



# SECTION BY SECTION

House Committee on Education and Labor

Chairman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

## *Relaunching America's Workforce Act*

**Section 1. Bill Title:** Relaunching America's Workforce Act.

**Section 2. Definitions:** Defines coronavirus, COVID-19 national emergency, "Secretary" as the Secretary of Labor for sections 101-145 and sections 161 and 171, "Secretary" as the Secretary of Education for section 151-153 and sections 201-204, and apprenticeship programs as Registered Apprenticeship programs.

**Section 3. Special Rule.** Clarifies that any funds for apprenticeships under this bill can only be used for Registered Apprenticeships.

### **Title I – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act**

**Section 101. Definitions and WIOA requirements:** Clarifies that all terms under this Title carry the meaning given in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and that activities funded under this Act shall follow WIOA requirements.

**Section 111. Workforce Response Activities:** Provides additional flexibilities to state and local workforce systems in responding to the COVID-19 national emergency, including:

- *Eligibility:* Expands eligibility for adult and dislocated workers to include individuals eligible for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) under Section 2102 of the CARES Act (P.L. 116-136), such as those who are self-employed or working as independent contractors and individuals with barriers to employment, including individuals with disabilities.
- *Individualized Career Services:* Allows for all eligible individuals to receive individualized career services, such as individualized employment plans, career planning, counseling, financial literacy training, and comprehensive skills assessments.
- *Incumbent Worker Training:* Allows local workforce boards to use up to 40 percent of funds for incumbent worker training, and to take into account the COVID-19 national emergency when determining employer and participant eligibility.
- *Transitional Jobs:* Allows local workforce boards to use up to 40 percent of funds for transitional jobs, including for public sector employment.
- *On-the-Job Training:* Allows the Governor and local workforce boards to take the COVID-19 national emergency into account when determining whether to allow for up to 75 percent of wages to be reimbursed while an employee is participating in on-the-job training.
- *Customized Training:* Allows the Governor or local board to take into account the impact of COVID-19 when determining the cost of customized training for an employer.
- *Governor's Reserve:* Allows the Governor to reserve an additional 10 percent of funds beyond their existing reservation of funds under this Act to support areas within their state most impacted by COVID-19.

- *State Workforce Recovery Plan*: Requires states to supplement their workforce development plan to include a strategy for use of additional funds received under this Act to recover from the COVID-19 national emergency.

**Section 112. National Dislocated Worker Grants:** Authorizes \$500 million to support training and temporary employment responding to the COVID-19 national emergency including for health care, direct care and frontline workers, layoff response activities for employers and workers, and requires the Secretary to release no less than 50 percent of the funds to States within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

**Section 113. State Dislocated Worker Grants:** Authorizes \$2.5 billion (unless otherwise stated, all funding is authorized through fiscal year 2023) for state rapid response activities, including layoff aversion strategies, dislocated worker activities (including reemployment and navigation supports), short-term training for COVID-19 emergency response to fill immediate health care and frontline worker needs, and supportive services (such as childcare, housing, and needs-based payments).

**Section 114. Youth Workforce Investment Activities:** Authorizes \$2.5 billion to provide for subsidized youth employment up to age of 24, including for partnerships with employers and community-based organizations, counseling and navigation supports, and supportive services.

**Section 115. Adult Employment and Training Activities:** Authorizes \$2.5 billion to support training services (including on-the-job training, Registered Apprenticeships, customized training, and reimbursement of up to 75% of wages for incumbent worker training), strengthen career services (including career navigation and supportive services), and move training and WIOA services online.

**Section 121. Wagner-Peyser/Employment Service:** Authorizes \$1 billion to support job matching, reemployment activities, individualized career services, and support for employers who are facing layoffs or who are working to bring employees back. Funding will also help with modernizing the job matching data infrastructure across the country.

**Section 131. Job Corps:** Authorizes \$500 million for Job Corps to provide for the operation and reopening of Job Corps Centers during the COVID-19 national emergency, to provide for extended graduate services for recently graduated Job Corps students, to support the cleaning and improvements needed for Job Corps Centers to safely operate, to support virtual or remote learning opportunities while Job Corps students are not on campus, and for stipends for students whose participation has been interrupted due to COVID-19. Provides additional programmatic flexibilities, including:

- *Enrollment Length*: Allows student enrollment to extend beyond 2 years for individuals enrolled during the COVID-19 national emergency.
- *Advanced Career Training Programs*: Allows students to continue to participate in advanced career training programs for an additional year if the program was interrupted due to the COVID-19 national emergency.
- *Counseling and Job Placement*: Allows students who graduated on or after January 1, 2020 or whose enrollment was interrupted due to the COVID-19 national emergency to remain eligible for counseling and job placement supports.
- *Transition Support*: Allows students who have graduated in 2020 to continue to receive transition allowances during and for the three-month period following the COVID-19 national emergency, and to continue to receive employment services during this time.

