

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO
H.R. 8210
OFFERED BY MR. WALBERG OF MICHIGAN**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “A
3 Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Subtitle A—General Provisions

Sec. 101. Purposes.

Sec. 102. Definitions.

Sec. 103. Table of contents amendments.

Subtitle B—System Alignment

CHAPTER 1—STATE PROVISIONS

Sec. 111. State workforce development board.

Sec. 112. Unified State plan.

CHAPTER 2—LOCAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 115. Workforce development areas.

Sec. 116. Local workforce development boards.

Sec. 117. Local plan.

CHAPTER 3—PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY

Sec. 119. Performance accountability system.

Subtitle C—Workforce Investment Activities and Providers

CHAPTER 1—WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES AND PROVIDERS

- Sec. 121. Establishment of one-stop delivery systems.
- Sec. 122. Identification of eligible providers of training services.
- Sec. 123. Eligible providers of youth workforce investment activities.

CHAPTER 2—YOUTH WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES

- Sec. 131. Reservations; Reallocation.
- Sec. 132. Use of funds for youth workforce investment activities.

CHAPTER 3—ADULT AND DISLOCATED WORKER EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

- Sec. 141. State allotments.
- Sec. 142. Reservations for State activities; within State allocations; Reallocation.
- Sec. 143. Use of funds for employment and training activities.

CHAPTER 4—GENERAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT PROVISIONS

- Sec. 145. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle D—Job Corps

- Sec. 151. Purposes.
- Sec. 152. Definitions.
- Sec. 153. Individuals eligible for the Job Corps.
- Sec. 154. Recruitment, screening, selection, and assignment of enrollees.
- Sec. 155. Job Corps Campuses.
- Sec. 156. Program activities.
- Sec. 157. Counseling and job placement.
- Sec. 158. Support.
- Sec. 159. Operations.
- Sec. 160. Standards of conduct.
- Sec. 161. Community participation.
- Sec. 162. Workforce councils.
- Sec. 163. Advisory committees.
- Sec. 164. Experimental projects and technical assistance.
- Sec. 165. Special provisions.
- Sec. 166. Management information.
- Sec. 167. Job Corps oversight and reporting.
- Sec. 168. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 169. Conforming amendments.

Subtitle E—National Programs

- Sec. 171. Native American programs.
- Sec. 172. Migrant and seasonal farmworker programs.
- Sec. 173. Technical assistance.
- Sec. 174. Evaluations and research.
- Sec. 175. National dislocated worker grants.
- Sec. 176. YouthBuild Program.
- Sec. 177. Reentry employment opportunities.
- Sec. 178. Youth apprenticeship readiness grant program.
- Sec. 179. Strengthening community colleges grant program.
- Sec. 180. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle F—Administration

- Sec. 191. Requirements and restrictions.
- Sec. 192. Monitoring.
- Sec. 193. Fiscal controls; sanctions.
- Sec. 194. Administrative adjudication.
- Sec. 195. Judicial review.
- Sec. 196. General waivers of statutory or regulatory requirements.
- Sec. 197. Make America Skilled Again grants.
- Sec. 198. General program requirements.

TITLE II—ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Subtitle A—Transferring All Functions of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act to the Department of Labor

- Sec. 201. Transfer of functions.
- Sec. 202. Personnel Determinations by the Office of Management and Budget.
- Sec. 203. Delegation and assignment.
- Sec. 204. Reorganization; Rules.
- Sec. 205. Transfer and allocation of appropriations and personnel.
- Sec. 206. Incidental transfers.
- Sec. 207. Savings provisions.
- Sec. 208. References.
- Sec. 209. Transition.
- Sec. 210. Updating references.
- Sec. 211. Effective date.

Subtitle B—Adult Education and Family Literacy Act

- Sec. 221. Purposes.
- Sec. 222. Definitions.
- Sec. 223. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 224. Special rule.
- Sec. 225. Performance accountability system.
- Sec. 226. Matching requirement.
- Sec. 227. State leadership activities.
- Sec. 228. Programs for corrections education and other institutionalized individuals.
- Sec. 229. Grants and contracts for eligible providers.
- Sec. 230. Local application.
- Sec. 231. Local administrative cost limits.
- Sec. 232. National leadership activities.
- Sec. 233. Integrated English literacy and civics education.

TITLE III—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER LAWS

- Sec. 301. Amendments to the Wagner-Peyser Act.
- Sec. 302. Job training grants.
- Sec. 303. Access to National Directory of New Hires.
- Sec. 304. References to other laws.

TITLE IV—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Sec. 401. Technical assistance for transforming to competitive integrated employment.

TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 501. Report on data capability and interoperability of Federal and State databases and data exchange agreements.

Sec. 502. Effective dates; transition authority.

1 **TITLE I—WORKFORCE**
2 **DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**
3 **Subtitle A—General Provisions**

4 **SEC. 101. PURPOSES.**

5 Section 2 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
6 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “support serv-
8 ices” and inserting “supportive services”;

9 (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, for youth
10 and adults,” after “economic development systems”;

11 (3) in paragraph (6), by striking “of the work-
12 force, reduce welfare dependency,” and inserting “of
13 the workforce, provide economic mobility, reduce de-
14 pendency on public assistance programs,”; and

15 (4) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(7) To prepare a globally competitive work-
17 force by developing robust education and skills devel-
18 opment programs for youth to access career path-
19 ways that will lead such youth into in-demand indus-
20 try sectors and occupations.”.

21 **SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.**

22 (a) **FOUNDATIONAL SKILL NEEDS.**—Section 3(5) of
23 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
24 3102(5)) is amended to read as follows:

1 “(5) FOUNDATIONAL SKILL NEEDS.—The term
2 ‘foundational skill needs’ means, with respect to an
3 individual who is a youth or adult, that the indi-
4 vidual—

5 “(A) has English reading, writing, or com-
6 puting skills at or below the 8th grade level on
7 a generally accepted standardized test; or

8 “(B) is unable to compute or solve prob-
9 lems, is unable to read, write, or speak English,
10 or does not possess digital literacy skills, at a
11 level necessary to function in the individual’s
12 education or occupation, in the individual’s
13 family, or in society.”.

14 (b) CAREER PATHWAY.—Section 3(7)(F) of the
15 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
16 3102(7)(F)) is amended by striking “secondary school di-
17 ploma” and inserting “regular high school diploma”.

18 (c) EMPLOYER-DIRECTED SKILLS DEVELOPMENT.—
19 Section 3(14) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
20 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(14)) is amended to read as
21 follows:

22 “(14) EMPLOYER-DIRECTED SKILLS DEVELOP-
23 MENT.—The term ‘employer-directed skills develop-
24 ment’ means skills development provided through a
25 program—

1 “(A) that is selected or designed to meet
2 the specific skill demands of an employer (in-
3 cluding a group of employers, such as an indus-
4 try or trade association or an industry or sector
5 partnership);

6 “(B) that is conducted pursuant to the
7 terms and conditions established under an em-
8 ployer-directed skills agreement described in
9 section 134(c)(3)(I), including a commitment
10 by the employer to employ an individual upon
11 successful completion of the program; and

12 “(C) for which the employer pays a portion
13 of the cost of the program, as determined by
14 the local board involved, which shall not be less
15 than—

16 “(i) 10 percent of the cost, in the case
17 of an employer with 50 or fewer employees;

18 “(ii) 25 percent of the cost, in the
19 case of an employer with more than 50 but
20 not more than 100 employees; and

21 “(iii) 50 percent of the cost, in the
22 case of an employer with more than 100
23 employees.”.

1 (d) DISLOCATED WORKER.—Section 3(15)(B) of the
2 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
3 3102(15)(B)) is amended—

4 (1) in clause (i), by inserting “, including such
5 a closure or layoff due to advances in automation
6 technology” before the semicolon; and

7 (2) in clause (iii), by striking “section
8 134(c)(2)(A)(xii)” and inserting “section
9 134(c)(2)(B)(vii)”.

10 (e) DISPLACED HOMEMAKER.—Section 3(16) of the
11 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
12 3102(16)) is amended, in the matter preceding subpara-
13 graph (A), by striking “family members” and inserting “a
14 family member”.

15 (f) ENGLISH LEARNER.—Section 3 of the Workforce
16 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102) is fur-
17 ther amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (21)—

19 (A) in the heading, by striking “LAN-
20 GUAGE”; and

21 (B) by striking “language”; and

22 (2) in paragraph (24)(I), by striking “lan-
23 guage”.

1 (g) INDIVIDUAL WITH A BARRIER TO EMPLOY-
2 MENT.—Section 3(24) of the Workforce Innovation and
3 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(24)) is amended—

4 (1) in subparagraph (G), by striking “(42
5 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6))” and inserting “(34 U.S.C.
6 12473(6))”;

7 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (I) through
8 (N) as subparagraphs (J) through (O), respectively;

9 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (H) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(I) Out of school youth.”; and

12 (4) in subparagraph (K), as so redesignated, by
13 striking “section 167(i)” and inserting “167(j)”.

14 (h) INDUSTRY OR SECTOR PARTNERSHIP.—Section
15 3(26) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
16 (29 U.S.C. 3102(26)) is amended—

17 (1) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “or an-
18 other labor representative, as appropriate;” and in-
19 serting “and, to the extent practicable, another labor
20 representative;”; and

21 (2) in subparagraph (B)—

22 (A) by redesignating clauses (vi) through
23 (xi) as clauses (viii) through (xiii), respectively;

24 and

1 (B) by striking clause (v) and inserting the
2 following:

3 “(v) State educational agencies or
4 local educational agencies;

5 “(vi) State higher education agencies,
6 as defined in section 103 of the Higher
7 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003),
8 or State systems of higher education;

9 “(vii) other State or local agencies;”.

10 (i) LOCAL AREA.—Section 3(32) of the Workforce
11 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(32)) is
12 amended by striking “sections 106(c)(3)(A)” and insert-
13 ing “sections 106(c)(4)(A)”.

14 (j) EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—Section 3(34) of the
15 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
16 3102(34)) is amended to read as follows:

17 “(1) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY; STATE
18 EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The terms ‘local edu-
19 cational agency’ and ‘State educational agency’ have
20 the meanings given the terms in section 8101 of the
21 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.”.

22 (k) LOCAL PLAN.—Section 3(35) of the Workforce
23 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(32)) is
24 amended by striking “section 106(c)(3)(B)” and inserting
25 “section 106(c)(4)(B)”.

1 (l) LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUAL.—Section 3(36)(A)(iii)
2 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
3 U.S.C. 3102(36)(A)(iii)) is amended by striking “(42
4 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6))” and inserting “(34 U.S.C.
5 12473(6))”.

6 (m) PAY-FOR-PERFORMANCE CONTRACT STRAT-
7 EGY.—Section 3(47) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
8 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(47)) is amended to read
9 as follows:

10 “(47) PAY-FOR-PERFORMANCE CONTRACT
11 STRATEGY.—The term ‘pay-for-performance contract
12 strategy’ means a performance-based contract strat-
13 egy that uses pay-for-performance contracts in the
14 provision of services described in paragraph (2) or
15 (3) of section 134(c) or activities described in sec-
16 tion 129(c)(2), and includes—

17 “(A) contracts, each of which—

18 “(i) shall specify a fixed amount that
19 will be paid to an eligible service provider
20 (which may include a local or national
21 community-based organization or inter-
22 mediary, community college, or other pro-
23 vider) based on the achievement of speci-
24 fied levels of performance on the primary
25 indicators of performance described in sec-

1 tion 116(b)(2)(A) for target populations as
2 identified by the local board and which
3 shall identify a specific target for the num-
4 ber or percentage of individuals to be
5 served that will be individuals with barriers
6 to employment, within a defined timetable;
7 and

8 “(ii) may provide for bonus payments
9 to such service provider to expand capacity
10 to provide effective training and other serv-
11 ices, including bonus payments for exceed-
12 ing the identified target for serving individ-
13 uals with barriers to employment;

14 “(B) a strategy for validating the achieve-
15 ment of the performance described in subpara-
16 graph (A); and

17 “(C) a description of how the State or
18 local area will reallocate funds not paid to a
19 provider because the achievement of the per-
20 formance described in subparagraph (A) did not
21 occur, for further activities related to such a
22 contract strategy, subject to section
23 189(g)(2)(D).”.

1 (n) RAPID RESPONSE ACTIVITY.—Section 3(51) of
2 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
3 3102(51)) is amended—

4 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
5 by inserting “, through a rapid response unit” after
6 “designated by a State”;

7 (2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting before
8 the semicolon at the end the following: “, including
9 access through individual training accounts for eligi-
10 ble dislocated workers under section 414(c) of the
11 American Competitiveness and Workforce Improve-
12 ment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 3224a)”;

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

15 (4) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as sub-
16 paragraph (F);

17 (5) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the fol-
18 lowing new subparagraph:

19 “(E) assistance in identifying workers eli-
20 gible for assistance, including workers who work
21 a majority of their time offsite or remotely;”;

22 (6) in subparagraph (F), as so redesignated, by
23 striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;
24 and

25 (7) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(G) the provision of business engagement
2 or layoff aversion strategies and other activities
3 designed to prevent or minimize the duration of
4 unemployment, such as—

5 “(i) connecting employers to short-
6 term compensation or other programs de-
7 signed to prevent layoffs;

8 “(ii) conducting worker skill assess-
9 ment, and programs to match workers to
10 different occupations;

11 “(iii) establishing incumbent worker
12 training or other upskilling approaches, in-
13 cluding through incumbent worker
14 upskilling accounts described in section
15 134(d)(4)(E);

16 “(iv) facilitating business support ac-
17 tivities, such as connecting employers to
18 programs that offer access to credit, finan-
19 cial support, and business consulting; and

20 “(v) partnering or contracting with
21 business-focused organizations to assess
22 risks to companies, and to propose, imple-
23 ment, and measure the impact of strategies
24 and services to address such risks.”.

1 (o) SCHOOL DROPOUT.—Section 3(54) of the Work-
2 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
3 3102(54)) is amended by striking “secondary school di-
4 ploma” and inserting “regular high school diploma”.

