AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 4508
OFFERED BY MR. POLIS OF COLORADO

Strike section 702 and insert the following:

SEC. 702. CREDIT-BASED ACADEMIC TRANSITION PRO-
GRAMS.

Part B of title VII of the Higher Education Act of
1965 (20 U.S.C. 1138 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 745 as section 746;
(2) in section 746, as redesignated by para-
graph (1), by striking “fiscal year 2009” and insert-
ing “fiscal year 2018”; and
(3) by inserting after section 744 the following:

“SEC. 745. CREDIT-BASED ACADEMIC TRANSITION PRO-
GRAMS.

“(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to ex-
pand access for high school students to the opportunities
offered in credit-based academic transition programs es-
tablished through partnerships between high schools and
institutions of higher education utilizing dual or concur-
rent enrollment programs or early college high school pro-
grams that enable such students to earn college credits
while in high school.
(b) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—In this section, the term ‘eligible institution’ means an institution of higher education that carries out a dual or concurrent enrollment program or an early college high school program that enables high school students to earn college credits while in high school.

(c) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may award grants to eligible institutions to carry out credit-based academic transition programs described in subsection (a).

(d) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution that desires to receive a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(e) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible institutions that serve students from low-income families, students from rural communities, or students who are the first in their family to receive postsecondary education.

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

(1) to carry out a dual or concurrent enrollment program or an early college high school pro-
gram for high school students, through which such
students while enrolled in high school are enrolled in
postsecondary courses at the eligible institution,
through which such students can earn college credits
that can be transferred to 2-year and 4-year institu-
tions of higher education in the State;

“(2) to provide teachers, principals, and other
school leaders with professional development activi-
ties that enhance or enable the provision of postsec-
ondary coursework through a dual or concurrent en-
rollment program or an early college high school
program; and

“(3) to support activities such as—

“(A) designing the curriculum and se-
quence of courses in collaboration with teachers
from the local educational agency and faculty
from the eligible institution;

“(B) establishing a course articulation
process for defining and approving courses for
high school and postsecondary credit or creden-
tials for both 2-year and 4-year institutions of
higher education in the State;

“(C) outreach programs to provide elemen-
tary school and secondary school students, espe-
sially those in middle grades, and their parents,
teachers, school counselors, and principals information about and academic preparation for the credit-based academic transition programs described in subsection (a);

“(D) helping students meet eligibility criteria for postsecondary courses and ensuring that students understand how credits earned will transfer to institutions of higher education in the State; and

“(E) coordinating secondary and postsecondary support services and academic calendars.

“(g) FLEXIBILITY OF FUNDS.—An eligible institution that receives a grant under this section may use grant funds for any of the costs associated with carrying out credit-based academic transition programs described in subsection (a), including the costs of—

“(1) tuition and fees, books, and required instructional materials for such program so that students will not be required to pay tuition or fees for postsecondary courses; and

“(2) transportation to and from such program.

“(h) EVALUATION AND REPORT.—Each eligible institution receiving a grant under this section shall—
“(1) conduct an independent evaluation of the effectiveness of the activities carried out by such eligible institution under this section; and

“(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary a report containing the results of the evaluation described in paragraph (1).

“(i) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to impose on any State or public institution of higher education any requirement or rule regarding credit-based academic transition programs described in subsection (a) that is inconsistent with State law.”.