST-TO-EMPLOY, MOST-AT-RISK.—The term 'hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk', used with respect to an individual, includes individuals who are homeless, in foster care, involved in the juvenile or criminal justice system, or are not enrolled in or at risk of dropping out of an educational institution and who live in an underserved community that has faced trauma through acute or long-term exposure to substantial discrimination, historical or cultural oppression, intergenerational poverty, civil unrest, a high rate of violence, or a high rate of drug overdose mortality.

''(3) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The terms 'Indian tribe' and 'tribal organization' have the meanings given the terms in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

''(4) IN-SCHOOL YOUTH; OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH.—The terms 'in-school youth' and 'out-of-school youth' have the meanings given the terms in section 129(a)(1).

''(5) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

''(6) SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT.—The term 'subsidized employment' means employment for which the employer receives a total or partial subsidy to offset costs of employing an eligible youth under this subtitle.

''(7) TRIBAL AREA.—The term 'tribal area' means—

''(A) an area on or adjacent to an Indian reservation;

''(B) land held in trust by the United States for Indians;

''(C) a public domain Indian allotment;

''(D) a former Indian reservation in Oklahoma; and

''(E) land held by an incorporated Native group, Regional Corporation, or Village Corporation under the provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

''(8) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The term 'tribal college or university' has the meaning given the term 'Tribal College or University' in section 316(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)).

''(9) TRIBALLY DESIGNATED HOUSING ENTITY.—The term 'tribally designated housing entity', used with respect to an Indian tribe (as defined in this section), has the meaning given in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103).

''SEC. 176A. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.

''(a) ALLOCATION.—Of the funds appropriated under section 176E that remain available after any reservation under subsection (b), the Secretary may make available—

''(1) not more than $1,500,000,000 in accordance with section 176B to provide eligible youth with subsidized summer employment opportunities; and

''(2) not more than $2,000,000,000 in accordance with section 176C to provide eligible youth with subsidized year-round employment opportunities.

''(b) RESERVATION.—The Secretary may reserve not more than 10 percent of the funds appropriated under section 176E to provide technical assistance and oversight, in order to assist eligible entities in applying for and administering grants awarded under this subtitle.

''SEC. 176B. SUMMER EMPLOYMENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) GRANTS.—Using the amounts made available under 176A(a)(1), the Secretary shall award, on a competitive basis, planning and implementation grants.

''(2) GENERAL USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall award the grants to assist eligible entities by paying for the program share of the cost of—

''(A) in the case of a planning grant, planning a summer youth employment program to provide subsidized summer employment opportunities; and

''(B) in the case of an implementation grant, implementation of such a program, to provide such opportunities.

''(b) PERIODS AND AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.—

''(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The Secretary may award a planning grant under this section for a 1-year period, in an amount of not more than $200,000.

''(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—The Secretary may award an implementation grant under this section for a 3-year period, in an amount of not more than $5,000,000.

''(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a planning or implementation grant under this section, an entity shall—

''(A) be a—

''(i) State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization, that meets the requirements of paragraph (2); or

''(ii) community-based organization that meets the requirements of paragraph (3); and

''(B) meet the requirements for a planning or implementation grant, respectively, specified in paragraph (4).

''(2) GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS.—An entity that is a State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization referred to in paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the entity has entered into a partnership with State, local, or tribal entities—

''(A) that shall include—

''(i) a local educational agency or tribal educational agency (as defined in section 6132 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7452));

''(ii) a local board or tribal workforce development agency;

''(iii) a State, local, or tribal agency serving youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system or criminal justice system;

''(iv) a State, local, or tribal child welfare agency;

''(v) a State, local, or tribal agency or community-based organization, with—

''(I) expertise in providing counseling services, and trauma-informed and gender-responsive trauma prevention, identification, referral, and support (including treatment) services; and

''(II) a proven track record of serving low-income vulnerable youth and out-of-school youth; and

''(vi) if the State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization is seeking an implementation grant, and has not established a summer youth employment program, an entity that is carrying out a State, local, or tribal summer youth employment program; and

''(vii) an employer or employer association; and

''(B) that may include—

''(i) an institution of higher education or tribal college or university;

''(ii) a representative of a labor or labor-management organization;

''(iii) an entity that carries out a program that receives funding under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) or section 212 of the Second Chance Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17532);

''(iv) a collaborative applicant as defined in section 401 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360) or a private nonprofit organization that serves homeless individuals and households (including such an applicant or organization that serves individuals or households that are at risk of homelessness in tribal areas) or serves foster youth;

''(v) an entity that carries out a program funded under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), including Native American programs funded under section 116 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 2326) and tribally controlled postsecondary career and technical institution programs funded under section 117 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 2327);

''(vi) a local or tribal youth committee;

''(vii) a State or local public housing agency or a tribally designated housing entity; and

''(viii) another appropriate State, local, or tribal agency.

''(3) COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION PARTNERSHIPS.—A community-based organization referred to in paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the organization has entered into a partnership with State, local, or tribal entities—

''(A) that shall include—

''(i) a unit of general local government or tribal government;

''(ii) an agency described in paragraph (2)(A)(i);

''(iii) a local board or tribal workforce development agency;

''(iv) a State, local, or tribal agency serving youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system or criminal justice system;

''(v) a State, local, or tribal child welfare agency;

''(vi) if the organization is seeking an implementation grant, and has not established a summer youth employment program, an entity that is carrying out a State, local, or tribal summer youth employment program; and

''(vii) an employer or employer association; and

''(B) that may include 1 or more entities described in paragraph (2)(B).