5 (p) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Section 3(59) of the
6 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
7 3102(59)) is amended by striking “housing,” and insert-
8 ing “assistive technology, housing, food assistance,”.

9 (q) NEW DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the Workforce
10 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102) is fur-
11 ther amended by adding at the end the following:

12 “(71) APPRENTICESHIP DEGREE.—The term
13 ‘apprenticeship degree’ means a recognized postsec-
14 ondary credential that is offered by an institution of
15 higher education and designed in collaboration with
16 an employer or apprenticeship sponsor that meets
17 standards established pursuant to the Act of August
18 16, 1937 (commonly known as the ‘National Ap-
19 prenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29
20 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), and is earned through a program
21 that—

22 “(A) is affordable;

23 “(B) is structured in such a way that en-
24 rollees are employed in the industry or occupa-
25 tion to which the program relates; and

1 “(C) awards credit toward such a recog-
2 nized postsecondary credential.

3 “(72) CO-ENROLLMENT.—The term ‘co-enroll-
4 ment’ means simultaneous enrollment in more than
5 one of the programs or activities carried out by a
6 one-stop partner specified in section 121(b)(1)(B).

7 “(73) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.—The term
8 ‘digital literacy skills’ has the meaning given the
9 term in section 203.

10 “(74) EVIDENCE-BASED.—The term ‘evidence-
11 based’, when used with respect to an activity, serv-
12 ice, strategy, or intervention, or content of materials,
13 means an activity, service, strategy, or intervention,
14 or content of materials that—

15 “(A) demonstrates a statistically signifi-
16 cant effect on improving participant outcomes
17 or other relevant outcomes based on—

18 “(i) strong evidence from at least 1
19 well-designed and well-implemented experi-
20 mental study;

21 “(ii) moderate evidence from at least
22 1 well-designed and well-implemented
23 quasi-experimental study; or

24 “(iii) promising evidence from at least
25 1 well-designed and well-implemented cor-

1 relational study with statistical controls for
2 selection bias; or

3 “(B)(i) demonstrates a rationale based on
4 high-quality research findings or positive eval-
5 uation that such activity, service, strategy, or
6 intervention is likely to improve student out-
7 comes or other relevant outcomes; and

8 “(ii) includes ongoing efforts to examine the ef-
9 fects of such activity, service, strategy, or interven-
10 tion.

11 “(75) LABOR ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘labor
12 organization’ means a labor organization, as defined
13 in section 2(5) of the National Labor Relations Act
14 (29 U.S.C. 152(5)), and an organization rep-
15 resenting public sector employees.

16 “(76) REGULAR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.—The
17 term ‘regular high school diploma’ has the meaning
18 given the term in section 8101 of the Elementary
19 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
20 7801).

21 “(77) WORK-BASED LEARNING.—The term
22 ‘work-based learning’ has the meaning given the
23 term in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and
24 Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

25 “(78) TALENT MARKETPLACE.—

1 “(A) TALENT MARKETPLACE.—The term
2 ‘talent marketplace’ means an array of publicly-
3 and privately-owned platforms supported by
4 interconnected and, where relevant, interoper-
5 able and based on open standards, technologies
6 (which may include artificial intelligence)
7 that—

8 “(i) is made available to the public;

9 “(ii) is used to match individuals with
10 employment and learning opportunities in
11 a State (or a consortium of States) using
12 information provided by users, including—

13 “(I) education and training pro-
14 viders;

15 “(II) employers;

16 “(III) jobseekers;

17 “(IV) students; and

18 “(V) any other individual; and

19 “(iii) incorporates and allows users
20 access to—

21 “(I) the learning and employment
22 records of users of such marketplace;

23 “(II) a credential registry; and

24 “(III) a skills profile generator.

1 “(B) CREDENTIAL REGISTRY.—The term
2 ‘credential registry’ means a process through
3 which a digital portal or repository may be used
4 by education and training providers to make
5 publicly available, and, where relevant, inter-
6 operable and based on open standards, a de-
7 scription, using standardized terminology, of
8 the skills, competencies and learning outcomes
9 associated with credentials, including recognized
10 postsecondary credentials.

11 “(C) LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT
12 RECORD.—The term ‘learning and employment
13 record’ means a digital, machine-readable
14 record of an individual’s educational and em-
15 ployment history that—

16 “(i) contains information that may be
17 self attested and is verified by the employ-
18 ers, persons for whom the individual per-
19 formed services, and education and train-
20 ing providers of such individual;

21 “(ii) allows the individual to control
22 such information and use any such infor-
23 mation for the purpose of matching such
24 individual with employment and learning

1 opportunities as described in subparagraph
2 (A)(ii); and

3 “(iii) uses standardized terminology.

4 “(D) SKILLS PROFILE GENERATOR.—The
5 term ‘skills profile generator’ means a digital
6 tool that can be used to create a skill profile
7 that, using standardized terminology, describes
8 skills gained through, or necessary for—

9 “(i) employment;

10 “(ii) hiring; or

11 “(iii) education.

12 “(E) STANDARDIZED TERMINOLOGY.—The
13 term ‘standardized terminology’ means, in rela-
14 tion to a learning employment record, credential
15 registry, or skills profile generator made avail-
16 able through a talent marketplace, a limited set
17 of terms that is provided through a publicly
18 available, and, where relevant, interoperable
19 and based on open standards, skills framework
20 and used to describe skills, competencies, or
21 learning outcomes in a manner that—

22 “(i) provides a definition of such skill,
23 competency, or outcome, and identifies the
24 skills framework used for such definition;

1 “(ii) ensures that identical terms are
2 used to describe substantially similar skills,
3 competencies, or outcomes across such
4 records, registries, and generators in such
5 marketplace; and

6 “(iii) permits such terms to be effec-
7 tively used for the purpose of matching in-
8 dividuals with employment and learning
9 opportunities as described in subparagraph
10 (A)(ii).”.

11 (r) REDESIGNATIONS.—Section 3 of the Workforce
12 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102) is fur-
13 ther amended by reordering paragraphs (1) through (71),
14 as amended by this section, and the paragraphs added by
15 subsection (q) of this section in alphabetical order, and
16 renumbering such paragraphs as so reordered.

17 **SEC. 103. TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENTS.**

18 The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Workforce
19 Innovation and Opportunity Act is amended—

20 (1) by redesignating the item relating to section
21 172 as section 175;

22 (2) by inserting after the item relating to sec-
23 tion 171, the following:

 “Sec. 172. Reentry employment opportunities.

 “Sec. 173. Youth apprenticeship readiness grant program.

 “Sec. 174. Strengthening community colleges workforce development grants
 program.”; and

1 (3) by striking the item relating to section 190
2 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 190. Make America Skilled Again grants.”.

3 **Subtitle B—System Alignment**

4 **CHAPTER 1—STATE PROVISIONS**

5 **SEC. 111. STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD.**

6 Section 101(d)(3)(B) of the Workforce Innovation
7 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3112(d)(3)(B)) is amend-
8 ed by striking “low-skilled adults” and inserting “adults
9 with foundational skill needs”.

10 **SEC. 112. UNIFIED STATE PLAN.**

11 Section 102 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
12 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3112) is amended—

13 (1) in subsection (b)—

14 (A) in paragraph (1)—

15 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs
16 (C) through (E) as subparagraphs (D)
17 through (F), respectively;

18 (ii) by inserting the following after
19 subparagraph (B):

20 “(C) a description of—

21 “(i) how the State will use real-time
22 labor market information to continually as-
23 sess the economic conditions and workforce
24 trends described in subparagraphs (A) and
25 (B); and

1 “(ii) how the State will communicate
2 changes in such conditions or trends to the
3 workforce system in the State;”;

4 (iii) in subparagraph (D), as so reded-
5 igned, by inserting “the extent to which
6 such activities are evidence-based,” after
7 “of such activities,”;

8 (iv) in subparagraph (E), as so reded-
9 igned—

10 (I) by striking “and for meeting
11 the skilled workforce needs of employ-
12 ers” and inserting “and for preparing
13 workers to meet the skilled workforce
14 needs of employers and to enter and
15 remain in unsubsidized employment”;
16 and

17 (II) by striking “and” at the end;

18 (v) in subparagraph (F), as so reded-
19 igned, by striking the period at the end
20 and inserting a semicolon; and

21 (vi) by adding at the end the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(G) a description of activities the State is
24 conducting to expand economic opportunity for

1 individuals and reduce barriers to labor market
2 entry by—

3 “(i) developing, in cooperation with
4 employers, education and training pro-
5 viders, and other stakeholders, statewide
6 skills-based initiatives that promote the use
7 of demonstrated skills and competencies as
8 an alternative to the exclusive use of de-
9 gree attainment as a requirement for em-
10 ployment or advancement in a career; and

11 “(ii) evaluating the existing occupa-
12 tional licensing policies in the State and
13 identifying potential changes to recommend
14 to the appropriate State entity to—

15 “(I) remove or streamline licens-
16 ing requirements, as appropriate; and

17 “(II) improve the reciprocity of
18 licensing, including through partici-
19 pating in interstate licensing com-
20 pacts;

21 “(H) an analysis of the out-of-school youth
22 population in the State, including the estimated
23 number of out-of-school youth and any gaps in
24 services provided to such population by other

1 existing workforce development activities, as
2 identified under subparagraph (D);

3 “(I) a description of the availability of ap-
4 prenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs
5 in the State and the providers of such pro-
6 grams, including any that serve youth; and

7 “(J) a description of any strategies the
8 State will use to prioritize the funding of evi-
9 dence-based programs through the funds avail-
10 able for statewide workforce development activi-
11 ties described in section 128(a).”; and

12 (B) in paragraph (2)—

13 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking
14 “including a description” and inserting
15 “which may include a description”;

16 (ii) in subparagraph (C)(viii), by
17 striking “necessary for effective State op-
18 erating systems and policies” and inserting
19 “useful to States to be included in the
20 State plan, on an optional basis”;

21 (iii) in subparagraph (D)(i)—

22 (I) in subclause (II), by striking
23 “any”; and

1 (II) in subclause (IV), by striking
2 “section 121(h)(2)(E)” and inserting
3 “section 121(h)(1)(E)”; and
4 (iv) in subparagraph (E)—
5 (I) in clause (iv), by striking
6 “116(i)” and inserting “116(j)”; and
7 (II) in clause (x), by striking
8 “necessary for the administration of
9 the core programs” and inserting
10 “useful to States to be included in the
11 State plan, on an optional basis”; and
12 (2) in subsection (c)(3)—
13 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
14 “shall” the second place it appears and insert-
15 ing “may”; and
16 (B) in subparagraph (B)—
17 (i) by striking “required”; and
18 (ii) by inserting “, except that com-
19 municating changes in economic conditions
20 and workforce trends to the workforce sys-
21 tem in the State as described in subsection
22 (b)(1)(C) shall not be considered modifica-
23 tions subject to approval under this para-
24 graph” before the period at the end.

1 **CHAPTER 2—LOCAL PROVISIONS**

2 **SEC. 115. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS.**

3 (a) **REGIONS.**—Section 106(a) of the Workforce In-
4 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3121(a)) is
5 amended by adding at the end the following:

6 “(3) **REVIEW.**—Before the second full program
7 year after the date of enactment of the A Stronger
8 Workforce for America Act of 2026, in order for a
9 State to receive an allotment under section 127(b)
10 or 132(b) and as part of the process for developing
11 the State plan, a State shall—

12 “(A) review each region in the State iden-
13 tified under this subsection (as such subsection
14 was in effect on the day before the date of en-
15 actment of the A Stronger Workforce for Amer-
16 ica Act of 2026); and

17 “(B) after consultation with the local
18 boards and chief elected officials in the local
19 areas and consistent with the considerations de-
20 scribed in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

21 “(i) revise such region and any other
22 region impacted by such revision; or

23 “(ii) make a determination to main-
24 tain such region with no revision.”.

1 (b) LOCAL AREAS.—Section 106(b) of the Workforce
2 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3121(b)) is
3 amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (1)—

5 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sub-
6 section (d), and consistent with paragraphs (2)
7 and (3),” and inserting “subsection (d)”; and

8 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “(ex-
9 cept for those local areas described in para-
10 graphs (2) and (3))”; and

11 (2) by striking paragraphs (2) through (7), and
12 inserting the following:

13 “(2) CONTINUATION PERIOD.—Except as pro-
14 vided in paragraph (5) of this subsection and sub-
15 section (d), in order to receive an allotment under
16 section 127(b) or 132(b), the Governor shall main-
17 tain the designations of local areas in the State
18 under this subsection (as in effect on the day before
19 the date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce
20 for America Act of 2026) until the end of the third
21 full program year after the date of enactment of the
22 A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026.

23 “(3) INITIAL ALIGNMENT REVIEW.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Prior to the third full
25 program year after the date of enactment of the

1 A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026,
2 the Governor shall—

3 “(i) review the designations of local
4 areas in the State (as in effect on the day
5 before the date of enactment of the A
6 Stronger Workforce for America Act of
7 2026); and

8 “(ii)(I) based on the considerations
9 described in paragraph (1)(B), issue pro-
10 posed redesignations of local areas in the
11 State through the process described in
12 paragraph (1)(A), which shall—

13 “(aa) include an explanation of
14 the strategic goals and objectives that
15 the State intends to achieve through
16 such redesignations; and

17 “(bb) be subject to the approval
18 of the chief elected officials of the
19 local areas in the State in accordance
20 with the process described in subpara-
21 graph (C); or

22 “(II) with respect to a State described
23 in subsection (d)(2)(B), if the Governor
24 determines that such State should be des-
25 ignated as a single State local area, con-

1 duct a process in accordance with the re-
2 quirements of subsection (d)(2).

3 “(B) DESIGNATION OF LOCAL AREAS.—A
4 redesignation of local areas in a State that is
5 approved by a majority of the chief elected offi-
6 cials of the local areas in the State through the
7 process described in subparagraph (C) shall
8 take effect on the first day of the 4th full pro-
9 gram year after the date of enactment of the A
10 Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026.

