

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1642

To amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs for small business development centers and women’s business centers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 26, 2025

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. BRESNAHAN, Mr. TRAN, and Mr. WIED) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs for small business development centers and women’s business centers, and for other purposes.

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 “Connecting Small
5 Businesses with Career and Technical Education Grad-
6 uates Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDU-**
2 **CATION.**

3 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 3 of the Small Business
4 Act (15 U.S.C. 632) is amended by adding at the end the
5 following new subsection:

6 “(gg) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—The
7 term ‘career and technical education’ has the meaning
8 given the term in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career
9 and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).”.

10 (b) SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—
11 Section 21(c)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
12 648(c)(1)) is amended—

13 (1) in subparagraph (T), by striking “and” at
14 the end;

15 (2) in clause (v) of the first subparagraph (U)
16 (relating to succession planning), by striking the pe-
17 riod at the end and inserting a semicolon;

18 (3) in second subparagraph (U) (relating to
19 training on domestic and international intellectual
20 property protections)—

21 (A) in clause (ii)(II), by striking the period
22 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

23 (B) by redesignating such subparagraph as
24 subparagraph (V); and

25 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-
26 paragraphs:

1 “(W) providing educational information to
2 small businesses on—

3 “(i) hiring graduates from career and
4 technical education programs; and

5 “(ii) career and technical education
6 programs relevant to such businesses, in-
7 cluding how to use such programs to sat-
8 isfy hiring needs of such businesses;

9 “(X) providing information to career and
10 technical education programs about how stu-
11 dents and graduates of such programs can ac-
12 cess resources and services of small business de-
13 velopment centers to start and expand a small
14 business concern; and

15 “(Y) as appropriate, connecting small busi-
16 nesses with career and technical education pro-
17 grams to assist students and graduates of such
18 programs with identifying career opportuni-
19 ties.”.

20 (c) WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTERS.—Section 29(b) of
21 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(b)) is amended—

22 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the
23 end;

24 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at
25 the end and inserting a semicolon; and

1 (3) by adding at the end the following new
2 paragraphs:

3 “(4) providing educational information to small
4 business concerns owned and controlled by women
5 on—

6 “(A) hiring graduates from career and
7 technical education programs; and

8 “(B) career and technical education pro-
9 grams relevant to such concerns, including how
10 to use such programs to satisfy hiring needs of
11 such concerns;

12 “(5) providing information to career and tech-
13 nical education programs about how students and
14 graduates of such programs can access resources
15 and services of women’s business centers to start
16 and expand a small business concern; and

17 “(6) as appropriate, connecting small business
18 concerns owned and controlled by women with career
19 and technical education programs to assist students
20 and graduates of such programs with identifying ca-
21 reer opportunities.”.

○