

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1079

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to States to establish a comprehensive school counseling program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2015

Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KEATING, Mr. CICILLINE, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. KENNEDY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to States to establish a comprehensive school counseling program.

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 “Counseling for Career
5 Choice Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT.**

2 Title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education
3 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) is amended by add-
4 ing at the end the following:

5 “PART E—COUNSELING FOR CAREER CHOICE

6 **“SEC. 5701. DEFINITIONS.**

7 “In this part:

8 “(1) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term ‘com-
9 munity college’ means—

10 “(A) a junior or community college (as de-
11 fined in section 312(f) of the Higher Education
12 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058(f));

13 “(B) a 4-year public institution of higher
14 education (as defined in section 101 of the
15 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
16 1001)) that awards a significant number of de-
17 grees and certificates, as determined by the
18 Secretary, that are not—

19 “(i) baccalaureate degrees (or an
20 equivalent); or

21 “(ii) master’s, professional, or other
22 advanced degrees; or

23 “(C) an area career and technical edu-
24 cation school (as defined in section 3 of the
25 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Edu-
26 cation Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302)).

1 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
2 tity’ means—

3 “(A) a local educational agency, including
4 an educational service agency; or

5 “(B) a consortium that must consist of one
6 local educational agency in combination with
7 one or more local educational agencies, edu-
8 cational service agencies, non-profit organiza-
9 tions with demonstrated expertise in counseling
10 or career and technical education, postsec-
11 ondary institutions, or tribal organizations.

12 “(3) LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT
13 BOARD.—The term ‘local workforce investment
14 board’ means a local workforce investment board es-
15 tablished under section 117 of the Workforce Invest-
16 ment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2832).

17 “(4) SCHOOL COUNSELOR.—The term ‘school
18 counselor’ has the meaning given the term in section
19 5421.

20 “(5) STAKEHOLDERS.—The term ‘stakeholders’
21 includes local educational agencies, school coun-
22 selors, secondary schools, institutions of higher edu-
23 cation (including community colleges), eligible agen-
24 cies as defined under section 203 of the Adult Edu-
25 cation and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9202),

1 the State workforce investment board, the State
2 agency responsible for labor market information,
3 other applicable State agencies as determined by the
4 Secretary, local workforce investment boards, area
5 career and technical education schools (as defined in
6 section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
7 nical Education Act of 2006), local businesses and
8 industries, organizations offering apprenticeship pro-
9 grams, tribal organizations, labor organizations, pro-
10 grams leading to post-secondary credentials, includ-
11 ing industry-recognized credentials, other programs
12 for career and technical education (as defined in sec-
13 tion 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical
14 Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302)), and any
15 other organizations, individuals or persons that the
16 Secretary determines appropriate to carry out the
17 purposes of this part.

18 “(6) STATEWIDE COUNSELING FRAMEWORK.—
19 The term ‘statewide counseling framework’ means a
20 framework that encompasses grades 6 through 12
21 and postsecondary education and that includes infor-
22 mation on career awareness, skills assessment, skills
23 training, student interest surveys, postsecondary
24 education entrance requirements, secondary school
25 graduation requirements, high school equivalency,

1 adult education programs and services, financial aid,
2 institutions of higher education, community colleges,
3 programs leading to industry-recognized credentials,
4 career and technical education programs, intern-
5 ships, dual enrollment programs, apprenticeships,
6 and professional development opportunities or career
7 development training for school counselors.

8 “(7) STATE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT
9 BOARD.—The term ‘State workforce investment
10 board’ means a State workforce investment board
11 established under section 111 of the Workforce In-
12 vestment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2821).

13 “(8) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘tribal
14 organization’ has the meaning given the term in sec-
15 tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
16 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

17 “(9) INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL.—
18 The term ‘industry-recognized,’ used with respect to
19 a credential, means a credential that—

20 “(A) is sought or accepted by employers
21 within the industry or sector involved as a rec-
22 ognized, preferred, or required credential for re-
23 cruitment, screening, hiring, retention or ad-
24 vancement purposes; and

1 “(B) where appropriate, is endorsed by a
2 nationally recognized trade association or orga-
3 nization representing a significant part of the
4 industry or sector.

5 **“SEC. 5702. ESTABLISHMENT AND CAPACITY-BUILDING**
6 **GRANTS.**

7 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT GRANTS.—

8 “(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts
9 appropriated to carry out this part and not reserved
10 by the Secretary under subsection (b), the Secretary
11 shall award establishment grants, on a competitive
12 basis, to State educational agencies to enable the
13 State educational agencies to carry out the activities
14 described in section 5704.

15 “(2) DURATION; EXTENSION.—

16 “(A) DURATION.—Each establishment
17 grant under this subsection shall be for a period
18 of not more than 2 years.

19 “(B) AMOUNT.—Each grant shall be of an
20 amount not less than \$2,000,000 and not more
21 than \$5,000,000.

22 “(C) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may ex-
23 tend a grant awarded under this subsection for
24 additional 3-year periods if the State edu-
25 cational agency—

1 “(i) is achieving the intended out-
2 comes of the grant;

3 “(ii) shows continued engagement
4 with stakeholders; and

5 “(iii) has established a statewide
6 counseling framework.

7 “(b) STATE CAPACITY-BUILDING GRANTS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall reserve
9 not less than 10 percent and not more than 20 per-
10 cent of the amounts appropriated to carry out this
11 part for any fiscal year to award capacity-building
12 grants, on a competitive basis, to State educational
13 agencies that do not receive an establishment grant
14 under subsection (a) for such year.