11 “(C) PROCESS TO REACH MAJORITY AP-
12 PROVAL.—To approve a designation of local
13 areas in the State, the chief elected officials of
14 the local areas in the State shall comply with
15 the following:

16 “(i) INITIAL VOTE.—Not later than
17 60 days after the Governor issues proposed
18 redesignations under subparagraph (A),
19 the chief elected official of each local area
20 shall review the proposed redesignations
21 and submit a vote to the Governor either
22 approving or rejecting the proposed redес-
23 ignations.

24 “(ii) RESULTS OF INITIAL VOTE.—If
25 a majority of the chief elected officials of

1 the local areas in the State vote under
2 clause (i)—

3 “(I) to approve such proposed re-
4 designations, such redesignations shall
5 take effect in accordance with sub-
6 paragraph (B); or

7 “(II) to disapprove such proposed
8 redesignations, the chief elected offi-
9 cials of the local areas in the State
10 shall comply with the requirements of
11 clause (iii).

12 “(iii) ALTERNATE REDESIGNA-
13 TIONS.—In the case of the disapproval de-
14 scribed in clause (ii)(II), not later than
15 120 days after the Governor issues pro-
16 posed redesignations under subparagraph
17 (A), the chief elected officials of the local
18 areas in the State shall—

19 “(I) select 2 alternate redesigna-
20 tions of local areas—

21 “(aa) one of which aligns
22 with the regional economic devel-
23 opment areas in the State; and

24 “(bb) one of which aligns
25 with the regions described in sub-

1 paragraph (A) or (B) of sub-
2 section (a)(2); and

3 “(II) conduct a vote to approve,
4 by majority vote, 1 of the 2 alternate
5 redesignations described in subclause
6 (I).

7 “(iv) EFFECTIVE DATE OF ALTER-
8 NATE DESIGNATIONS.—The alternate re-
9 designations approved pursuant to clause
10 (iii)(II) shall take effect in accordance with
11 subparagraph (B).

12 “(4) SUBSEQUENT ALIGNMENT REVIEWS.—On
13 the date that is the first day of the 12th full pro-
14 gram year after the date of enactment of the A
15 Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026, and
16 every 8 years thereafter, the Governor shall—

17 “(A) review the designation of local areas;
18 and

19 “(B) carry out the requirements of para-
20 graph (3)(A)(ii), except that any redesignation
21 of local areas in a State that is approved by a
22 majority of the chief elected officials of the local
23 areas in the State through the process de-
24 scribed in paragraph (3)(C) shall take effect on
25 the first day of the next full program year after

1 the Governor's review pursuant to this para-
2 graph.

3 “(5) INTERIM REVISIONS.—

4 “(A) APPROVAL OF CERTAIN REDESIGNA-
5 TION REQUESTS.—

6 “(i) IN GENERAL.—At any time, and
7 notwithstanding the requirements of para-
8 graphs (2), (3), and (4), the Governor,
9 upon receipt of a request for a redesigna-
10 tion of a local area described in clause (ii),
11 may approve such request.

12 “(ii) REQUESTS.—The following re-
13 quests may be approved pursuant to clause
14 (i) upon request:

15 “(I) A request from multiple
16 local areas to be redesignated as a
17 single local area.

18 “(II) A request from multiple
19 local areas for a revision to the des-
20 ignations of such local areas, which
21 would not impact the designations of
22 local areas that have not made such
23 request.

1 “(III) A request for designation
2 as a local area from an area described
3 in section 107(c)(1)(C).

4 “(B) OTHER REDESIGNATIONS.—Other
5 than the redesignations described in subpara-
6 graph (A), the Governor may only redesignate
7 a local area outside of the process described in
8 paragraphs (3) and (4), if the local area that
9 will be subject to such redesignation has not—

10 “(i) performed successfully;

11 “(ii) sustained fiscal integrity; or

12 “(iii) in the case of a local area in any
13 planning region described in subparagraph
14 (B) or (C) of subsection (a)(2), met the re-
15 quirements described in subsection (c)(1).

16 “(C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any redesigna-
17 tion of a local area approved by the Governor
18 under subparagraph (A) or (B) shall take effect
19 on the first date of the first full program year
20 after such date of approval.

21 “(6) APPEALS.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The chief elected offi-
23 cial of a local area that is subject to a redesi-
24 gation of such local area under paragraph (3),
25 (4), or (5) may submit an appeal to maintain

1 its existing designation to the State board
2 under an appeal process established in the
3 State plan as specified in section
4 102(b)(2)(D)(i)(III).

5 “(B) STATE BOARD REQUIREMENTS.—The
6 State board shall grant an appeal to maintain
7 an existing designation of a local area described
8 in subparagraph (A) only if the local board of
9 the local area can demonstrate that the process
10 for redesignation of such local area under para-
11 graph (3), (4), or (5), as applicable, has not
12 been followed.

13 “(C) SECRETARIAL REQUIREMENTS.—If a
14 request to maintain an existing designation as
15 a local area is not granted as a result of such
16 appeal, the Secretary, after receiving a request
17 for review from the local board of such local
18 area and determining that the local board was
19 not accorded procedural rights under the ap-
20 peals process referred to in subparagraph (A),
21 shall—

22 “(i) review the process for the redesi-
23 gnation of the local area under paragraph
24 (3), (4), or (5), as applicable; and

1 “(ii) upon determining that the appli-
2 cable process has not been followed, re-
3 quire that the local area’s existing designa-
4 tion be maintained.

5 “(7) REDESIGNATION INCENTIVE.—The State
6 may provide funding from funds made available
7 under sections 128(a)(1) and 133(a)(1) to provide
8 payments to incentivize—

9 “(A) groups of local areas to request to be
10 redesignated as a single local area under para-
11 graph (5)(A); or

12 “(B) multiple local boards in a planning
13 region to develop an agreement to operate as a
14 regional consortium under subsection (c)(3).”.

15 (c) REGIONAL COORDINATION.—Section 106(c) of
16 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
17 3121(c)) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (1)—

19 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (F)
20 through (H) as subparagraphs (G) through (I),
21 respectively; and

22 (B) by inserting the following after sub-
23 paragraph (E):

24 “(F) the establishment of cost arrange-
25 ments for services described in subsections (c)

1 and (d) of section 134, including the pooling of
2 funds for such services, as appropriate, for the
3 region;”;

4 (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, including
5 to assist with establishing administrative costs ar-
6 rangements or cost arrangements for services under
7 subparagraphs (F) and (G) of such paragraph”
8 after “delivery efforts”;

9 (3) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
10 graph (4); and

11 (4) by inserting after paragraph (2), as so
12 amended, the following:

13 “(3) REGIONAL CONSORTIUMS.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The local boards and
15 chief elected officials of any local area in any
16 planning region described in subparagraph (B)
17 or (C) of subsection (a)(2) may develop an
18 agreement to receive funding under section
19 128(b) and section 133(b) as a single consor-
20 tium for the planning region.

21 “(B) CONSORTIUM AGREEMENTS.—If the
22 local boards and chief elected officials develop
23 such an agreement—

1 “(i) one of the chief elected officials in
2 the planning region shall designate the fis-
3 cal agent for the consortium;

4 “(ii) the local boards shall develop a
5 memorandum of understanding to jointly
6 administer the activities for the consor-
7 tium; and

8 “(iii) the required activities for local
9 areas under this Act (including the re-
10 quired functions of the local boards de-
11 scribed in section 107(d)) shall apply to
12 such a consortium as a whole and may not
13 be applied separately or differently to the
14 local areas or local boards within such con-
15 sortium.”.

16 (d) SINGLE STATE LOCAL AREAS.—Section 106(d)
17 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
18 U.S.C. 3121(d)) is amended—

19 (1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-
20 graph (3); and

21 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1), the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(2) NEW DESIGNATION.—

24 “(A) PROCESS.—If, upon a review de-
25 scribed in paragraph (3)(A) or (4)(B) of sub-

1 section (b) of a State described in subparagraph
2 (B) of this paragraph, the Governor of such
3 State determines, after consultation with the
4 State board, that such State should be des-
5 ignated as a single State local area—

6 “(i) the Governor shall propose to the
7 legislature of the State to designate such
8 State as a single State local area;

9 “(ii) in a case in which the majority
10 of the legislature of the State consents to
11 the Governor’s proposed designation—

12 “(I) such designation shall take
13 effect in accordance with subpara-
14 graph (C); and

15 “(II) the Governor shall identify
16 the State as a local area in the State
17 plan; and

18 “(iii) in a case in which in which the
19 majority of the legislature of the State
20 does not so consent to the Governor’s pro-
21 posed designation, the designations of the
22 local areas in the State shall be maintained
23 and shall be subject to the requirements of
24 subsection (b)(4).

1 “(B) STATE DESCRIBED.—A State de-
2 scribed in this subparagraph is a State that—

3 “(i) has not been designated as a sin-
4 gle State local area under paragraph (1);
5 and

6 “(ii)(I) has a population of less than
7 5,100,000, as determined by the last de-
8 cennial census preceding such designation;
9 or

10 “(II) contains 5 or fewer local areas.

11 “(C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Notwithstanding
12 subsection (b)(2), a designation described in
13 paragraph (A) shall take effect on the later
14 of—

15 “(i) the first day of the third full pro-
16 gram year after the date of enactment of
17 the A Stronger Workforce for America Act
18 of 2026; or

19 “(ii) the first day of the first full pro-
20 gram year following the date on which the
21 Governor so designates the State as a sin-
22 gle State local area.

23 “(D) REESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL
24 AREAS.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—At the end of the
2 5-year period beginning on the date on
3 which a State is designated as a single
4 State local area under subparagraph (A),
5 the Secretary shall notify the Governor of
6 such State if, during such 5-year period,
7 the average of the overall State program
8 scores (as referred to in section 116(f)(2))
9 across the adult and dislocated worker pro-
10 grams and youth programs authorized
11 under chapters 2 and 3 of subtitle B are
12 lower than the average of the State overall
13 program scores across such programs dur-
14 ing the 5-year period for such period end-
15 ing on the date prior the date on which
16 such State was so designated.

17 “(ii) DETERMINATION AFTER NO-
18 TICE.—

19 “(I) IN GENERAL.—If, after re-
20 ceiving the notice described in clause
21 (i) with respect to a State, the Gov-
22 ernor determines—

23 “(aa) that the designation of
24 the State as a single State local
25 area should be maintained, the

1 Governor shall comply with sub-
2 clause (II) or (III), as appro-
3 priate; or

4 “(bb) that such designation
5 should not be so maintained, the
6 Governor shall reestablish the
7 local areas that comprised the
8 State prior to the designation of
9 the State as a single State local
10 area under subparagraph (A),
11 and such reestablishment shall
12 take effect on the first day of the
13 first full program year after the
14 Governor receives such notice.

15 “(II) REQUIREMENTS FOR MAIN-
16 TAINING DESIGNATION.—A designa-
17 tion described in subclause (I)(aa)
18 with respect to a State may only be so
19 maintained if the Governor—

20 “(aa) not later than 180
21 days after the date on which
22 Governor receives the notice de-
23 scribed in clause (i), issues a
24 public notice of the determination
25 by the Governor that the designa-

1 tion of such State as a single
2 State local area should be main-
3 tained; and

4 “ (bb) not later than 1 year
5 after the date on which the Gov-
6 ernor issues such public notice,
7 the Governor receives the consent
8 of a majority of the legislature of
9 the State to so maintain the des-
10 ignation.

11 “(III) FAILURE TO MEET RE-
12 QUIREMENTS.—If the Governor fails
13 to comply with each of the require-
14 ments of subclause (II) with respect
15 to a State—

16 “(aa) a designation de-
17 scribed in subclause (I)(aa) for
18 such State may not be so main-
19 tained; and

20 “(bb) the Governor shall re-
21 establish the local areas that
22 comprised the State prior to the
23 designation of the State as a sin-
24 gle State local area under sub-
25 paragraph (A), and such reestab-

1 lishment shall take effect on the
2 first full program year after the
3 date that is 1 year after the date
4 on which the Governor issues the
5 public notice described in sub-
6 clause (II)(aa) with respect to
7 the State.”.

8 (e) DEFINITION OF PERFORMED SUCCESSFULLY.—
9 Section 106(e)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
10 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3121(e)) is amended to read as fol-
11 lows:

12 “(1) PERFORMED SUCCESSFULLY.—The term
13 ‘performed successfully’, used with respect to a local
14 area, means the local area is not subject to correc-
15 tive action as described in section 116(g)(2) on the
16 local performance accountability measures for the
17 most recent year for which data are available pre-
18 ceding the determination of performance under this
19 paragraph.”.

20 **SEC. 116. LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS.**

21 (a) MEMBERSHIP.—Section 107(b) of the Workforce
22 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3122(b)) is
23 amended—

24 (1) in paragraph (2)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “20”
2 and inserting “30”; and

3 (B) in subparagraph (C)—

4 (i) in clause (i), by inserting after
5 “title II” the following: “(such as correc-
6 tions education programs under such
7 title)”;

8 (ii) in clause (ii), by inserting after
9 “community colleges” the following: “and,
10 as applicable, other institutions of higher
11 education”; and

12 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
13 lowing:

14 “(iv) may include faculty and staff
15 members working directly with students in
16 providing workforce investment activities
17 through education or training programs
18 that support an industry cluster.”; and

19 (2) in paragraph (4)(A)—

20 (A) in clause (ii), by striking “include”
21 and all that follows through the period at the
22 end and inserting the following: “include—

23 “(I) representatives from commu-
24 nity-based organizations and other
25 representatives with professional ex-

1 pertise in youth workforce develop-
2 ment programs and with a dem-
3 onstrated record of success in serving
4 eligible youth;

5 “(II) out-of-school youth, includ-
6 ing youth who are individuals with
7 disabilities;

8 “(III) at least 1 representative of
9 a public or nonprofit agency that
10 serves youth, including juvenile justice
11 and child welfare agencies, and at
12 least 1 representative of a local public
13 housing authority;

14 “(IV) for a local area in which a
15 Job Corps campus (as such term is
16 defined in section 142) is located, at
17 least 1 representative of that campus;
18 and

19 “(V) for a local area in which a
20 YouthBuild program (as such term is
21 defined in section 171(b)) is carried
22 out, at least 1 representative of such
23 program.”; and

24 (B) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(iv) A standing committee to provide
2 information and to assist with planning,
3 operational, and other issues relating to
4 the engagement of representatives of the
5 workforce in the local area, which—

6 “(I) shall include at least 1 rep-
7 resentative of local labor organizations
8 or joint labor-management organiza-
9 tions, including at least 1 representa-
10 tive of either of such organizations
11 with special interest or expertise in
12 youth workforce readiness or appren-
13 ticeship and pre-apprenticeship pro-
14 grams that serve youth; and

15 “(II) may include, in a local area
16 with a significant number of dis-
17 located workers (as determined by the
18 local board), at least 1 representative
19 with special interest or expertise in
20 providing supports for finding edu-
21 cation, training, and employment op-
22 portunities for dislocated workers.

