



(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To encourage online workforce training.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LARSEN of Washington introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To encourage online workforce training.

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 “Online Job Training
5 Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. ONLINE WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAMS.**

7 Section 169 of the Workforce Investment and Oppor-
8 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3224) is amended by adding at the
9 end the following:

10 “(d) ONLINE WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM.—

1 “(1) NATIONAL ONLINE WORKFORCE TRAINING
2 GRANTS.—

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—From the amount ap-
4 propriated under subparagraph (G), the Sec-
5 retary shall award National Online Workforce
6 Training Grants on a competitive basis to eligi-
7 ble entities to enable such entities to carry out
8 workforce training programs using distance-
9 learning technologies, such as the Internet. An
10 entity may leverage such grant with other Fed-
11 eral, State, local, and private resources, in
12 order to expand the participation of businesses,
13 employees, and other individuals in such train-
14 ing programs.

15 “(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.—For
16 purposes of this subsection, the term ‘eligible
17 entity’ means an educational institution, com-
18 munity-based organization, nonprofit organiza-
19 tion, State board or local board, or unit of gen-
20 eral local government, which provides online
21 workforce training.

22 “(C) PRIORITY.—Priority in awarding
23 grants under this paragraph shall be given to
24 eligible entities that—

1 “(i) have demonstrated experience in
2 implementing and operating online work-
3 force training and education programs;

4 “(ii) have demonstrated experience co-
5 ordinating activities, where appropriate,
6 with the workforce investment system; and

7 “(iii) conduct training for in-demand
8 industry sectors or occupations.

9 “(D) DATA COLLECTION.—Each eligible
10 entity receiving a grant under this paragraph
11 shall collect and report information on—

12 “(i) the number of participants in the
13 workforce training program funded under
14 this paragraph;

15 “(ii) the services received by the par-
16 ticipants;

17 “(iii) program completion rates;

18 “(iv) factors determined as signifi-
19 cantly interfering with program participa-
20 tion or completion;

21 “(v) the rate of job placement; and

22 “(vi) other information as determined
23 as needed by the Secretary.

24 “(E) OUTREACH.—Each eligible entity re-
25 ceiving a grant under this paragraph shall con-

1 duct outreach activities to disseminate informa-
2 tion to workforce investment boards, local gov-
3 ernments, educational institutions, and other
4 workforce training organizations about—

5 “(i) the workforce training program
6 funded under this paragraph; and

7 “(ii) the results of such, and the best
8 practices with respect to workforce training
9 identified as a result of, program.

10 “(F) PERFORMANCE LEVELS.—The Sec-
11 retary shall establish indicators of performance
12 that will be used to evaluate the performance of
13 eligible entities under this paragraph in car-
14 rying out the activities required under this
15 paragraph. Prior to awarding a grant under
16 this paragraph to an eligible entity, the Sec-
17 retary shall negotiate and reach agreement with
18 the entity regarding the levels of performance
19 expected to be achieved by the entity on the in-
20 dicators of performance.

21 “(G) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
22 TIONS.—There are authorized to be appro-
23 priated to the Secretary to carry out this para-
24 graph \$50,000,000 for fiscal years 2019
25 through 2029.

1 “(2) ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAM CLEARING-
2 HOUSE.—

3 “(A) DESCRIPTION OF GRANT.—From the
4 amounts appropriated under subparagraph (D),
5 the Secretary shall award one grant to an eligi-
6 ble institution of higher education to provide
7 the services described in this paragraph.

8 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to re-
9 ceive a grant under this paragraph, an institu-
10 tion of higher education shall—

11 “(i) have demonstrated the ability to
12 disseminate research on best practices for
13 implementing workforce investment activi-
14 ties; and

15 “(ii) be a national leader in producing
16 cutting-edge research on technology related
17 to workforce development systems under
18 this title.

19 “(C) SERVICES.—The postsecondary edu-
20 cational institution that receives a grant under
21 this paragraph shall use such grant—

22 “(i) to provide technical assistance to
23 entities that receive grants under para-
24 graph (1);

1 “(ii) to collect and nationally dissemi-
2 nate the data gathered by entities that re-
3 ceive grants under paragraph (1); and

4 “(iii) to disseminate best practices
5 identified by the Secretary.

6 “(D) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
7 TIONS.—There are authorized to be appro-
8 priated to the Secretary to carry out this sub-
9 section \$1,000,000 for fiscal years 2019
10 through 2029.”.