''(4) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICULAR GRANTS.—

''(A) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR PLANNING GRANTS.—The Secretary may award a planning grant under this section to an eligible entity that—

''(i) is preparing to establish or expand a summer youth employment program that meets the minimum requirements specified in subsection (d); and

''(ii) has not received a grant under this section.

''(B) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award an implementation grant under this section to an eligible entity that—

''(I) has received a planning grant under this section; or

''(II) has established a summer youth employment program and demonstrates a minimum level of capacity to enhance or expand the summer youth employment program described in the application submitted under subsection (d).

''(ii) CAPACITY.—In determining whether an entity has the level of capacity referred to in clause (i)(II), the Secretary may include as capacity—

''(I) the entity's staff capacity and staff training to deliver youth employment services; and

''(II) the entity's existing youth employment services (as of the date of submission of the application submitted under subsection (d)) that are consistent with the application.

''(d) APPLICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an eligible entity desiring to receive a grant under this section for a summer youth employment program shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including, at a minimum, each of the following:

''(A) With respect to an application for a planning or implementation grant—

''(i) a description of the eligible youth for whom summer employment services will be provided;

''(ii) a description of the eligible entity, and a description of the expected participation and responsibilities of each of the partners in the partnership described in subsection (c);

''(iii) information demonstrating sufficient need for the grant in the State, local, or tribal population, which may include information showing—

''(I) a high level of unemployment among youth (including young adults) ages 14 through 24;

''(II) a high rate of out-of-school youth;

''(III) a high rate of homelessness;

''(IV) a high rate of poverty;

''(V) a high rate of adult unemployment;

''(VI) a high rate of community or neighborhood crime;

''(VII) a high rate of violence; or

''(VIII) a high level or rate on another indicator of need;

''(iv) a description of the strategic objectives the eligible entity seeks to achieve through the program to provide eligible youth with core work readiness skills, which may include—

''(I) financial literacy skills, including providing the support described in section 129(b)(2)(D);

''(II) sector-based technical skills aligned with employer needs;

''(III) skills that—

''(aa) are soft employment skills, early work skills, or work readiness skills; and

''(bb) include social skills, communications skills, higher-order thinking skills, self-control, and positive self-concept; and

''(IV) (for the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth) basic skills like communication, math, and problem solving in the context of training for advancement to better jobs and postsecondary training; and

''(v) information demonstrating that the eligible entity has obtained commitments to provide the non-program share described in paragraph (2) of subsection (h).

''(B) With respect to an application for a planning grant—

''(i) a description of the intermediate and long-term goals for planning activities for the duration of the planning grant;

''(ii) a description of how grant funds will be used to develop a plan to provide summer employment services for eligible youth;

''(iii) a description of how the eligible entity will carry out an analysis of best practices for identifying, recruiting, and engaging program participants, in particular the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth;

''(iv) a description of how the eligible entity will carry out an analysis of best practices for placing youth participants—

''(I) in opportunities that—

''(aa) are appropriate subsidized employment opportunities with employers based on factors including age, skill, experience, career aspirations, work-based readiness, and barriers to employment; and

''(bb) may include additional services for participants, including core work readiness skill development and mentorship services;

''(II) in summer employment that—

''(aa) is not less than 6 weeks;

''(bb) follows a schedule of not more than 20 hours per week; and

''(cc) pays not less than the applicable Federal, State, or local minimum wage; and

''(v) a description of how the eligible entity plans to develop a mentorship program or connect youth with positive, supportive mentorships, consistent with paragraph (3).

''(C) With respect to an application for an implementation grant—

''(i) a description of how the eligible entity plans to identify, recruit, and engage program participants, in particular the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth;

''(ii) a description of the manner in which the eligible entity plans to place eligible youth participants in subsidized employment opportunities, and in summer employment, described in subparagraph (B)(iv);

''(iii) (for a program serving the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth), a description of workplaces for the subsidized employment involved, which may include workplaces in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors;

''(iv) a description of how the eligible entity plans to provide or connect eligible youth participants with positive, supportive mentorships, consistent with paragraph (3);

''(v) a description of services that will be available to employers participating in the youth employment program, to provide supervisors involved in the program with coaching and mentoring on—

''(I) how to support youth development;

''(II) how to structure learning and reflection; and

''(III) how to deal with youth challenges in the workplace;

''(vi) a description of how the eligible entity plans to offer structured pathways back into employment and a youth employment program under this section for eligible youth who have been terminated from employment or removed from the program;

''(vii) a description of how the eligible entity plans to engage eligible youth beyond the duration of the summer employment opportunity, which may include—

''(I) developing or partnering with a year-round youth employment program;

''(II) referring eligible youth to other year-round programs, which may include—

''(aa) programs funded under section 176C or the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

''(bb) after school programs;

''(cc) secondary or postsecondary education programs;

''(dd) training programs;

''(ee) cognitive behavior therapy programs;

''(ff) apprenticeship programs; and

''(gg) national service programs;

''(III) employing a full-time, permanent staff person who is responsible for youth outreach, followup, and recruitment; or

''(IV) connecting eligible youth with job development services, including career counseling, resume and job application assistance, interview preparation, and connections to job leads;

''(viii) evidence of the eligible entity's capacity to provide the services described in this subsection; and

''(ix) a description of the quality of the summer youth employment program, including a program that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential.

''(2) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—An eligible entity that is an Indian tribe or tribal organization and desires to receive a grant under this section for a summer youth employment program may, in lieu of submitting the application described in paragraph (1), submit an application to the Secretary that meets such requirements as the Secretary develops after consultation with the tribe or organization.