23 “(v) A standing committee to provide
24 information and to assist with planning,
25 operational, and other issues relating to

1 the engagement of educational entities in
2 the local area, which shall include, at a
3 minimum—

4 “(I) at least 1 representative of a
5 local educational agency that serves
6 students residing in such local area;

7 “(II) at least 1 representative of
8 institutions of higher education in the
9 local area, including community col-
10 leges in the local area; and

11 “(III) at least 1 representative of
12 entities administering education and
13 training activities, including career
14 and technical education programs or
15 after- school and summer learning
16 programs, in the local area.

17 “(vi) A standing committee to provide
18 information and to assist with planning,
19 operational, and other issues relating to
20 the provision of services to offenders, in-
21 cluding pre-release education, training, and
22 career services for such individuals, which
23 shall include—

24 “(I) at least 1 offender; and

1 “(II) representatives from com-
2 munity-based organizations with spe-
3 cial interest or expertise in reentry
4 services for incarcerated individuals
5 and ex-offenders, including at least 1
6 representative of an organization that
7 is a recipient of a grant under section
8 172.”.

9 (b) FUNCTIONS OF LOCAL BOARD.—Section 107(d)
10 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
11 U.S.C. 3122(d)) is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “section
13 108(b)(1)(D)” and inserting “108(b)(1)(E)”;

14 (2) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, including,
15 to the extent practicable, local representatives of the
16 core programs and the programs described in section
17 121(b)(1)(B),” after “system stakeholders”;

18 (3) in paragraph (4)—

19 (A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
20 “and industry and sector partnerships” after
21 “intermediaries”;

22 (B) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “,
23 local educational agencies, community colleges
24 and other institutions of higher education”
25 after “economic development entities”; and

1 (C) in subparagraph (D)—

2 (i) by striking “proven” and inserting
3 “evidence-based”;

4 (ii) by inserting “individual” after
5 “needs of”; and

6 (iii) by inserting “from a variety of in-
7 dustries and occupations” after “and em-
8 ployers”;

9 (4) in paragraph (5), by inserting “and which,
10 to the extent practicable, shall be aligned with career
11 and technical education programs of study (as de-
12 fined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and
13 Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C.
14 2302(3)) offered within the local area” before the
15 period at the end;

16 (5) in paragraph (6)—

17 (A) in the heading, by striking “PROV-
18 EN” and inserting “EVIDENCE-BASED”;

19 (B) in subparagraph (A)—

20 (i) by striking “proven” and inserting
21 “evidence-based”;

22 (ii) by inserting “and covered veterans
23 (as defined in section 4212(a)(3)(A) of
24 title 38, United States Code)” after “em-
25 ployment”; and

1 (iii) by inserting “, and give priority
2 to covered persons in accordance with sec-
3 tion 4215 of title 38, United States Code”
4 after “delivery system”; and

5 (C) in subparagraph (B), by striking
6 “proven” and inserting “evidence-based”;

7 (6) in paragraph (10)(C)—

8 (A) by inserting “, on the State eligible
9 training provider list,” after “identify”; and

10 (B) by inserting “that operate in or are ac-
11 cessible to individuals” after “training serv-
12 ices”; and

13 (7) in paragraph (12)(A), by striking “activi-
14 ties” and inserting “funds allocated to the local area
15 under section 128(b) and section 133(b) for the
16 youth workforce development activities described in
17 section 129 and local employment and training ac-
18 tivities described in section 134(b), and the activi-
19 ties”.

20 (c) LIMITATIONS.—Section 107(g)(1)(D) of the
21 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
22 3122(g)(1)(D)) is amended by striking “needed or” and
23 inserting the following: “, that the local board is failing
24 to meet the requirements for eligible providers of training
25 services under section 122, or”.

1 **SEC. 117. LOCAL PLAN.**

2 Section 108 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
3 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3123) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) by striking “section 102(b)(1)(E)” and
6 inserting “section 102(b)(1)(F)”; and

7 (B) by striking “shall prepare” and insert-
8 ing “may prepare”; and

9 (2) in subsection (b)—

10 (A) in paragraph (1)—

11 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs
12 (D), (E), and (F) as subparagraphs (E),
13 (F), and (H), respectively;

14 (ii) by inserting the following after
15 subparagraph (C):

16 “(D) a description of—

17 “(i) how the local board will use real-
18 time labor market information to contin-
19 ually assess the economic conditions and
20 workforce trends described in subpara-
21 graphs (A), (B), and (C); and

22 “(ii) how changes in such conditions
23 or trends will be communicated to job-
24 seekers, education and training providers,
25 and employers in the local area;”;

1 (iii) in subparagraph (F), as so rededesignated,
2 by striking “and” at the end; and

3 (iv) by inserting after subparagraph
4 (F), as so redesignated, the following:

5 “(G) an analysis, which may be conducted
6 in coordination with the State, of the out-of-
7 school youth population in the local area includ-
8 ing the estimated number of such youth and
9 any gaps in services for such population from
10 other existing workforce development activities,
11 as identified under paragraph (9), and a de-
12 scription of how the local board will address any
13 such gaps in services identified in such analysis;
14 and”;

15 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “section
16 102(b)(1)(E)” and inserting “section
17 102(b)(1)(F);

18 (C) in paragraph (4)—

19 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

20 (I) by striking “and” at the end
21 of clause (iii); and

22 (II) by adding at the end the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(v) carry out any statewide skills-
25 based initiatives identified in the State

1 plan that promote the use of demonstrated
2 skills and competencies as an alternative to
3 the exclusive use of degree attainment as a
4 requirement for employment or advance-
5 ment in a career; and”;

6 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
7 “customized training” and inserting “em-
8 ployer-directed skills development”;

9 (D) in paragraph (6)(B), by inserting “,
10 such as the use of affiliated sites” after
11 “means”;

12 (E) in paragraph (9)—

13 (i) by striking “including activities”
14 and inserting the following: “including—

15 “(A) the availability of community based
16 organizations that serve youth primarily during
17 nonschool time hours to carry out activities
18 under section 129;

19 “(B) activities”;

20 (ii) in subparagraph (B), as so redес-
21 ignated—

22 (I) by inserting “or evidence-
23 based” after “successful”; and

24 (II) by adding “and” at the end;

25 and

1 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(C) the availability of preapprenticeship
4 and apprenticeship programs serving youth;”;

5 (F) in paragraph (12), by inserting “in-
6 cluding as described in section 134(c)(2),” after
7 “system,”; and

8 (G) in paragraph (13), by inserting before
9 the semicolon at the end the following: “, and
10 encourage eligible youth who are enrolled in
11 adult education and literacy activities under
12 title II to co-enroll in youth workforce invest-
13 ment activities carried out by the local board,
14 as appropriate”.

15 **CHAPTER 3—PERFORMANCE**

16 **ACCOUNTABILITY**

17 **SEC. 119. PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.**

18 (a) STATE PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY MEAS-
19 URES.—

20 (1) PRIMARY INDICATORS OF PERFORMANCE.—

21 Section 116(b)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation
22 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(b)(2)(A)) is
23 amended—

24 (A) in clause (i)—

25 (i) in subclause (II)—

1 (I) by striking “fourth” and in-
2 serting “second”; and

3 (II) by inserting “and remain in
4 unsubsidized employment during the
5 fourth quarter after exit from the pro-
6 gram” after “the program”;

7 (ii) in subclause (IV), by striking
8 “secondary school diploma” and inserting
9 “regular high school diploma”;

10 (iii) in subclause (V)—

11 (I) by striking “, during a pro-
12 gram year,”;

13 (II) by striking “are in” and in-
14 serting “enter into”; and

15 (III) by inserting before the
16 semicolon at the end the following:
17 “within 12 months after the quarter
18 in which the participant enters into
19 the education and training program”;
20 and

21 (iv) by amending subclause (VI) to
22 read as follows:

23 “(VI) of the program partici-
24 pants who received training services
25 during a program year, the percentage

1 of such program participants who par-
2 ticipated in on-the-job training, em-
3 ployer-directed skills development, in-
4 cumbent worker training, an appren-
5 ticeship, or an apprenticeship de-
6 gree.”;

7 (B) in clause (ii)—

8 (i) in subclause (II)—

9 (I) by striking “fourth” and in-
10 sserting “second”;

11 (II) by inserting “, and who re-
12 main either in such activities or un-
13 subsidized employment during the
14 fourth quarter after exit from the pro-
15 gram” after “the program”; and

16 (III) by striking “and” at the
17 end;

18 (ii) in subclause (III)—

19 (I) by striking “(VI)” and insert-
20 ing “(V)”; and

21 (II) by striking the period at the
22 end and inserting “; and”; and

23 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing:

1 “(IV) of the program partici-
2 pants who exited the program during
3 a program year, the percentage of
4 such program participants who com-
5 pleted, prior to such exit, a work ex-
6 perience as described in section
7 129(c)(2)(C).”; and

8 (C) in clause (iii), by striking “secondary
9 school diploma” and inserting “regular high
10 school diploma”; and

11 (D) by striking clause (iv).

12 (2) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—Section
13 116(b)(3)(A) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
14 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(b)(3)(A)) is amend-
15 ed—

16 (A) by amending clause (iii) to read as fol-
17 lows:

18 “(iii) IDENTIFICATION IN STATE
19 PLAN.—

20 “(I) SECRETARIES.—For each
21 State submitting a State plan, the
22 Secretary of Labor shall, not later
23 than January 15 of the year in which
24 such State plan is submitted, for the
25 first 2 program years covered by the

1 State plan, and not later than Janu-
2 ary 15 of the second program year
3 covered by the State plan, for the
4 third and fourth program years cov-
5 ered by the State plan—

6 “(aa) propose to the State
7 expected levels of performance,
8 for each of the corresponding pri-
9 mary indicators of performance
10 for each of the programs de-
11 scribed in clause (ii) for such
12 State, which shall—

13 “(AA) be consistent
14 with the factors listed in
15 clause (v); and

16 “(BB) be proposed in a
17 manner that ensures suffi-
18 cient time is provided for
19 the State to evaluate and re-
20 spond to such proposals; and

21 “(bb) publish, on a public
22 website of the Department of
23 Labor, the statistical model de-
24 veloped under clause (viii) and
25 the methodology used to develop

1 each such expected level of per-
2 formance.

3 “(II) STATES.—Each State
4 shall—

5 “(aa) evaluate each of the
6 expected levels of performance
7 proposed under subclause (I)
8 with respect to such State;

9 “(bb) based on such evalua-
10 tion of each such expected level
11 of performance—

12 “(AA) accept the ex-
13 pected level of performance
14 as so proposed; or

15 “(BB) provide a coun-
16 terproposal for such ex-
17 pected level of performance,
18 including an analysis of how
19 the counterproposal address-
20 es factors or circumstances
21 unique to the State that
22 may not have been ac-
23 counted for in the expected
24 level of performance; and

1 “(cc) include in the State
2 plan, with respect to each of the
3 corresponding primary indicators
4 of performance for each of the
5 programs described in clause (ii)
6 for such State—

7 “(AA) the expected
8 level of performance pro-
9 posed under subclause (I);

10 “(BB) the counter-
11 proposal for such proposed
12 level, if any; and

13 “(CC) the level of per-
14 formance that is agreed to
15 under clause (iv).”;

16 (B) in clause (iv)—

17 (i) in subclause (I)—

18 (I) in the second sentence, by
19 striking “the levels identified in the
20 State plan under clause (iii) and the
21 factors described in clause (v)” and
22 inserting “the factors described in
23 clause (v) and any counterproposal,
24 and the analysis provided by the State

1 with such counterproposal, described
2 in clause (iii)(II)(bb)(BB)”; and

3 (II) in the third sentence, by
4 striking “incorporated into the State
5 plan” and inserting “included in the
6 State plan, as described in clause
7 (iii)(II)(cc),”; and

8 (ii) in subclause (II)—

9 (I) in the second sentence, by
10 striking “the factors described in
11 clause (v)” and inserting “the factors
12 described in clause (v) and any coun-
13 terproposal, and the analysis provided
14 by the State with such counter-
15 proposal, described in clause
16 (iii)(II)(bb)(BB)”; and

17 (II) in the third sentence, by
18 striking “incorporated into the State
19 plan” and inserting “included in the
20 State plan, as described in clause
21 (iii)(II)(cc),”; and

22 (C) in clause (v)(II)—

23 (i) in the matter preceding item (aa),
24 by striking “based on” and inserting
25 “based on each consideration that is found

1 to be predictive of performance on an indi-
2 cator for a program and consists of”; and

3 (ii) in item (bb)—

4 (I) by striking “including” and
5 inserting “such as”; and

6 (II) by striking “and welfare de-
7 pendency” and inserting “school sta-
8 tus, education level, highest grade
9 level completed, low-income status,
10 and receipt of public assistance”.