15 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—A State educational agency
16 that receives a capacity-building grant under this
17 subsection shall use grant funds to carry out 1 or
18 more of the activities from the State educational
19 agency’s application under section 5703 that the
20 Secretary determines is an acceptable use of funds.

21 **“SEC. 5703. APPLICATION.**

22 “A State educational agency desiring a grant under
23 this part shall submit an application at such time, in such
24 manner, and containing such information as the Secretary
25 may require. The application shall include—

1 “(1)(A) a description of a proposed statewide
2 counseling framework that is developed in consulta-
3 tion with not less than 5 stakeholders, of which at
4 least 1 stakeholder shall be a local business or indus-
5 try or statewide industry organization and 1 stake-
6 holder shall be a local educational agency or sec-
7 ondary school;

8 “(B) a detailed plan to implement a statewide
9 counseling framework that is developed in consulta-
10 tion with not less than 5 stakeholders, of which at
11 least 1 stakeholder shall be a local business or indus-
12 try or statewide industry organization and 1 shall be
13 a local educational agency or secondary school; or

14 “(C) evidence of an existing statewide coun-
15 seling framework and implementation plan sup-
16 ported by not less than 5 stakeholders, of which at
17 least 1 stakeholder shall be a local business or indus-
18 try or statewide industry organization and 1 shall be
19 a local educational agency or secondary school; and

20 “(2) a description of how the State educational
21 agency will award subgrants and ensure that the ac-
22 tivities described in section 5704 are carried out.

1 **“SEC. 5704. ACTIVITIES.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A State educational agency re-
3 ceiving an establishment grant under section 5702(a) shall
4 use grant funds to—

5 “(1) develop and implement comprehensive
6 school career counseling programs that align with
7 the statewide counseling framework proposed or de-
8 scribed in the State educational agency’s application;

9 “(2) identify and assess school counseling ac-
10 tivities and postsecondary options available within
11 the State, and outside the State as applicable;

12 “(3) hire additional school counselors to effec-
13 tively serve more students in postsecondary edu-
14 cation and adult education planning and career
15 guidance activities, where applicable;

16 “(4) identify regional workforce trends in col-
17 laboration with entities at the State and regional
18 level with expertise in identifying such trends, such
19 as State workforce investment boards, local work-
20 force investment boards, regional economic develop-
21 ment organizations, or State employment agencies;

22 “(5) train school counselors effectively to pro-
23 vide students with current and relevant workforce
24 information, financial aid assistance, personal coun-
25 seling, and academic advising relevant to students’
26 individual career and postsecondary education goals;

1 “(6) develop and implement a process and in-
2 frastructure for school counselors and school coun-
3 selor programs to access the statewide counseling
4 framework and information regarding the regional
5 workforce trends identified in paragraph (4);

6 “(7) develop and implement professional devel-
7 opment or career development training certification
8 programs for counselors and other educators in-
9 volved in preparing students for postsecondary op-
10 portunities;

11 “(8) develop a searchable method by which
12 counseling professional development opportunities
13 from around the State are collected, maintained, and
14 disseminated to school counselors;

15 “(9) establish, improve, or coordinate postsec-
16 ondary opportunities, which may include individual
17 career planning, personalized learning plans, reg-
18 istered apprenticeships, internships, dual enrollment
19 programs, programs leading to industry-recognized
20 credentials (including programs at a secondary
21 school), 2-year degree programs, 4-year degree pro-
22 grams, and other applicable postsecondary opportu-
23 nities;

24 “(10) provide recommendations and improve a
25 local educational agency’s and other education serv-

1 ice program providers to out of school youth and
2 adults curricula to better align with workforce
3 trends and available postsecondary opportunities;

4 “(11) conduct other activities pertaining to the
5 administration of the statewide framework;

6 “(12) establish partnerships with American Job
7 Centers, which may include co-locating an American
8 Job Center in a high school, transporting students
9 to local American Job Centers, or having American
10 Job Center career counselors and business liaisons
11 assist school counselors in hosting job fairs, career
12 days, or other such similar tasks; and

13 “(13) leverage resources and emerging tech-
14 nologies that are being developed by stakeholders to
15 support the counseling framework.

16 “(b) SUBGRANTS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State educational agency
18 that receives an establishment grant may carry out
19 the activities described in subsection (a) directly or
20 through awarding subgrants, on a competitive basis,
21 to eligible entities to enable the eligible entities to
22 carry out any of the activities.

23 “(2) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that de-
24 sires a subgrant under this subsection shall submit
25 an application to the State educational agency at

1 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
2 formation as the State educational agency may rea-
3 sonably require, including a description of the com-
4 prehensive school counseling program for partici-
5 pating schools and students that the eligible entity
6 proposes to develop and implement using subgrant
7 funds.

8 “(c) **HIRING OF PERSONNEL.**—An eligible entity that
9 receives an establishment grant under section 5702(a)
10 may use grant funds to hire additional school personnel
11 to carry out the activities described in subsection (a).

12 **“SEC. 5705. SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.**

13 “Funds made available under this part shall be used
14 to supplement, and not supplant, other Federal, State,
15 and local funds available to carry out the activities sup-
16 ported under this part.

17 **“SEC. 5706. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

18 “Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment
19 of the Counseling for Career Choice Act, and every 3 years
20 thereafter, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the
21 appropriate committees of Congress a report on the
22 progress made by the eligible entities receiving grants
23 under this part in implementing grant activities.

1 **“SEC. 5707. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
3 this part \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2016 and
4 \$40,000,000 for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.”.

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