''(3) MENTOR.—For purposes of subparagraphs (B)(iv), (B)(v), and (C)(iv) of paragraph (1), a mentor—

''(A) shall be an individual who has been matched with an eligible youth based on the youth's needs;

''(B) shall make contact with the eligible youth at least once each week;

''(C) shall be a trusted member of the local community; and

''(D) may include—

''(i) a mentor trained in trauma-informed care (including provision of trauma-informed trauma prevention, identification, referral, or support services to youth that have experienced or are at risk of experiencing trauma), conflict resolution, and positive youth development;

''(ii) a job coach trained to provide youth with guidance on how to navigate the workplace and troubleshoot problems;

''(iii) a supervisor trained to provide at least two performance assessments and serve as a reference; or

''(iv) a peer mentor who is a former or current participant in the youth employment program involved.

''(e) AWARDS FOR POPULATIONS AND AREAS.—

''(1) POPULATIONS.—The Secretary shall reserve, from the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1)—

''(A) 50 percent to award grants under this section for planning or provision of subsidized summer employment opportunities for in-school youth; and

''(B) 50 percent to award such grants to plan for planning or provision of such opportunities for out-of-school youth.

''(2) AREAS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In awarding the grants, the Secretary shall consider the regional diversity of the areas to be served, to ensure that urban, suburban, rural, and tribal areas are receiving grant funds.

''(B) RURAL AND TRIBAL AREA INCLUSION.—

''(i) RURAL AREAS.—Not less than 20 percent of the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1) for each fiscal year shall be made available for activities to be carried out in rural areas.

''(ii) TRIBAL AREAS.—Not less than 5 percent of the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1) for each fiscal year shall be made available for activities to be carried out in tribal areas.

''(f) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—In allocating funds under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities—

''(1) who propose to coordinate their activities—

''(A) with local or tribal employers; and

''(B) with agencies described in subsection (c)(2)(A)(i) to ensure the summer youth employment programs provide clear linkages to remedial, academic, and occupational programs carried out by the agencies;

''(2) who propose a plan to increase private sector engagement in, and job placement through, summer youth employment; and

''(3) who have, in their counties, States, or tribal areas (as compared to other counties in their State, other States, or other tribal areas, respectively), a high level or rate described in subsection (d)(1)(A)(iii).

''(g) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section may use the grant funds for services described in subsection (d).

''(2) DISCRETIONARY USES.—The eligible entity may also use the funds—

''(A) to provide wages to eligible youth in subsidized summer employment programs;

''(B) to provide eligible youth with support services, including case management, child care assistance, child support services, and transportation assistance; and

''(C) to develop data management systems to assist with programming, evaluation, and records management.

''(3) ADMINISTRATION.—An eligible entity may reserve not more than 10 percent of the grant funds for the administration of activities under this section.

''(4) CARRY-OVER AUTHORITY.—Any amounts provided to an eligible entity under this section for a fiscal year may, at the discretion of the Secretary, remain available to that entity for expenditure during the succeeding fiscal year to carry out programs under this section.

''(h) PROGRAM SHARE.—

''(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The program share for a planning grant awarded under this section shall be 100 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(A).

''(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The program share for an implementation grant awarded under this section shall be 50 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary—

''(i) may increase the program share for an eligible entity; and

''(ii) shall increase the program share for an Indian tribe or tribal organization to not less than 95 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

''(C) NON-PROGRAM SHARE.—The eligible entity may provide the non-program share of the cost—

''(i) in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including plant, equipment, or services; and

''(ii) from State, local, tribal or private (including philanthropic) sources and, in the case of an Indian tribe or tribal organization, from Federal sources.

''SEC. 176C. YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) GRANTS.—Using the amounts made available under 176A(a)(2), the Secretary shall award, on a competitive basis, planning and implementation grants.

''(2) GENERAL USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall award the grants to assist eligible entities by paying for the program share of the cost of—

''(A) in the case of a planning grant, planning a year-round youth employment program to provide subsidized year-round employment opportunities; and

''(B) in the case of an implementation grant, implementation of such a program to provide such opportunities.

''(b) PERIODS AND AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.—The planning grants shall have the periods and amounts described in section 176B(b)(1). The implementation grants shall have the periods and grants described in section 176B(b)(2).

''(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a planning or implementation grant under this section, an entity shall, except as provided in paragraph (2)—

''(A) be a—

''(i) State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization, that meets the requirements of section 176B(c)(2); or

''(ii) community-based organization that meets the requirements of section 176B(c)(3); and

''(B) meet the requirements for a planning or implementation grant, respectively, specified in section 176B(c)(4).

''(2) YEAR-ROUND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), any reference in section 176B(c)—

''(A) to a summer youth employment program shall be considered to refer to a year-round youth employment program; and

''(B) to a provision of section 176B shall be considered to refer to the corresponding provision of this section.

''(d) APPLICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an eligible entity desiring to receive a grant under this section for a year-round youth employment program shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including, at a minimum, each of the following:

''(A) With respect to an application for a planning or implementation grant, the information and descriptions specified in section 176B(d)(1)(A).

''(B) With respect to an application for a planning grant, the descriptions specified in section 176B(d)(1)(B), except that the description of an analysis for placing youth in employment described in clause (iv)(II)(bb) of that section shall cover employment that follows a schedule—

''(i) that consists of—

''(I) not more than 15 hours per week for in-school youth; and

''(II) not less than 20 and not more than 40 hours per week for out-of-school youth; and

''(ii) that depends on the needs and work-readiness level of the population being served.