11 (b) PERFORMANCE REPORTS.—Section 116(d) of the
12 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
13 3141(d)) is amended—

14 (1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-
15 lows:

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

17 “(A) TEMPLATES FOR PERFORMANCE RE-
18 PORTS.—Not later than 24 months after the
19 date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce
20 for America Act of 2026, the Secretary of
21 Labor shall develop, or review and modify, as
22 appropriate, to comply with the requirements of
23 this subsection, the templates for performance
24 reports that shall be used by States (including
25 by States on behalf of eligible providers of

1 training services under section 122) and local
2 areas to produce a report on outcomes achieved
3 by the core programs. In developing, or review-
4 ing and modifying, such templates, the Sec-
5 retary of Labor shall take into account the need
6 to maximize the value of the templates for
7 workers, jobseekers, employers, local elected of-
8 ficials, State officials, Federal policymakers,
9 and other key stakeholders.

10 “(B) STANDARDIZED REPORTING.—In de-
11 veloping, or reviewing and modifying, the tem-
12 plates under subparagraph (A), the Secretary of
13 Labor shall ensure that States and local areas,
14 in producing performance reports for core pro-
15 grams and eligible providers of training serv-
16 ices, collect and report information on common
17 data elements—

18 “(i) in a comparable and uniform for-
19 mat; and

20 “(ii) using terms that are assigned
21 identical meanings across all such reports.

22 “(C) ADDITIONAL REPORTING.—The Sec-
23 retary of Labor—

24 “(i) in addition to the information on
25 the common data elements, may require

1 additional information with respect to any
2 core program as necessary for effective re-
3 porting; and

4 “(ii) shall periodically review any such
5 requirement for additional information to
6 ensure the requirement is necessary and
7 does not impose an undue reporting bur-
8 den.

9 “(D) PRIVACY.—The Secretary of Labor
10 shall ensure subparagraph (B) is carried out in
11 a manner that protects and promotes individual
12 privacy and data security, in accordance with
13 applicable Federal privacy laws.

14 “(E) ACCESS TO WAGE RECORDS.—

15 “(i) ACCESS.—A State may facilitate
16 for a local area that meets the require-
17 ments of clause (ii), for the sole purpose of
18 fulfilling the reporting requirements under
19 this subsection, access to the quarterly
20 wage records (excluding such records made
21 available by any other State) of program
22 participants in the local area.

23 “(ii) PRIVACY PROTECTIONS.—To re-
24 ceive access to such quarterly wage
25 records, the local area shall have dem-

1 onstrated to the State the ability to com-
2 ply, and agree to comply, with all applica-
3 ble Federal and State requirements relat-
4 ing to the access and use of such quarterly
5 wage records, including requirements relat-
6 ing to data privacy and cybersecurity.”;

7 (2) in paragraph (2)—

8 (A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “,
9 and aggregated to compare those levels of per-
10 formance for all individuals with barriers to em-
11 ployment with those levels of performance for
12 all other individuals” before the semicolon at
13 the end;

14 (B) in subparagraphs (D) and (F), by
15 striking “career and training services, respec-
16 tively” and inserting “career services, training
17 services, and supportive services, respectively”;

18 (C) by redesignating subparagraphs (J)
19 through (L) as subparagraphs (K) through (M),
20 respectively and inserting after subparagraph
21 (I) the following:

22 “(J) the median earnings gain of partici-
23 pants who received training services, calculated
24 as the median value of the difference between—

1 “(i) participant earnings in unsub-
2 sidized employment during the 4 quarters
3 after program exit; and

4 “(ii) participant earnings in the 4
5 quarters prior to entering the program;”;
6 and

7 (D) in subparagraph (L), as so redesign-
8 nated—

9 (i) by striking clause (ii); and

10 (ii) by striking “strategies for pro-
11 grams” and all that follows through “the
12 performance”, and inserting “strategies for
13 programs, the performance”;

14 (3) in paragraph (3)—

15 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “(L)”
16 and inserting “(M)”;

17 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking
18 “and” at the end;

19 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as
20 subparagraph (F); and

21 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
22 the following:

23 “(C) the percentage of the local area’s allo-
24 cation under section 133(b) that the local area
25 spent on services paid for through an individual

1 training account described in section
2 134(c)(3)(F)(iii) or a training contract de-
3 scribed in section 134(c)(3)(G)(ii);

4 “(D) the percentage of the local area’s al-
5 location under section 133(b) that the local
6 area spent on supportive services;

7 “(E) the percentage of the local area’s al-
8 location under section 133(b), if any, that is
9 spent on incumbent worker training,
10 disaggregated by whether the amount so spent
11 was spent on the provision of incumbent worker
12 training through contracts or through incum-
13 bent worker upskilling accounts described in
14 section 134(d)(4)(E); and”;

15 (4) by amending paragraph (4) to read as fol-
16 lows:

17 “(4) CONTENTS OF ELIGIBLE TRAINING PRO-
18 VIDERS PERFORMANCE REPORT.—The State shall
19 use the information submitted by the eligible pro-
20 viders of training services under section 122 and ad-
21 ministrative records, including quarterly wage
22 records, of the participants of the programs offered
23 by the providers to produce a performance report on
24 the eligible providers of training services in the

1 State, which shall include, subject to paragraph
2 (6)(C)—

3 “(A) with respect to each program of study
4 (or the equivalent) of a provider on the list de-
5 scribed in section 122(d)—

6 “(i) information specifying the levels
7 of performance achieved with respect to
8 the primary indicators of performance de-
9 scribed in subclauses (I) through (IV) of
10 subsection (b)(2)(A)(i) with respect to all
11 individuals engaging in the program of
12 study (or the equivalent); and

13 “(ii) the total number of individuals
14 exiting from the program of study (or the
15 equivalent), disaggregated by whether such
16 individuals completed the program of study
17 (or equivalent); and

18 “(B) with respect to all eligible providers
19 of training services under section 122—

20 “(i) the total number of participants
21 who received training services through each
22 adult and dislocated worker program au-
23 thorized under chapter 3 of subtitle B,
24 disaggregated by the type of entity that
25 provided the training services, during the

1 most recent program year and the 3 pre-
2 ceding program years;

3 “(ii) the total number of participants
4 who exited from training services,
5 disaggregated by the type of entity that
6 provided the training services, and by
7 whether such participants completed the
8 training services, during the most recent
9 program year and the 3 preceding program
10 years;

11 “(iii) the average cost per participant
12 for the participants who received training
13 services, disaggregated by the type of enti-
14 ty that provided the training, during the
15 most recent program year and the 3 pre-
16 ceding program years;

17 “(iv) the average of the per-program
18 ratios of median earnings increase for a
19 participant to the total cost of the pro-
20 vider’s program, as described in section
21 122(b)(5)(B)(i)(III) for the participant;
22 and

23 “(v) the number of individuals with
24 barriers to employment served by each
25 adult and dislocated worker program au-

1 thorized under chapter 3 of subtitle B,
2 disaggregated by each subpopulation of
3 such individuals, and by race, ethnicity,
4 sex, and age; and

5 “(C) to the extent practicable, with respect
6 to each recognized postsecondary credential on
7 the list of credentials awarded by eligible pro-
8 viders in the State described in section
9 122(d)(2)—

10 “(i) information specifying the levels
11 of performance achieved with respect to
12 the primary indicators of performance de-
13 scribed in subclauses (I) through (IV) of
14 subsection (b)(2)(A)(i) for all participants
15 in the State receiving such credential; and

16 “(ii) information specifying the levels
17 of performance achieved with respect to
18 the primary indicators of performance de-
19 scribed in subclauses (I) through (IV) of
20 subsection (b)(2)(A)(i) for participants in
21 the State receiving such credential who are
22 individuals with barriers to employment,
23 disaggregated by each subpopulation of
24 such individuals, and by race, ethnicity,
25 sex, and age.”; and

1 (5) in paragraph (6)—

2 (A) by amending subparagraph (A) to read
3 as follows:

4 “(A) STATE PERFORMANCE REPORTS.—
5 The Secretary of Labor shall annually make
6 available the performance reports for States
7 containing the information described in para-
8 graph (2), which shall include making such re-
9 ports available—

10 “(i) digitally using transparent,
11 linked, open, machine readable, and inter-
12 operable data formats that are human
13 readable and machine actionable such that
14 the data from these reports—

15 “(I) are easily understandable;
16 and

17 “(II) can be easily included in
18 web-based tools and services sup-
19 porting search, discovery, comparison,
20 analysis, navigation, and guidance;

21 “(ii) in a printable format; and

22 “(iii) in multiple languages, to the ex-
23 tent practicable.”;

24 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

1 (i) by striking “(including by elec-
2 tronic means), in an easily understandable
3 format,”; and

4 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing: “The Secretary of Labor shall in-
6 clude, on the website where the State per-
7 formance reports are required under sub-
8 paragraph (A) to be made available, a link
9 to local area performance reports and the
10 eligible provider of training services report
11 for each State. Such reports shall be made
12 available in each of the formats described
13 in subparagraph (A).”; and

14 (C) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(E) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
16 in this subsection shall be construed to require
17 the retroactive collection of information, from
18 program years prior to the effective date de-
19 scribed in section 502(a)(1) of the A Stronger
20 Workforce for America Act of 2026, that was
21 not required under this subsection prior to that
22 effective date.”.

23 (e) EVALUATION OF STATE PROGRAMS.—Section
24 116(e) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
25 (29 U.S.C. 3141(e)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1)—

2 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “shall
3 conduct ongoing” and inserting “shall use data
4 to conduct analyses and ongoing”; and

5 (B) in the second sentence, by striking
6 “conduct the” and inserting “conduct such
7 analyses and”; and

8 (2) in paragraph (2), by adding “A State may
9 use various forms of analysis, such as machine
10 learning or other advanced analytics, to improve pro-
11 gram operations and outcomes and to identify areas
12 for further evaluation.” at the end.

13 (d) SANCTIONS FOR STATE FAILURE TO MEET
14 STATE PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.—
15 Section 116(f) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
16 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(f)) is amended to read as fol-
17 lows:

18 “(f) SANCTIONS FOR STATE FAILURE TO MEET
19 STATE PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.—

20 “(1) TARGETED SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If a State fails to
22 meet 80 percent of the State adjusted level of
23 performance for an indicator described in sub-
24 section (b)(2)(A) (referred to in the regulations
25 carrying out this section as an ‘individual indi-

1 cator score’) for a core program for any pro-
2 gram year, the Secretary of Labor shall provide
3 technical assistance.

4 “(B) SANCTIONS.—

5 “(i) IN GENERAL.—If the State fails
6 in the manner described in subclause (I) or
7 (II) of clause (ii) with respect to the pro-
8 gram year specified in that subclause, the
9 percentage of each amount that could (in
10 the absence of this subsection) be reserved
11 by the Governor under section 128(a)(1)
12 for the immediately succeeding program
13 year shall be reduced by 5 percent and an
14 amount equivalent to the amount reduced
15 shall be returned to the Secretary of Labor
16 until such date as the Secretary of Labor
17 determines that the State meets the State
18 adjusted level of performance, in the case
19 of a failure described in clause (ii)(II), or
20 has submitted the reports for the appro-
21 priate program years, in the case of a fail-
22 ure described in clause (ii)(I).

23 “(ii) FAILURES.—A State shall be
24 subject to clause (i)—

1 “(I) if (except in the case of ex-
2 ceptional circumstances as determined
3 by the Secretary of Labor), such State
4 fails to submit a report under sub-
5 section (d) for any program year; or

6 “(II) for a failure under subpara-
7 graph (A) that has continued for a
8 second consecutive program year.

9 “(2) COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT AND ASSIST-
10 ANCE.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If a State fails to
12 meet an average of 90 percent of the State ad-
13 justed levels of performance for a single core
14 program across all indicators of performance
15 (referred to in the regulations carrying out this
16 section as an ‘overall State program score’) for
17 any program year, or if a State fails to meet an
18 average of 90 percent of the State adjusted lev-
19 els of performance for a single indicator of per-
20 formance across all core programs (referred to
21 in the regulations carrying out this section as
22 an ‘overall State indicator score’) for any pro-
23 gram year, the Secretary of Labor shall provide
24 technical assistance, as described and author-
25 ized under section 168(b), including assistance

1 in the development of a comprehensive perform-
2 ance improvement plan.

3 “(B) SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR FAIL-
4 URE.—If such failure under subparagraph (A)
5 continues for a second consecutive program
6 year, the percentage of each amount that could
7 (in the absence of this subsection) be reserved
8 by the Governor under section 128(a)(1) for the
9 immediately succeeding program year shall be
10 reduced by 8 percent and an amount equivalent
11 to the amount reduced shall be returned to the
12 Secretary of Labor until such date as the Sec-
13 retary of Labor determines that the State meets
14 such State adjusted levels of performance.

15 “(3) LIMITATION.—The total reduction under
16 this subsection to the percentage of each amount
17 that could (in the absence of this subsection) be re-
18 served by the Governor under section 128(a)(1) may
19 not exceed 10 percent for a program year.

20 “(4) REALLOTMENT OF REDUCTIONS.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amounts available
22 for reallocation for a program year shall be re-
23 allotted to a State (in this paragraph referred
24 to as an ‘eligible State’) that—

1 “(i) was not subject to a reduction of
2 funds under paragraph (1)(B) or para-
3 graph (2)(B) of this subsection for such
4 program year;

5 “(ii) in the case of amounts available
6 under section 127(b)(1)(C), was 1 of the 5
7 States that achieved, in the most recent
8 program year, the greatest increase from
9 the prior year to the average of the State’s
10 adjusted levels of performance across all
11 indicators of performance for the youth
12 program under chapter 2 of subtitle B;

13 “(iii) in the case of amounts available
14 under section 132(b)(1)(B), was 1 of the 5
15 States that achieved, in the most recent
16 program year, the greatest increase from
17 the prior year to the average of the State’s
18 adjusted levels of performance across all
19 indicators of performance for the adult
20 program under chapter 3 of subtitle B;
21 and

22 “(iv) in the case of amounts available
23 under section 132(b)(2)(B), was 1 of the 5
24 States that achieved, in the most recent
25 program year, the greatest increase from

1 the prior year to the average of the State’s
2 adjusted levels of performance across all
3 indicators of performance for the dis-
4 located worker program under chapter 3 of
5 subtitle B.