**Section 141. Native American Programs:** Authorizes \$150 million to support the program.

**Section 142. Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers:** Authorizes \$150 million to support the program, and expands eligibility to individuals not exceeding 150 percent of the poverty line.

**Section 143. YouthBuild:** Authorizes \$250 million to support existing YouthBuild grantees and expand capacity during the COVID-19 national emergency. Provides flexibility on uses of funds for administrative costs, expands eligibility for individuals who turned 25 during the COVID-19 national emergency, and expands enrollment length beyond 2 years for individuals participating in the program during the COVID-19 national emergency.

**Section 144. Reentry Employment Opportunities:** Authorizes \$350 million to support justice-involved youth, young adults, formerly incarcerated adults, and former offenders during and following the COVID-19 national emergency for employment-related opportunities, including subsidized employment, transitional jobs, and bolstering alignment with the workforce system and participant supports. Authorizes competitive grants for intermediaries to carry out these activities, prioritizing high-crime and high-poverty areas

**Section 145. Registered Apprenticeships:** Authorizes \$500 million to support states and intermediaries who are serving employers that are participating in existing registered apprenticeships, with 50 percent of funds going directly to states, to expand registered apprenticeship opportunities, and to pay for activities such as related instruction and supportive services.

**Section 151-153. Adult Education and Literacy:** Authorizes \$1 billion to increase access to adult education and literacy programs for low-income, low-literacy adults, with \$100 million reserved for adult education and literacy activities in correctional facilities, including by moving education and services online, increasing digital literacy training, and encouraging providers to partner more closely with workforce development systems. Requires the Secretary of Education to provide additional strategies and tools to support virtual and online learning.

**Section 161. Community College and Industry Partnership Grants:** Authorizes \$2 billion through fiscal year 2025 to restart the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Community College Career Training (TAACCCT) grants, which were initially awarded during the Great Recession by the Department of Labor to support community college and industry partnerships in creating education and training programs. The program is designed to ensure participants receive stackable, portable credentials in in-demand industries and sectors, and provide additional student services to support program completion. Allows community colleges to use funds for equipment to support training.

**Section 171. General Provisions:** Authorizes \$90 million for program administration, performance evaluations and audits by the Inspector General. Requires funds to supplement, not supplant state and local government funds. Requires the Secretary of Labor to establish an interagency agreement with the Secretary of Education for carrying out grants and coordinating funding priorities, and to make information available on recognized postsecondary credentials awarded under this Act. Requires the Secretary of Labor to provide guidance on using funds under this act in accordance with WIOA within 30 days.

## **Title II – Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006**

**Section 201. Definitions and Perkins CTE Requirements:** Clarifies that the terms in this title have the meaning given the terms in the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins CTE), and that any activities or funds carry the same requirements as Perkins CTE.

**Section 202. Career and Technical Education:** Authorizes \$1 billion to support Perkins CTE programs and activities, including to expand and modernize physical and digital infrastructure to deliver both in-person and virtual educational and work-based learning activities; provide support for restocking supplies that have been donated to COVID-19 response activities (e.g., through nursing programs); and work-based learning supports and subsidies for students and employers.

**Section 203. General Provisions:** Authorizes \$10 million for carrying out this bill and requires that funds under this bill be used to supplement, not supplant non-federal funds. Additionally, requires the Secretary of Education to conduct performance accountability and evaluations of programs funded under this bill, establish an interagency agreement with the Secretary of Labor for carrying out grants and funding priorities, and requires the Department to issue guidance on using funds under this Act in accordance with Perkins CTE within 30 days.

## ***Rebuilding America's Workforce Act Authorized Funding***

<b>Program</b>	<b>Amount</b>
National Dislocated Worker Grants	\$500 Million
State Dislocated Worker Grants	\$2.5 Billion
Youth Workforce Investment Activities	\$2.5 Billion
Adult Employment and Training Activities	\$2.5 Billion
Wagner-Peyser/Employment Service	\$1 Billion
Job Corps	\$500 Million
Native American Programs	\$150 Million
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers	\$150 Million
YouthBuild	\$250 Million
Reentry Employment Opportunities	\$350 Million
Registered Apprenticeships	\$500 Million
Adult Education and Literacy	\$1 Billion
Community College and Industry Partnership Grants	\$2 Billion
Department of Labor Administration	\$90 Million
Career and Technical Education	\$1 Billion
Department of Education Administration	\$10 Million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15 Billion</b>