''(C) With respect to an application for an implementation grant, the descriptions and evidence specified in section 176B(d)(1)(C)—

''(i) except that the reference in section 176(d)(1)(C)(ii) to employment described in section 176B(d)(1)(B) shall cover employment that follows the schedule described in subparagraph (B); and

''(ii) except that the reference to programs in clause (vii)(II)(aa) of that section shall be considered to refer only to programs funded under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

''(2) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—An eligible entity that is an Indian tribe or tribal organization and desires to receive a grant under this section for a year-round youth employment program may, in lieu of submitting the application described in paragraph (1), submit an application to the Secretary that meets such requirements as the Secretary develops after consultation with the tribe or organization.

''(3) MENTOR.—For purposes of paragraph (1), any reference in subparagraphs (B)(iv), (B)(v), and (C)(iv) of section 176B(d)(1) to a mentor shall be considered to refer to a mentor who—

''(A) shall be an individual described in subparagraphs (A) and (C) of section 176B(d)(3);

''(B) shall make contact with the eligible youth at least twice each week; and

''(C) may be an individual described in section 176B(d)(3)(D).

''(4) YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT.—For purposes of this subsection, any reference in section 176B(d)—

''(A) to summer employment shall be considered to refer to year-round employment; and

''(B) to a provision of section 176B shall be considered to refer to the corresponding provision of this section.

''(e) AWARDS FOR POPULATIONS AND AREAS; PRIORITIES.—

''(1) POPULATIONS.—The Secretary shall reserve, from the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(2)—

''(A) 50 percent to award grants under this section for planning or provision of subsidized year-round employment opportunities for in-school youth; and

''(B) 50 percent to award such grants to plan for planning or provision of such opportunities for out-of-school youth.

''(2) AREAS; PRIORITIES.—In awarding the grants, the Secretary shall—

''(A) carry out section 176B(e)(2); and

''(B) give priority to eligible entities—

''(i) who—

''(I) propose the coordination and plan described paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 176B(f), with respect to year-round youth employment; and

''(II) meet the requirements of section 176B(f)(3); or

''(ii) who—

''(I) propose a plan to coordinate activities with entities carrying out State, local, or tribal summer youth employment programs, to provide pathways to year-round employment for eligible youth who are ending summer employment; and

''(II) meet the requirements of section 176B(f)(3).

''(f) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section may use the grant funds—

''(1) for services described in subsection (d);

''(2) as described in section 176B(g)(2), with respect to year-round employment programs;

''(3) as described in section 176B(g)(3), with respect to activities under this section; and

''(4) at the discretion of the Secretary, as described in section 176B(g)(4), with respect to activities under this section.

''(g) PROGRAM SHARE.—

''(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The provisions of section 176B(h)(1) shall apply to planning grants awarded under this section, with respect to the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(A).

''(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—The provisions of section 176B(h)(2) shall apply to implementation grants awarded under this section, with respect to the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

''SEC. 176D. EVALUATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

''(a) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish performance measures for purposes of annual reviews under subsection (b).

''(2) COMPONENTS.—The performance measures for the eligible entities shall consist of—

''(A) the indicators of performance described in paragraph (3); and

''(B) an adjusted level of performance for each indicator described in subparagraph (A).

''(3) INDICATORS OF PERFORMANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The indicators of performance shall consist of—

''(i) the percentage of youth employment program participants who are in education or training activities, or in employment, during the second quarter after exit from the program;

''(ii) the percentage of youth employment program participants who are in education or training activities, or in employment, during the fourth quarter after exit from the program;

''(iii) the percentage of youth employment program participants who obtain a recognized postsecondary credential, or a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent (subject to subparagraph (B)), during participation in or within 1 year after exit from the program; and

''(iv) the percentage of youth employment program participants who, during a program year, are in a youth employment program that includes an education or training program that leads to an outcome specified by the Secretary, which may include—

''(I) obtaining a recognized postsecondary credential or employment; or

''(II) achieving measurable skill gains toward such a credential or employment.

''(B) INDICATOR RELATING TO CREDENTIAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), youth employment program participants who obtain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent shall be included in the percentage counted as meeting the criterion under such subparagraph only if such participants, in addition to obtaining such diploma or its recognized equivalent, have obtained or retained employment or are in a youth employment program that includes an education or training program leading to a recognized postsecondary credential within 1 year after exit from the program.

''(4) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For each eligible entity, there shall be established, in accordance with this paragraph, levels of performance for each of the corresponding indicators of performance described in paragraph (3).

''(B) IDENTIFICATION IN APPLICATION.—Each eligible entity shall identify, in the application submitted under subsection (d) of section 176B or 176C, expected levels of performance for each of those indicators of performance for each program year covered by the application.

''(C) AGREEMENT ON ADJUSTED LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—The eligible entity shall reach agreement with the Secretary on levels of performance for each of those indicators of performance for each such program year. The levels agreed to shall be considered to be the adjusted levels of performance for the eligible entity for such program years and shall be incorporated into the application prior to the approval of such application.

''(b) ANNUAL REVIEW.—The Secretary shall carry out an annual review of each eligible entity receiving a grant under this subtitle. In conducting the review, the Secretary shall review the performance of the entity on the performance measures under this section and determine if the entity has used any practices that shall be considered best practices for purposes of this subtitle.

''(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

''(1) PREPARATION.—The Secretary shall prepare a report on the grant programs established by this subtitle, which report shall include a description of—

''(A) the eligible entities receiving funding under this subtitle;

''(B) the activities carried out by the eligible entities;

''(C) how the eligible entities were selected to receive funding under this subtitle; and

''(D) an assessment of the results achieved by the grant programs including findings from the annual reviews conducted under subsection (b).

''(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Creating Pathways for Youth Employment Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report described in paragraph (1) to the appropriate committees of Congress.