6 “(B) AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR REALLOT-
7 MENT.—In this paragraph, the term ‘amounts
8 available for reallocation for a program year’
9 means the amounts available under section
10 127(b)(1)(C) and paragraphs (1)(B) and (2)(B)
11 of section 132(b) for such program year which
12 could (in the absence of the requirements to re-
13 turn funds of paragraph (1)(B) or paragraph
14 (2)(B) of this subsection) have otherwise been
15 reserved under section 128(a)(1) by a Governor
16 of a State for such program year.

17 “(C) REALLOTMENT AMOUNTS.—In mak-
18 ing reallocations under subparagraph (A) for a
19 program year to eligible States, the Secretary
20 shall allot to each eligible State—

21 “(i) in the case of amounts available
22 under section 127(b)(1)(C), an amount
23 based on the relative amount of the allot-
24 ment made (before the reallocations under
25 this paragraph are made) to such eligible

1 State under section 127(b)(1)(C) for such
2 program year, compared to the total allot-
3 ments made (before the reallotments under
4 this paragraph are made) to all eligible
5 States under section 127(b)(1)(C) for such
6 program year;

7 “(ii) in the case of amounts available
8 under paragraph (1)(B) of section 132(b),
9 an amount based on the relative amount of
10 the allotment made (before the reallot-
11 ments under this paragraph are made) to
12 such eligible State under paragraph (1)(B)
13 of section 132(b) for such program year,
14 compared to the total allotments made (be-
15 fore the reallotments under this paragraph
16 are made) to all eligible States under para-
17 graph (1)(B) of section 132(b) for such
18 program year; and

19 “(iii) in the case of amounts available
20 under paragraph (2)(B) of section 132(b),
21 an amount based on the relative amount of
22 the allotment made (before the reallot-
23 ments under this paragraph are made) to
24 such eligible State under paragraph (2)(B)
25 of section 132(b) for such program year,

1 compared to the total allotments made (be-
2 fore the reallocations under this paragraph
3 are made) to all eligible States under para-
4 graph (2)(B) of section 132(b) for such
5 program year.”.

6 (e) SANCTIONS FOR LOCAL AREA FAILURE TO MEET
7 LOCAL PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.—
8 Section 116(g) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
9 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(g)) is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (1)—

11 (A) by inserting “80 percent of the” before
12 “local performance”; and

13 (B) by striking “local performance ac-
14 countability measures established under sub-
15 section (c)” and inserting “local level of per-
16 formance established under subsection (c) for
17 an indicator of performance described in sub-
18 section (b)(2)(A) for a single program, an aver-
19 age of 90 percent of the local levels of perform-
20 ance across all such indicators for a single pro-
21 gram, or an average of 90 percent of the local
22 levels of performance for a single such indicator
23 across all programs,”; and

24 (2) in paragraph (2)—

1 (A) by amending subparagraph (A) to read
2 as follows:

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If such failure con-
4 tinues, the Governor shall take corrective ac-
5 tions, which shall include—

6 “(i) in the case of such failure, as de-
7 scribed in paragraph (1), for a second con-
8 secutive year, on any single indicator,
9 across indicators for a single program, or
10 on a single indicator across programs, a 5-
11 percent reduction in the amount that
12 would (in the absence of this clause) be al-
13 located to the local area for the imme-
14 diately succeeding program year under
15 chapter 2 or 3 of subtitle B for the pro-
16 gram subject to the performance failure;

17 “(ii) in the case of such failure, as de-
18 scribed in paragraph (1), for a third con-
19 secutive year, the development of a reorga-
20 nization plan through which the Governor
21 shall—

22 “(I) require the appointment and
23 certification of a new local board, con-
24 sistent with the criteria established
25 under section 107(b);

1 “(II) prohibit the use of one-stop
2 delivery system contractors or service
3 providers identified as achieving a
4 poor level of performance; and

5 “(III) redesignate a local area
6 (which may include merging a local
7 area with another local area), if the
8 Governor determines that the likely
9 cause of such continued performance
10 failure of a local area is due to such
11 local area’s designation being granted
12 without the appropriate consideration
13 of parameters described under section
14 106(b)(1)(B); or

15 “(iii) taking another significant action
16 determined appropriate by the Governor.”;

17 (B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting
18 “(ii)” after “subparagraph (A)”; and

19 (C) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(D) REALLOCATION OF REDUCTIONS.—

21 With respect to any amounts available to carry
22 out section 128(b), paragraph (2)(A) or (3) of
23 section 133(b), and section 133(b)(2)(B) to a
24 Governor for a program year which would (in
25 the absence of subparagraph (A)(i)) have other-

1 wise been allocated by such Governor to a local
2 area (referred to individually in this subpara-
3 graph as an ‘unallocated amount’) for such pro-
4 gram year—

5 “(i) 10 percent of those 3 unallocated
6 amounts shall be reserved by the Governor
7 to provide technical assistance to local
8 areas within the State that were subject to
9 a reduction of allocation amounts pursuant
10 to subparagraph (A)(i) for such program
11 year; and

12 “(ii) the amounts remaining after the
13 reservations under clause (i) shall be re-
14 allocated by the Governor, to the local
15 areas within the State that were not sub-
16 ject to a reduction of allocation amounts
17 pursuant to subparagraph (A)(i) for such
18 program year, in a manner determined by
19 the Governor, which may take into consid-
20 eration the extent to which local areas
21 serve a significant number, as determined
22 by the Governor, of individuals with bar-
23 riers to employment.”.

24 (f) ESTABLISHING PAY-FOR-PERFORMANCE CON-
25 TRACT STRATEGY INCENTIVES.—Section 116(h) of the

1 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
2 3141(h)) is amended by striking “non-Federal funds” and
3 inserting “not more than 5 percent of the funds reserved
4 under section 128(a)(1)”.

5 (g) INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—
6 Section 116 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
7 Act (29 U.S.C. 3141) is amended—

8 (1) by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection
9 (j); and

10 (2) by inserting after subsection (h) the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(i) INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—
13 Beginning not later than 12 months after the date of en-
14 actment of the A Stronger Workforce for America Act of
15 2026, the Secretary of Labor shall hold meetings with
16 each State board and State agency that administers a core
17 program, and that requests such a meeting, to provide in-
18 formation and technical assistance concerning the per-
19 formance accountability measures established in accord-
20 ance with subsection (b), and related requirements for
21 States under this section.”.

22 (h) FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY IN-
23 FORMATION SYSTEMS.—Section 116(j) of the Workforce
24 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(j)), as
25 so redesignated, is amended—

1 (1) in the first sentence of paragraph (2), by
2 inserting “, and may use information provided from
3 the National Directory of New Hires in accordance
4 with section 453(j)(8) of the Social Security Act (42
5 U.S.C. 653(j)(8))” after “State law”;

6 (2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
7 graph (4); and

8 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(3) DESIGNATED ENTITY.—The Governor
11 shall designate a State agency (or appropriate State
12 entity) to assist in carrying out the performance re-
13 porting requirements of this section for core pro-
14 grams and eligible providers of training services.
15 The designated State agency (or appropriate State
16 entity) shall be responsible for—

17 “(A) facilitating data matches using quar-
18 terly wage record information, including wage
19 record information made available by other
20 States, to measure employment and earnings
21 outcomes;

22 “(B) notifying State agencies that admin-
23 ister core programs and eligible providers of
24 training services of the State’s procedures for

1 data validation and reliability, as described in
2 subsection (d)(5); and

3 “(C) protection against disaggregation that
4 would violate applicable privacy standards, as
5 described in subsection (d)(6)(C).”.

6 (i) IMPLEMENTATION OF PERFORMANCE ACCOUNT-
7 ABILITY MEASURES.—Section 116 of the Workforce Inno-
8 vation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141) is amended
9 by adding at the end the following:

10 “(k) IMPLEMENTATION OF PERFORMANCE ACCOUNT-
11 ABILITY MEASURES.—Not later than 24 months after the
12 date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for Amer-
13 ica Act of 2026, the Secretary of Labor shall fully imple-
14 ment the requirements of this section for programs de-
15 scribed in subsection (b)(3)(A)(iv), including—

16 “(1) developing and disseminating the objective
17 statistical adjustment model framework described in
18 subsection (b)(3)(A)(viii) and using the model as de-
19 scribed in subsection (b)(3)(A)(viii) for each pro-
20 gram; and

21 “(2) notifying the State agencies carrying out
22 such programs of the performance accountability
23 measures established under this section, of the re-
24 porting and evaluation requirements for such pro-
25 grams, and of the sanctions requirements for pro-

1 grams that fail to meet State adjusted levels of per-
2 formance under subsection (b)(3)(A)(iv).”.

3 **Subtitle C—Workforce Investment**
4 **Activities and Providers**
5 **CHAPTER 1—WORKFORCE INVESTMENT**
6 **ACTIVITIES AND PROVIDERS**

7 **SEC. 121. ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE-STOP DELIVERY SYS-**
8 **TEMS.**

9 (a) ONE-STOP PARTNERS.—Section 121(b) of the
10 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
11 3151(b)) is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (1)—

13 (A) in subparagraph (B)—

14 (i) in clause (xi), by inserting “and”
15 at the end;

16 (ii) by striking clause (xii); and

17 (iii) by redesignating clause (xiii) as
18 clause (xii); and

19 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “sub-
20 paragraph (B)(xiii)” and inserting “subpara-
21 graph (B)(xii)”; and

22 (2) in paragraph (2)—

23 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
24 “With” and inserting “At the direction of the
25 Governor or with”; and

- 1 (B) in subparagraph (B)—
- 2 (i) in clause (vi), by striking “and” at
- 3 the end;
- 4 (ii) by redesignating clause (vii) as
- 5 clause (viii);
- 6 (iii) by inserting after clause (vi) the
- 7 following:
- 8 “(vii) any applicable economic devel-
- 9 opment and workforce development pro-
- 10 grams carried out in the State—
- 11 “(I) by the Economic Develop-
- 12 ment Administration;
- 13 “(II) under Public Law 117–167
- 14 (commonly known as the ‘CHIPS and
- 15 Science Act of 2022’);
- 16 “(III) under the Infrastructure
- 17 Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law
- 18 117–58); or
- 19 “(IV) under Public Law 117–168
- 20 (commonly known as the ‘Inflation
- 21 Reduction Act of 2022’); and”;
- 22 (iv) in clause (viii), as so redesis-
- 23 nated—

1 (I) by inserting “out-of-school
2 youth services,” after “education,”;
3 and

4 (II) by inserting “, by commu-
5 nity-based organizations,” after “li-
6 braries”.

7 (b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Section
8 121(c)(2)(A)(iv) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
9 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3151(c)(2)(A)(iv)) is amended by
10 striking “access to services, including access to technology
11 and materials, made” and inserting “access or referral to
12 services, including access or referral to technology, mate-
13 rials, and other supportive services, made”.

14 (c) ONE-STOP OPERATORS.—Section 121(d) of the
15 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
16 3151(d)) is amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraphs
18 (2) and (3)” and inserting “paragraphs (2) and
19 (5)”;

20 (2) in paragraph (2)(B)—

21 (A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by
22 inserting “(including effectiveness in serving in-
23 dividuals with barriers to employment)” after
24 “demonstrated effectiveness”;

1 (B) in clause (i), by inserting after “edu-
2 cation” the following: “or an area career and
3 technical education school”;

4 (C) in clause (v), by striking “and”;

5 (D) by redesignating clause (vi) as clause
6 (viii);

7 (E) by inserting after clause (v) the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(vi) a public library;

10 “(vii) a local board that meets the re-
11 quirements of paragraph (4); and”;

12 (F) in clause (viii), as so redesignated, by
13 inserting after “labor organization” the fol-
14 lowing: “or joint labor-management organiza-
15 tion”;

16 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as
17 paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and

18 (4) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In operating a one-
22 stop delivery system referred to in subsection
23 (e), a one-stop operator—

24 “(i) shall—

1 “(I) manage operations of the
2 one-stop delivery system in the local
3 area;

4 “(II) facilitate coordination
5 among the one-stop partners in such
6 one-stop delivery system; and

7 “(III) take the necessary steps to
8 ensure efficient and effective service
9 delivery for individuals served by the
10 one-stop delivery system, including in-
11 dividuals with barriers to employment;
12 and

13 “(ii) may, subject to the requirements
14 under subparagraph (B), directly provide
15 services to job seekers and employers.

16 “(B) INTERNAL CONTROLS.—In a case in
17 which a one-stop operator seeks to operate as a
18 service provider pursuant to subparagraph
19 (A)(ii), the local board shall establish internal
20 controls (which shall include written policies
21 and procedures)—

22 “(i) with respect to the competition in
23 which the one-stop operator will compete to
24 be selected as such service provider, and
25 the subsequent oversight, monitoring, and

1 evaluation of the performance of such one-
2 stop operator as such service provider; and

3 “(ii) which require compliance with—

4 “(I) relevant Office of Manage-
5 ment and Budget circulars relating to
6 conflicts of interest; and

7 “(II) any applicable State conflict
8 of interest policy.

9 “(4) LOCAL BOARDS AS ONE-STOP OPERA-
10 TORS.—Subject to approval from the chief elected
11 official and Governor and in accordance with any
12 other eligibility criteria established by the State, a
13 local board may serve as a one-stop operator, if the
14 local board—

15 “(A) enters into a written agreement with
16 the chief elected official that clarifies how the
17 local board will carry out the functions and re-
18 sponsibilities as a one-stop operator in a man-
19 ner that complies with the appropriate internal
20 controls to prevent any conflicts of interest,
21 which shall include how the local board, while
22 serving as a one-stop operator, will—

23 “(i) comply with the relevant Office of
24 Management and Budget circulars relating
25 to conflicts of interest; and

1 “(ii) any applicable State conflict of
2 interest policy; and

3 “(B) complies with the other applicable re-
4 quirements of this subsection.”.