''(d) APPLICATION TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—The Secretary may issue regulations that clarify the application of all the provisions of this subtitle to Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

''SEC. 176E. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated—

''(1) to carry out section 176B, $300,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022; and

''(2) to carry out section 176C, $400,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022.''.

SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) REFERENCES.—

(1) Section 121(b)(1)(C)(ii)(II) of the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3152(b)(1)(C)(ii)(II)) is amended by striking ''subtitles C through E'' and inserting ''subtitles C through F''.

(2) Section 503(b) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3343(b)) is amended by inserting before the period the following: ''(as such subtitles were in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act)''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the item relating to the subtitle heading for subtitle E of title I and inserting the following:

''Subtitle E—Youth Employment Opportunities

''Sec. 176. Definitions.
''Sec. 176A. Allocation of funds.
''Sec. 176B. Summer employment competitive grant program.
''Sec. 176C. Year-round employment competitive grant program.
''Sec. 176D. Evaluation and administration.
''Sec. 176E. Authorization of appropriations.''.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 987. A bill to transition away from fossil fuel sources of energy to 100 percent clean and renewable energy by 2050, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, today I rise to address the important urgency of addressing climate change. Across the country, we are seeing the impacts of the warmer climate, and it is having devastating consequences on our forests, on our farming, on our fishing, and on our urban populations.

Years ago, people talked about what we might see if we continued to burn fossil fuels and continued to put carbon dioxide into the air, but no longer do we have to talk about what we might see, because it is here. The facts are on the ground right now.

We can look at my home State of Oregon. In Oregon, we have the challenge of forest fire seasons that are longer by several months than they were just decades ago. We have the challenge of warmer winters, resulting in pine beetles doing more damage to our trees. The fact that we have lower snowpacks in the Cascade Mountains means warmer trout streams and less water for irrigation. We have had the worst-ever droughts in the Klamath Basin in the past 15 years. Over on the coast, we have a big impact on oysters. Because we have burned so much in fossil fuels to create so much carbon dioxide that has been absorbed by the oceans and turned into carbonic acid, the oceans have acidified. They are 30 percent more acidic than they were 150 years ago, meaning our oysters are having trouble reaching out and pulling the molecules out of the water to form a shell. In fact, it takes so much energy to do so that they are dying.

That is what is happening. That is just in Oregon. We can look across the United States and see impact after impact.

If we were in Minnesota, we could talk about the tick populations that are killing the moose because it is not cold enough in the winter to kill the ticks. If we are in Maine, we can talk about the fact that the lobsters are migrating to Canada because that is where the colder waters can be found. If we are in Florida, we can talk about sunny day floods, because the ocean levels have risen and the ocean water—the saltwater—is contaminating the freshwater that cities depend on. If we are up the Atlantic coast, we can talk about Hurricane Sandy and how its devastating power was enhanced by an ocean that is much warmer than it was decades ago. If we are in Texas, we can talk about the spread of mosquitoes that carry the Zika virus affecting folks. So the list goes on and on. But it is not just in the United States of America. It is on the entire planet.

As we are talking about oysters on the west coast of the United States, across the globe folks are talking about coral reefs. The Great Barrier Reef has virtually died over the last few years. Scientists say 80 percent of the Great Barrier Reef off Australia has died in the last 3 years. If we are looking at the mountainous regions of the world, you can trace the flow of glaciers and find that across the globe glaciers have diminished by an enormous amount. Some say that if you want to see a glacier in Glacier National Park, you better get there soon. That is just in the United States.

If we turn north to the upper reaches of Canada and the permafrost, you can visit what are called the drunken forests, because the permafrost is melting and the trees are starting to lean in every which direction. If you turn to Alaska, you are finding that Native populations are having to relocate because of changing circumstances of a warmer Alaska.

Go to the Arctic Ocean and what you see is a massive amount of missing ice, and, because that ice is missing, the ocean is absorbing more energy from the sun, and it is creating a feedback loop that is having further devastating consequences. And so the list goes on and on.

It is not just time to address climate change boldly. It is time to address it aggressively. It is time for 100 by 50. What that means is 100 percent clean and renewable energy to power the economy by the year 2050 and the steps to get there in between and to have 50 percent of our energy clean and renewable by the year 2030. That is not far away. That is just 13 years away, and for 2050, add another 20 years.

We have to act quickly because right now human civilization is failing the test. Our responsibility is to stop burning fossil fuels and to stop putting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. That is why we have to rapidly transition from an energy economy based on fossil fuels to one based on clean and renewable energy.

Why do I say we are failing the test at the moment? We are failing the test because if you look at the flow of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere from human civilization, the rate of carbon dioxide pollution has not leveled out. In fact, the speed of pollution and the amount of pollution per year is increasing. So we have a tremendous challenge ahead of us. We have to take and not only reduce the amount but reduce it enormously in a short period of time.

Now some say this vision is too bold. Some say this vision is too difficult, that it is too hard. It makes me think of President Kennedy's call. He said decades ago:

> We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard. Because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win.

I tell you today that we must, as a Nation, be willing to accept the challenge of transforming our energy economy. We must be unwilling to postpone tackling this challenge of transforming our energy economy, and this challenge is one where we must be committed to winning. It is not just time. It is way past time.

I came to the Senate floor last September to lay out the concept of 100 by 50—100 percent clean, renewable energy by 2050. I come today to the Senate floor to say that today a group of Senators are introducing a bill to lay out a roadmap to get there.

Just as President Kennedy laid out the vision of putting an American on the moon, NASA went to work and laid out a plan on how we would get there. They didn't know at first how it would be done. They hadn't proceeded to invent the staged rocket that would enable someone to escape the gravity of Earth in a fashion to get us to the moon. They didn't know how to create a lunar landing operation to put people safely on the planet surface. They weren't even sure of the composition of the surface of the moon, but they figured it out. They put forward a draft. They reworked that draft.

Today we are putting forth a roadmap. I thank my colleagues who are standing with me today to be the original cosponsors: Senator BERNIE SANDERS of Vermont, Senator ED MARKEY of Massachusetts, and Senator CORY BOOKER of New Jersey. I know other colleagues will join us as time progresses, but it is important not to wait until we have, if you will, a large population to begin the conversation—a large set of sponsors to begin the conversation of laying out a roadmap. It is important to lay it out now. It is important to lay it out now because it is a statement of values. It is important to lay it out now so that there is a vision that can be discussed—a detailed vision of how to take on different sectors of the energy economy that can be discussed and debated.

So we are focused not on whether to get to 100 by 50, but on how we are going to get to 100 by 50. I invite and encourage that debate because each of us can envision a roadmap that is slightly different. So let's have that conversation, but let's not forget the importance of getting to this destination—100 percent clean, renewable energy—and getting thereby the year 2050.

Yes, it is audacious when you think about how we use energy today, to think about how we can transform it in just a few decades, but we have many of the tools we need right now. With focused research and development, we can add the other tools that we need.

Let us not fail to accept this challenge, because our planet is crying out in anguish. In addition to the facts on the ground that I have been mentioning, we can simply take the temperature of the planet. Month after month after month, year after year, in the past 2 years we have been setting new records for having the hottest month—not the hottest month in Washington, DC, not the hottest month in the United States of America but the hottest March in the history of the planet, the hottest April since we have been measuring the temperature of the planet—May, June, and so on and so forth.

So the time for conversing about whether we have a problem is over. Now is the time to say how we will achieve this vision.

One important element of achieving this vision is greening the grid. That means that we need to phase out electricity that is generated by fossil fuels. We need to invest in clean and renewable energy that puts green electrons in the grid instead, and we need to advance and develop the deployment of technologies that contribute to this, including high-voltage transmission lines that will move energy between different parts of the United States. We certainly need to develop the ability to store electricity and to use automated demand management and automated supply management so we can match the supply of green energy to the demand at different times of the day or just the demand of different times of the day to make renewable energy fit to the operation of the economy.

Now, we have some specific powerful gifts in this effort. One is that we have a dramatically declining cost of solar energy. A second is that we have a dramatically declining cost in wind energy. A third is that we have a dramatically declining cost of battery storage. This isn't an accident. This has happened because of the innovation economy where these ideas were developed and promoted and researched and advanced right here in the United States of America. But it really helps change the conversation. There have been many who are deeply invested in the fossil fuel world who would like to say that advancing to a clean and renewable energy economy will hurt the economy. But now we are coming to the point that it is less expensive to generate renewable energy than to generate fossil fuel energy. The fact is that we can create a tremendous number of jobs as we rebuild this energy economy.

If we turn specifically to the issue of a Federal emissions vehicle standard—because that is one of the pieces of this puzzle—it means that we have to make national investments in electrical recharging stations along our roads and highways to support these vehicles. There are already half a million plug-in electric vehicles on our roads today, and these vehicles—these cars—are becoming cheaper as the numbers continue to grow.

One of the factors that is enabling the car to become cheaper is the dropping cost of lithium in the batteries that power them. They are getting smaller, lighter, and cheaper. So in the same space you can put more energy with less weight to drive cars further. Since 2008, the cost of these batteries per kilowatt hour has fallen fourfold. They will continuously grow. Having more of these cars on our roads and our highways as the costs keep falling, it is vital that we have an infrastructure in place to support them.

We need to ensure that everyone is part of this clean and renewable energy resolution, including low-income and disadvantaged communities. We addressed that in the 100 by 50 legislation. To do this, we established grants to bring affordable clean energy and energy efficiency to individuals' homes and communities. We invest in zero emission public transportation that is affordable and accessible. We also want to ensure that no workers are left behind in this transformation, especially the workers in the fossil fuel industry. That is why we need to provide a just transition for those workers and job training programs. We need to have a strategy to ensure that there are opportunities to move from jobs in the fossil fuel world to positions in the clean and renewable energy industry. Those industries are, in fact, booming, with jobs in solar and wind growing 12 times faster than the rest of the U.S. economy. Already, the number of clean and renewable industry jobs has surpassed those in the fossil fuel industry by a margin of 5 to 1.

We want to enable everyone to have the skills they need to succeed in these emerging industries, but to move to this future, we must come to a point at which we stop investing in new fossil fuel infrastructure. We cannot proceed to make this pivot quickly to a cleaner, brighter, renewable future if we continue to tie ourselves and our government to a fossil fuel-powered past. To achieve this clean break, the 100 by 50 Act ends future fossil fuel investments at the Federal level. That would affect projects similar to the Keystone XL Pipeline and the Dakota Access Pipeline, and we would end the tax subsidies for the fossil fuel industry.

This burning of fossil fuels is destroying our planet. We must stop subsidizing the destruction of our planet. This burning of fossil fuels is destroying our forests, which our rural communities depend on. We must stop subsidizing the destruction of our forests. The burning of these fossil fuels is driving droughts, reducing irrigation water, and hurting our farmers. We must quit subsidizing the destruction of agriculture in America. The burning of fossil fuels is also impacting our fishing—from warmer, smaller trout streams to a fishing industry that depends on the critical ecosystem in the ocean. We must stop subsidizing the destruction of our fishing industry.