5 (d) ONE-STOP DELIVERY.—Section 121(e) of the
6 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
7 3151(e)) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (2)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (A), to read as fol-
10 lows:

11 “(A) shall make each of the programs,
12 services (meaning a referral in the case of sup-
13 portive services, for the purposes of this para-
14 graph), and activities described in paragraph
15 (1) available—

16 “(i) at not less than 1 physical or vir-
17 tual center for each local area of the State,
18 except that local areas may share—

19 “(I) a virtual center, if the local
20 area complies with subparagraph (E);
21 or

22 “(II) a physical center, if such
23 center is located in a location that
24 promotes accessibility to services for

1 individuals residing in all such local
2 areas served by the center; and

3 “(ii) in a manner that is designed to
4 promote efficiency, coordination, quality,
5 and accessibility for individuals with bar-
6 riers to employment, as determined by the
7 local board, in the delivery of such pro-
8 grams, services, and activities;”;

9 (B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting
10 after “affiliated sites” the following: “(such as
11 a site of any of the entities described in sub-
12 section (d)(2)(B))”;

13 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

14 (i) by inserting after “centers” the
15 following: “(which may be virtual or phys-
16 ical centers)”; and

17 (ii) by striking “and” at the end;

18 (D) in subparagraph (D)—

19 (i) by striking “as applicable and
20 practicable, shall” and inserting “in the
21 case of a one-stop delivery system that is
22 making each of the programs, services, and
23 activities described in paragraph (1) acces-
24 sible at not less than 1 physical center, as
25 described in subparagraph (A)(i), shall, in

1 accordance with the regulations issued pur-
2 suant to paragraph (5),”; and

3 (ii) by striking the period at the end
4 and inserting “, and local areas that share
5 at least 1 common border may coordinate
6 in making such programs, services, and ac-
7 tivities accessible through electronic means
8 through such a one-stop delivery system;
9 and”; and

10 (E) by inserting after subparagraph (D)
11 the following:

12 “(E) in the case of a one-stop delivery sys-
13 tem that is making each of the programs, serv-
14 ices, and activities accessible through electronic
15 means, as described in subparagraph (A)(i),
16 shall—

17 “(i) have not fewer than 2 affiliated
18 sites (not fewer than 1 of which will have
19 not fewer than 1 professional staff mem-
20 ber) with a physical location where individ-
21 uals can access, virtually, each of the pro-
22 grams, services, and activities described in
23 paragraph (1) that are virtually accessible;
24 and

1 “(ii) comply with the regulations
2 issued pursuant to paragraph (5).”;

3 (2) in paragraph (4), by inserting after the first
4 sentence the following: “The system identifier shall
5 be prominently and visibly displayed at each com-
6 prehensive and specialized one-stop center operated
7 by the one-stop delivery system, including physical
8 and virtual centers identified in paragraph (2)(A),
9 and the sites and centers described in subparagraphs
10 (B) through (E) of paragraph (2).”; and

11 (3) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(5) MINIMUM DIGITAL FUNCTIONALITY REGU-
13 LATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations to
14 establish minimum digital functionality requirements
15 with respect to the one-stop delivery system.”.

16 (e) CERTIFICATION AND IMPROVEMENT CRITERIA.—
17 Section 121(g)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation and
18 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3151(g)(2)(A)) is amended
19 by striking “under subsections (h)(1)” and inserting
20 “under subsections (h)(1)(C)”.

21 (f) FUNDING OF ONE-STOP INFRASTRUCTURE.—Sec-
22 tion 121(h) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
23 Act (29 U.S.C. 3151(h)) is amended—

24 (1) by striking paragraph (1);

1 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as
2 paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

3 (3) in paragraph (1), as so redesignated—

4 (A) by amending subparagraph (B) to read
5 as follows:

6 “(B) PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS.—Subject
7 to subparagraph (D), the covered portions of
8 funding for a fiscal year shall be provided to
9 the Governor from the programs described in
10 subsection (b)(1) to pay the costs of infrastruc-
11 ture of one-stop centers in local areas of the
12 State.”;

13 (B) in subparagraph (C)(i)—

14 (i) by striking “for funding pursuant
15 to clause (i)(II) or (ii) of paragraph (1)(A)
16 by each partner,”; and

17 (ii) by striking the third sentence; and

18 (C) in subparagraph (D)—

19 (i) in clause (ii), by striking “For
20 local areas in a State that are not covered
21 by paragraph (1)(A)(i)(I), the” and insert-
22 ing “The”;

23 (ii) in clause (ii)—

24 (I) in subclause (I)—

1 (aa) by striking “WIA” in
2 the header and inserting
3 “WIOA”; and

4 (bb) by striking “3 percent”
5 and inserting “5 percent”; and

6 (II) by striking subclause (III)
7 and inserting the following:

8 “(III) VOCATIONAL REHABILITA-
9 TION.—Notwithstanding subclauses
10 (I) and (II), an entity administering a
11 program described in subsection
12 (b)(1)(B)(iii) shall not be required to
13 provide from that program, under this
14 paragraph, a portion that exceeds 1.5
15 percent of the amount of Federal
16 funds provided to carry out such pro-
17 gram in the State for a program
18 year.”; and

19 (iii) in clause (iii), by striking “For
20 local areas in a State that are not covered
21 by paragraph (1)(A)(i)(I), an” and insert-
22 ing “An”;

23 (4) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “pur-
2 poses of assisting in” and inserting “purpose
3 of”; and

4 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

5 (i) in the first sentence, by striking
6 “not funding costs of infrastructure under
7 the option described in paragraph
8 (1)(A)(i)(I)”; and

9 (ii) in the second sentence, by insert-
10 ing after “local area,” the following: “the
11 intensity of services provided by such cen-
12 ters, the number and types of one-stop
13 partners engaged by or providing services
14 through such centers”;

15 (5) by inserting after paragraph (2), as so re-
16 designated, the following:

17 “(3) SUPPLEMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND-
18 ING.—For any fiscal year in which the allocation re-
19 ceived by a local area under paragraph (2) is insuffi-
20 cient to cover the total costs of infrastructure of
21 one-stop centers in such local area, the local board,
22 the chief elected official, and the one-stop partners
23 that have entered into the local memorandum of un-
24 derstanding with the local board under subsection
25 (c) may agree to fund, using Federal or other funds,

1 the remainder of any such costs using a method de-
2 scribed in such memorandum.”; and

3 (6) in paragraph (4), by inserting after “oper-
4 ation of the one-stop center” the following: “(wheth-
5 er for in-person or virtual service delivery)”.

6 (g) OTHER FUNDS.—Section 121(i)(2) of the Work-
7 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
8 3151(i)(2)) is amended by striking “intake,” and all that
9 follows through “skills,” and inserting “intake, case man-
10 agement, assessment of needs, appraisal of foundational
11 skill needs,”.

12 **SEC. 122. IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS OF**
13 **TRAINING SERVICES.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 122 of the Workforce In-
15 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3152) is amend-
16 ed—

17 (1) by redesignating subsections (f) through (i)
18 as subsections (g) through (j), respectively;

19 (2) by striking the section heading and all that
20 follows through subsection (e) and inserting the fol-
21 lowing:

22 **“SEC. 122. IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS OF**
23 **TRAINING SERVICES.**

24 **“(a) ELIGIBILITY.—**

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in sub-
2 section (i), the Governor, after consultation with the
3 State board and considering the State’s adjusted lev-
4 els of performance described in section
5 116(b)(3)(A)(iv), shall establish—

6 “(A) procedures regarding the eligibility of
7 providers of training services to receive funds
8 provided under section 133(b) for the provision
9 of training services through programs with eli-
10 gibility under this section (in this section re-
11 ferred to as ‘eligible programs’) in local areas in
12 the State; and

13 “(B) the minimum levels of performance
14 on the criteria for a program to receive such eli-
15 gibility.

16 “(2) PROVIDERS.—Subject to the provisions of
17 this section, to be eligible to receive those funds for
18 the provision of training services, the provider shall
19 be—

20 “(A) an institution of higher education
21 that provides a program that leads to a recog-
22 nized postsecondary credential;

23 “(B) an entity that carries out programs
24 registered under the Act of August 16, 1937
25 (commonly known as the ‘National Apprentice-

1 ship Act'; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C.
2 50 et seq.); or

3 “(C) another public or private provider of
4 a program of training services, which may in-
5 clude joint labor-management organizations,
6 providers of entrepreneurial skills development
7 programs, industry or sector partnerships,
8 groups of employers, trade or professional asso-
9 ciations, and eligible providers of adult edu-
10 cation and literacy activities under title II (if
11 such activities are provided in combination with
12 occupational skills training or integrated edu-
13 cation and training programs).

14 “(3) INCLUSION IN LIST OF ELIGIBLE PRO-
15 VIDERS.—

16 “(A) COMPLIANCE WITH ADDITIONAL CRI-
17 TERIA, INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS AND PRO-
18 CEDURES.—A provider described in subpara-
19 graph (A) or (C) of paragraph (2) (other than
20 a provider described in subparagraph (B)(ii) of
21 this paragraph) shall comply with the criteria,
22 information requirements, and procedures es-
23 tablished under this section to be included on
24 the list of eligible providers of training services
25 described in subsection (d).

1 “(B) AUTOMATIC INCLUSION.—

2 “(i) PROVIDERS OF REGISTERED AP-
3 PRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—A provider de-
4 scribed in paragraph (2)(B) shall be in-
5 cluded and maintained on the list of eligi-
6 ble providers of training services described
7 in subsection (d) for so long as the cor-
8 responding program of the provider re-
9 mains registered as described in paragraph
10 (2)(B).

11 “(ii) PROVIDERS OF WORKFORCE
12 PELL PROGRAMS.—With respect to a pro-
13 vider described in paragraph (2)(A) that
14 provides an eligible program for purposes
15 of the Workforce Pell Grant program
16 under section 401(k) of the Higher Edu-
17 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(k)),
18 as added by section 83002(a) of Public
19 Law 119–21, such provider shall be in-
20 cluded and maintained on the list of eligi-
21 ble providers of training services described
22 in subsection (d) for so long as the pro-
23 vider provides such eligible program.

24 “(b) CRITERIA AND INFORMATION REQUIRE-
25 MENTS.—

1 “(1) GENERAL CRITERIA FOR PROGRAMS.—

2 Each provider shall demonstrate to the Governor
3 that the program for which the provider is seeking
4 eligibility under this section—

5 “(A) prepares participants to meet the hir-
6 ing requirements of potential employers in the
7 State, or a local area within the State, for em-
8 ployment that—

9 “(i) is high-skill and high-wage; or

10 “(ii) is in an in-demand industry sec-
11 tor or occupation;

12 “(B) leads to a recognized postsecondary
13 credential;

14 “(C) has been offered by the provider for
15 not less than 1 year; and

16 “(D) meets the performance requirements
17 for eligibility described in paragraph (2).

18 “(2) PERFORMANCE CRITERIA FOR ELIGI-
19 BILITY.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Governor shall—

21 “(i) establish and publicize minimum
22 levels of performance for each of the cri-
23 teria listed in subparagraph (B) that a
24 program offered by a provider of training
25 services shall achieve, for all participants

1 in the program (including participants for
2 whom the provider receives payments
3 under this title) for the program to receive
4 and maintain eligibility under this section;

5 “(ii) verify the performance achieved
6 by such a program with respect to each
7 such criterion to determine whether the
8 program meets the corresponding min-
9 imum level of performance established
10 under clause (i)—

11 “(I) in the case of the criteria de-
12 scribed in (ii) through (iv) of subpara-
13 graph (B), using State administrative
14 data (such as quarterly wage records);
15 and

16 “(II) in the case of the criteria
17 described in subparagraph (B)(i),
18 using any applicable method for such
19 verification; and

20 “(iii) in verifying the performance
21 achievement of a program to make such
22 determination, verify that such program
23 included a sufficient number of program
24 participants to protect participants’ per-
25 sonally identifiable information, and to

1 provide information that is a reliable indi-
2 cator of performance achievement.

3 “(B) PERFORMANCE CRITERIA.—The per-
4 formance criteria to receive and maintain eligi-
5 bility for a program under this section are each
6 of the following:

7 “(i) The credential attainment rate of
8 program participants (calculated as the
9 percentage of program participants who
10 obtain the recognized postsecondary cre-
11 dential that the program prepares partici-
12 pants to earn within 6 months after exit
13 from the program).

14 “(ii) The job placement rate of pro-
15 gram participants (calculated as the per-
16 centage of program participants in unsub-
17 sidized employment during the second
18 quarter after exit from the program).

19 “(iii) The median earnings of program
20 participants who are in unsubsidized em-
21 ployment during the second quarter after
22 exit from the program.

23 “(iv) The ratio of median earnings in-
24 crease to the total cost of program, cal-
25 culated as the ratio of—

1 “(I) the median value of the dif-
2 ference between—

3 “(aa) participant wages
4 from unsubsidized employment
5 during the second quarter after
6 program exit; and

7 “(bb) participant wages dur-
8 ing the quarter prior to entering
9 the program; to

10 “(II) the total cost of the pro-
11 gram (as described in paragraph
12 (5)(B)(i)(III)).

13 “(C) LOCAL CRITERIA.—With respect to
14 any program receiving eligibility under this sec-
15 tion from a Governor, a local board in the State
16 may require higher levels of performance than
17 the minimum levels of performance established
18 by the Governor under this paragraph for the
19 program to be an eligible program in the cor-
20 responding local area, but may not—

21 “(i) require any information or appli-
22 cation from the provider that is not re-
23 quired for such eligibility; or

1 “(ii) establish a performance require-
2 ment with respect to any criterion not list-
3 ed in subparagraph (B).