It is also important to make sure that America remains a leader in the energy economy and leads in the effort to make sure that we do not have a disadvantage with regard to manufacturing in other countries. What that means is that, with regard to countries that are not pursuing this on the same aggressive level, we need to have an effort to drive this transaction. We need to make sure that if there are additional costs, those are offset with a border tax so that we do not encourage the movement of production out of our economy here at home. We have done so with trade policy—in a massively destructive way—to the middle class of America. If we do not make things in America, we will not have a middle class in America, and we need to make sure that we do not do that in the transition of our energy economy.

To fund this plan, we propose a new source of revenue. When I say a ''new source of revenue,'' that is a little misleading because we are taking a cue from history, specifically World War II, and modeling bonds—climate bonds—on the war bonds that helped fund our fight against totalitarianism—to fund our fight against Germany and the Soviet Union. Auctioning off climate bonds is a way to raise the funds to drive the grants to power this transformation—to accelerate this transformation—and make sure that we do not leave out disadvantaged communities but, rather, bring them fully into this transition. The 100 by 50 Act is ambitious, but the circumstances require no less.

Furthermore, we cannot, simply, propose a Federal Government strategy because we live in the United States of America, where important things are done at many different levels. Here in this Chamber—right now in the U.S. Senate—we do not have a committee chair who is going to say that we need to have committee hearings in order to take on this issue. We do not have a committee chair on the House side who is going to drive this conversation. We do not have a President who understands the damage that is being done to our forests and our fishing and our farming and to our planet and who is going to lead the battle.

We have to turn to the wisdom of the American people. We have to turn to the wisdom of the States and the wisdom of the counties and the wisdom of the cities and the wisdom of individuals across America who are willing to go to the leadership of their mosques or the leadership of their temples or the leadership of their churches, who are willing to go to the leadership of nonprofits that they are a part of, who are willing to go to their city councils or their county commissions, who are willing to go to their State legislators.

They are going to say that we need to have a 100 by 50 resolution for our nonprofits, for our religious organizations, for our cities, for our counties, for our States because we need to own this issue. We Americans at every level need to own this issue. This is an issue that depends upon citizens across the globe taking hold of this in a powerful way that cannot be blocked by the dark money of the fossil fuel industry.

In so doing, by passing that 100 by 50 resolution for the city or the nonprofit or the church or the mosque or the synagogue or the temple, we will also adopt an action plan that involves the specific steps that local organizations are going to take over the next 2 to 3 years. This year, maybe they are going to convert their hot water heaters to electrons rather than burning natural gas. Maybe they are going to sign up for green electrons from their local utilities, which is an option that is offered in many places across America. The following year, maybe they are going to invest in energy-saving retrofits of their buildings. The year after that, maybe they are going to say that we have to revamp our fleet of vehicles and start using rechargeable vehicles, like the Volt or the Bolt or the LEAF or a whole set of cars that has been appearing in the economy over the last few years. One can charge them up and, thereby, run them off green electrons rather than off fossil fuels.

These are things that can be owned and done. In fact, it is already happening. It is happening with local organizations across this country that are committing themselves to 100 percent clean and renewable energy. More than 25 cities across the country have already adopted this vision—from Madison, WI, to Abita Springs, LA; from San Diego, CA, to Salt Lake City, UT; from Georgetown, TX, to Greensburg, KS—cities that are working toward a 100 percent clean and renewable future. There are 88 major businesses that are getting in on the action as well—Walmart, Johnson & Johnson, Procter & Gamble, Nike, Coca-Cola, General Motors, and Apple. These are only a few of the major companies that have committed to powering themselves with 100 percent clean and renewable energy.

What is driving this move toward clean and renewable energy? It is that Americans everywhere are seeing the effects on the ground. They are calling for action, and community leaders and business leaders are responding. We need to respond here in the U.S. Senate. We should be holding hearings on how to put this plan into action. We should be taking the best ideas from the city actions and the business actions and the nonprofit actions from across the country and from the ideas generated on the right side of the aisle and the left side of the aisle because the destruction we face—the threat we face—is not a blue issue or a red issue; it is a human civilization issue.

America has been a driver of the technology that can transform our economy and also the technology that we can sell to the world. In adopting this vision and in fighting for this vision, America can be a leader with other nations around the world. It has been beyond strange to have other countries lecture us over the last few months to maintain our commitment as a Federal Government to this vision. Other countries are saying: America, you have to be part of the solution. You have benefited enormously from the burning of fossil fuels, perhaps more than any other economy in the world. You have one of the highest per capita footprints for carbon. You must be part of this effort because every country in the world is affected.

More than 40 countries have now adopted the vision of clean and renewable energy, so there is no time for America to step out and not be part of the solution, not be part of the leadership, not be part of the driving force, not benefit from being on the cutting edge of this transformation of the energy economy.

Just as President Kennedy laid out the vision for going to the Moon, Americans from every walk are coming together to lay out the vision for a 100 percent clean and renewable energy economy. They are adopting a framework—a time, a goal—as to where we are going and when we are getting there; 100 by 50 sums it up.

After President Kennedy laid out the vision, America went to work to make it happen, and we landed American citizens on the Moon. Now it is time for all of America to get to work and implement this vision and ensure that we succeed in transforming our energy economy within the next few decades by taking important steps every single year—driving ourselves forward, understanding the urgency, applying the technology, accelerating the implementation—to achieve 100 percent clean and renewable energy by 2050.

If there were an asteroid coming toward the Earth, we would not be talking politics or political advantage. We would all be working together to take it on—destroy it before it destroyed us. We have the equivalent of an asteroid that is coming at the Earth in global warming. The time to play politics has passed. The time to play partisanship has passed. It is time for every citizen and every organization at every level—every chair representing every Senator from every State in the Union—to come together to take on this challenge together.

I call upon my fellow Senators to be part of, perhaps, the most important effort we have to solve the biggest challenge to the health of America and the health of the planet—global warming. Step forward and be part of the effort.

Thank you, Mr. President.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 144—DESIGNATING MAY 1, 2017, AS ‘‘NATIONAL PUREBRED DOG DAY’’

Mr. TILLIS submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 144

Whereas the human-canine bond predates history and individuals have enjoyed the companionship and assistance of dogs since the dawn of civilization;

Whereas dog ownership has existed in all cultures, races, climates, and economic situations;

Whereas more than 350 dog breeds exist worldwide, and more than 180 breeds are recognized by the American Kennel Club;

Whereas purebred dogs and breeders of purebred dogs have played a crucial role in United States history, dating to colonial times, during which George Washington had a foxhound breeding program, which established the American Foxhound breed;

Whereas responsible breeders of purebred dogs dedicate their lives to improving the health and well-being of dogs and preserving unique breeds of dogs;

Whereas purebred dogs were created to work alongside humans, and provide inestimable service as—

(1) search and rescue dogs;

(2) service dogs;

(3) disease detection dogs;

(4) police dogs;

(5) conservation dogs;

(6) livestock guardians;

(7) therapy dogs; and

(8) companions and guardians of families, homes, and property;

Whereas purebred dogs provide unparalleled service to the disabled as guide and service dogs, and are the choice of leading service dog breeding programs because of the heritable intelligence, and desirable and predictable qualities, of purebred dogs;

Whereas purebred military working dogs serve alongside the men and women of the United States Armed Forces in combat and in peacetime;

Whereas breed instinct enables purebred dogs to readily serve as—

(1) avalanche dogs;

(2) trackers and trailers;

(3) herders;

(4) controllers of vermin;

(5) water rescuers;

(6) carting and sled dogs;

(7) retrievers;

(8) protectors;

(9) hunters; and

(10) bird dogs;

Whereas the first ‘‘National Purebred Dog Day’’ was established on May 1, 2015;

Whereas millions of individuals, through social media and other avenues, recognize May 1 each year as ‘‘National Purebred Dog Day’’ and desire, on May 1, to expressly recognize the contributions of the purebred dog; and

Whereas individuals value all dogs, regardless of the ancestry of the dogs, and especially cherish a purpose-bred dog and the predictability of each respective breed of purpose-bred dog: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 1, 2017, as ‘‘National Purebred Dog Day’’ in celebration of purebred dogs and the many service and companion benefits purebred dogs have and continue to provide to the United States; and

(2) honors the dedicated and responsible breeders who work to preserve and advance their breeds and responsible dog ownership throughout the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 145—DESIGNATING APRIL 2017 AS ‘‘FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH’’

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. COONS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 145

Whereas, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (referred to in this preamble as the ‘‘FDIC’’), at least 26.9 percent of households in the United States, or nearly 33,500,000 households with approximately 66,700,000 adults, are unbanked or underbanked and therefore have not had an opportunity to access savings, lending, and other basic financial services;

Whereas, according to the FDIC, approximately 30 percent of banks reported in 2011 that consumers lacked an understanding of the financial products and services banks offered;

Whereas, according to the 2016 Consumer Financial Literacy Survey final report of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling—

(1) approximately 44 percent of adults in the United States gave themselves a grade of ‘‘C’’, ‘‘D’’, or ‘‘F’’ on their knowledge of personal finance;

(2) 75 percent of adults in the United States acknowledged that they could benefit from additional advice and answers to everyday financial questions from a professional;

(3) 22 percent of adults in the United States, or approximately 51,600,000 individuals, admitted to not paying bills on time;

(4) 1 in 3 households reported carrying credit card debt from month to month;

(5) only 40 percent of adults in the United States reported keeping close track of their spending, a percentage that held steady since 2007; and

(6) 14 percent of adults in the United States identified not having enough ‘‘rainy day’’ savings for an emergency, and 15 percent of adults in the United States identified not having enough money set aside for retirement, as the most worrisome area of personal finance;

Whereas the 2016 Retirement Confidence Survey conducted by the Employee Benefit Research Institute found that 19 percent of workers were ‘‘not at all confident’’ that they had enough money to retire;

Whereas, according to the statistical release of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the fourth quarter of 2016 entitled ‘‘Financial Accounts of the United States: Flow of Funds, Balance Sheets, and Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts’’, outstanding household debt in the United States was $14,800,000,000,000 at the end of the fourth quarter of 2016;

Whereas, according to the 2016 Survey of the States: Economic and Personal Finance Education in Our Nation's Schools, a biennial report by the Council for Economic Education—

(1) only 20 States require students to take an economics course as a high school graduation requirement; and

(2) only 17 States require students to take a personal finance course as a high school graduation requirement, either independently or as part of an economics course;

Whereas, according to the Gallup-HOPE Index, only 52 percent of students in the United States have money in a bank or credit union account;

Whereas expanding access to the safe, mainstream financial system will provide individuals with less expensive and more secure options for managing finances and building wealth;

Whereas quality personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared—

(1) to manage money, credit, and debt; and

(2) to become responsible workers, heads of household, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens;

Whereas increased financial literacy empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions and reduces the confusion caused by an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas a greater understanding of, and familiarity with, financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth; and

Whereas, in 2003, Congress—

(1) determined that coordinating Federal financial literacy efforts and formulating a national strategy is important; and

(2) in light of that determination, passed the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.), establishing the Financial Literacy and Education Commission: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—