4 “(3) EMPLOYER-SPONSORED OR INDUSTRY OR
5 SECTOR PARTNERSHIP DESIGNATION.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Governor shall
7 establish procedures and criteria for a provider
8 to demonstrate that a program meets, in apply-
9 ing for an employer-sponsored designation for a
10 program that has received eligibility under this
11 subsection, which shall include demonstrating a
12 commitment from an employer or an industry
13 or sector partnership to—

14 “(i) pay to the provider, on behalf of
15 each participant enrolled in such program
16 under this Act, not less than 25 percent of
17 the total cost of the program (as described
18 in paragraph (5)(B)(i)(III)), which shall be
19 provided in lieu of 25 percent of the
20 amount that the provider would have oth-
21 erwise received under section 133(b) for
22 the provision of training services by such
23 program to such participant; and

24 “(ii) guarantee an interview and
25 meaningful consideration for a job with the

1 employer, or in the case of an industry or
2 sector partnership, an employer within
3 such partnership, for each such participant
4 that successfully completes the program.

5 “(B) RESTRICTION ON FINANCIAL AR-
6 RANGEMENT.—A provider of a program receiv-
7 ing an employer-sponsored designation under
8 this paragraph may not—

9 “(i) have an ownership stake in the
10 employer or industry or sector partnership
11 making a commitment described in sub-
12 paragraph (A); or

13 “(ii) enter into an arrangement to re-
14 imburse an employer or partnership for the
15 costs of a participant paid by such em-
16 ployer or partnership under this para-
17 graph.

18 “(4) WORKFORCE INNOVATION LEADER DES-
19 IGNATION.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Governor deter-
21 mines that a program offered by an eligible pro-
22 vider meets the minimum levels of performance
23 described in subparagraph (B) to receive a
24 Workforce Innovation Leader (or WIL) des-
25 ignation, which designates the program as a

1 WIL program, the Governor shall grant the
2 program designation as a WIL program and in-
3 form the provider of such program of their abil-
4 ity to display the WIL seal, as described in sub-
5 paragraph (C), in marketing materials.

6 “(B) LEVELS.—A eligible program shall
7 meet the levels of performance to receive a WIL
8 designation if such program has achieved—

9 “(i) a credential attainment rate of
10 program participants (calculated as the
11 percentage of program participants who
12 obtain the recognized postsecondary cre-
13 dential that the program prepares partici-
14 pants to earn within 6 months after exit
15 from the program) of not less than 80 per-
16 cent;

17 “(ii) a job placement rate of program
18 participants (calculated as the percentage
19 of program participants in unsubsidized
20 employment during the second quarter
21 after exit from the program) of not less
22 than 70 percent;

23 “(iii) median earnings of program
24 participants who are in unsubsidized em-
25 ployment during the second quarter after

1 exit from the program that are not less
2 than 25 percent greater than the State-
3 level median earnings of individuals ages
4 25 through 34 in the labor force who have
5 only a regular high school diploma or its
6 recognized equivalent; and

7 “(iv) a ratio of greater than 1.5 of
8 median earnings increase to the total cost
9 of program, calculated as the ratio of—

10 “(I) the median value of the dif-
11 ference between—

12 “(aa) participant wages
13 from unsubsidized employment
14 during the second quarter after
15 program exit; and

16 “(bb) participant wages dur-
17 ing the quarter prior to entering
18 the program; to

19 “(II) the total cost of the pro-
20 gram (as described in paragraph
21 (5)(B)(i)(III)).

22 “(C) WIL SEAL.—Not later than 2 years
23 after the date of enactment of the A Stronger
24 Workforce for America Act of 2026, the Sec-
25 retary shall design a seal signifying that a pro-

1 gram has achieved a WIL designation, for the
2 Governor of each State to provide to any pro-
3 grams in their State that achieve the perform-
4 ance necessary to receive a WIL designation.

5 “(D) LOSS OF WIL DESIGNATION.—If, dur-
6 ing the annual review of eligibility described in
7 subsection (c)(3), the Governor determines that
8 a WIL program no longer meets the levels de-
9 scribed in subparagraph (B) or otherwise has
10 eligibility under this section revoked or termi-
11 nated, or the provider of the program has eligi-
12 bility terminated under subsection (g)(1)(A),
13 the Governor shall revoke the program’s WIL
14 designation and inform the provider of such
15 program that such provider may no longer dis-
16 play the WIL seal in marketing materials or
17 otherwise.

18 “(5) INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS.—A pro-
19 vider that seeks to establish eligibility under this
20 section, and an eligible provider, shall submit appro-
21 priate, accurate, and timely information to the Gov-
22 ernor, to enable the Governor to carry out sub-
23 section (d), with respect to all participants in each
24 eligible program (including participants for whom

1 the provider receives payments under this title) of-
2 fered by the provider, which information shall—

3 “(A) be made available by the State in a
4 common, linked, open, and interoperable data
5 format; and

6 “(B) consist of—

7 “(i) information on—

8 “(I) in the case of an eligible pro-
9 vider offering a program who is seek-
10 ing to maintain eligibility, the per-
11 formance of the program with respect
12 to the indicators described in section
13 116(b)(2)(A) for participants in the
14 program;

15 “(II) the recognized postsec-
16 ondary credentials received by such
17 participants, including, in relation to
18 each such credential, the issuing enti-
19 ty, any third-party endorsements, the
20 occupations for which the credential
21 prepares individuals, the competencies
22 achieved by the individuals, the level
23 of mastery of such competencies (in-
24 cluding how mastery is assessed)

1 achieved by the individuals, and any
2 transfer value or stackability;

3 “(III) the total cost of the pro-
4 gram, including the costs of the pub-
5 lished tuition and fees, supplies, and
6 books, and any other costs required
7 by the provider, for a participant in
8 the program;

9 “(IV) the percentage of such par-
10 ticipants that complete the program
11 within the expected time to comple-
12 tion; and

13 “(V) the program’s level of per-
14 formance on the criteria described in
15 paragraph (2) and not otherwise in-
16 cluded in clause (I) of this clause; and

17 “(ii) with respect to employment and
18 earnings measures described in subclauses
19 (I) through (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i)
20 and the performance criteria described in
21 subsection (b)(2) for such participants—

22 “(I) the necessary information
23 for the State to develop program per-
24 formance data using State adminis-

1 trative data (such as quarterly wage
2 records); and

3 “(II) the necessary information
4 to determine the percentage of such
5 participants who entered unsubsidized
6 employment in an occupation related
7 to the program, to the extent prac-
8 ticable.

9 “(6) ELIGIBLE PROVIDER.—In this section,
10 other than subsection (i), a provider of an eligible
11 program under this section shall be considered to be
12 identified as an eligible provider of training services.

13 “(c) PROCEDURES.—

14 “(1) APPLICATION PROCEDURES.—The proce-
15 dures established under subsection (a) shall identify
16 the application process for a provider of training
17 services (for a program offered by the provider) to
18 become eligible to receive funds provided under sec-
19 tion 133(b) for the provision of training services.
20 That process shall be implemented in a manner that
21 minimizes the financial and administrative burden
22 on the provider and shall not require the submission
23 of information in excess of the information required
24 to determine a program’s eligibility under para-
25 graphs (1), (2), and (5) of subsection (b). The pro-

1 cedures shall identify the respective roles of the
2 State and local areas in receiving and reviewing the
3 applications and in making determinations of such
4 eligibility based on the criteria, information require-
5 ments, and procedures established under this sec-
6 tion. The procedures shall also establish a process,
7 for a provider of training services to appeal a denial
8 or revocation or termination of eligibility under this
9 section, that includes an opportunity for a hearing
10 and prescribes appropriate time limits to ensure
11 prompt resolution of the appeal.

12 “(2) APPROVAL.—A Governor shall make a de-
13 termination of such eligibility with respect to a pro-
14 gram for which the provider is seeking eligibility
15 under this section not later than 30 days after re-
16 ceipt of an application submitted by such provider
17 consistent with the procedures in paragraph (1).

18 “(3) RENEWAL PROCEDURES.—The procedures
19 established by the Governor shall also provide for
20 annual review and renewal of eligibility under this
21 section for a program of training services that con-
22 tinues to meet the requirements under paragraphs
23 (1), (2), and (5) of subsection (b).

24 “(4) REVOCATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—The proce-
25 dures established under subsection (a) shall adhere

1 to the following requirements for revocation of eligi-
2 bility by the Governor:

3 “(A) FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED IN-
4 FORMATION.—With respect to a provider of
5 training services that is eligible under this sec-
6 tion for a program year with respect to an eligi-
7 ble program, but that does not provide the in-
8 formation described in subsection (b)(5) with
9 respect to such program for such program year
10 (including information on performance nec-
11 essary to determine if the program meets the
12 minimum levels of performance on the perform-
13 ance criteria to maintain eligibility), the pro-
14 vider shall be ineligible under this section with
15 respect to such program for the program year
16 after the program year for which the provider
17 fails to provide such information.

18 “(B) FAILURE TO MEET PERFORMANCE
19 CRITERIA.—

20 “(i) FIRST YEAR.—The provider of an
21 eligible program that has received eligi-
22 bility under subsection (c)(2) for a pro-
23 gram year but fails to meet the minimum
24 levels of performance on the performance
25 criteria described in subsection (b)(2) for

1 the most recent program year for which
2 performance data on such criteria are
3 available shall be notified of such failure by
4 the Governor.

5 “(ii) SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR.—A
6 program that fails to meet the minimum
7 levels of performance for a second consecu-
8 tive program year shall be ineligible under
9 this section with respect to such program
10 for the program year following such second
11 consecutive program year and until the
12 program meets the minimum levels of per-
13 formance.

14 “(iii) REAPPLICATION.—A provider
15 that loses eligibility under this subpara-
16 graph with respect to a program may re-
17 apply to receive eligibility for the program
18 according to the procedures described in
19 this subparagraph if the program meets
20 the minimum levels of performance de-
21 scribed in clause (i), for the most recent
22 program year for which performance data
23 on the performance criteria are available.

1 “(C) REPEATED FAILURE.—A program for
2 which the Governor revokes eligibility under
3 subparagraph (A) or (B)—

4 “(i) 2 times shall be determined ineli-
5 gible under this section by the Governor
6 for a period of at least 2 years;

7 “(ii) 3 times shall be determined ineli-
8 gible under the section by the Governor for
9 a period of at least 5 years; and

10 “(iii) more than 3 times shall be de-
11 termined ineligible under this section by
12 the Governor for a period of at least 10
13 years.

14 “(5) CONTINUITY OF TRAINING SERVICES.—A
15 provider of a program for which the Governor re-
16 vokes eligibility under paragraph (4) shall—

17 “(A) be prohibited from enrolling any new
18 participants whose participation would be fund-
19 ed under section 133(b) in the program and
20 from receiving any payments from funds pro-
21 vided under section 133(b) for any participants
22 not already enrolled in the program on the date
23 of revocation or termination until and unless
24 the Governor determines that the provider has
25 demonstrated that the program offered by the

1 provider has met the requirements for the pro-
2 vider to gain the opportunity to reapply for eli-
3 gibility under the procedure described in para-
4 graph (4)(B)(iii); and

5 “(B) enable each participant currently en-
6 rolled in the program, on the date of the rev-
7 ocaation or termination, to complete such pro-
8 gram.

9 “(6) NOTIFICATION OF PROGRAM LOSS OF ELI-
10 GIBILITY.—The local board serving participants
11 whose participation is funded under section 133(b)
12 in a program for which eligibility is revoked by the
13 Governor under this subsection shall notify such par-
14 ticipants that such program no longer meets the
15 State’s requirements for eligible providers of train-
16 ing services under this Act and that the participant
17 has the opportunity to continue receiving training
18 services from such program, in order to complete the
19 program.

20 “(7) MULTISTATE PROVIDERS.—The proce-
21 dures established under subsection (a) shall specify
22 the process for any provider of training services of-
23 fering a program that is eligible under this section
24 in a first State to establish eligibility under this sec-
25 tion in an additional State, which shall, to the extent

1 practicable, minimize financial and administrative
2 burdens on any such provider by authorizing the
3 provider to submit the same application materials
4 and information to the Governor of the additional
5 State that was accepted by the Governor granting
6 the provider's eligibility in the first State, as long as
7 the program meets the applicable State requirements
8 for such eligibility established under subsection (b).

9 “(8) ONLINE PROVIDERS.—The procedures es-
10 tablished under subsection (a) shall apply to a pro-
11 vider that delivers training services exclusively on-
12 line. If a participant chooses a provider that delivers
13 training services exclusively online and is not located
14 in the State of the local area that approved such
15 training services for the participant in accordance
16 with section 133(c)(3)(A)(i), such provider shall be
17 ineligible to receive payment for such participant
18 from funds allotted to such State under section 132
19 unless such provider is on the list of eligible pro-
20 viders of training services described in subsection (d)
21 for such State with respect to the program involved.

22 “(d) LIST AND INFORMATION TO ASSIST PARTICI-
23 PANTS IN CHOOSING PROVIDERS.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to facilitate and
25 assist participants in choosing employment and

1 training activities and in choosing providers of train-
2 ing services, the Governor shall ensure that an ap-
3 propriate list of providers determined to be eligible
4 under this section to offer a program in the State
5 (and, as appropriate, in a local area), accompanied
6 by information identifying the recognized postsec-
7 ondary credential offered by the provider and other
8 appropriate information, is prepared. The list shall
9 be provided to the local boards in the State, and
10 made available to such participants and to members
11 of the public through the one-stop delivery system in
12 the State in accordance with paragraph (4).

13 “(2) TALENT MARKETPLACE.—The Governor
14 may establish (or develop in partnership with other
15 States) a talent marketplace.

16 “(3) ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION.—The ac-
17 companying information referred to in paragraph (1)
18 shall consist of—

19 “(A) with respect to providers described in
20 subparagraphs (A) and (C) of subsection (a)(2)
21 (other than providers described in subsection
22 (a)(3)(B)(ii)), information provided by such
23 providers (disaggregated by local areas served,
24 as applicable) in accordance with subsection (b);

1 “(B) with respect to a program described
2 in subsection (b)(3) that is offered by a pro-
3 vider, information promoting the program as
4 having an employer-sponsored designation and
5 identifying the employer or partnership spon-
6 soring the program; and

7 “(C) with respect to a program described
8 in subsection (b)(4) that is offered by a pro-
9 vider, information promoting the program as
10 being a WIL program and displaying the seal
11 described in subsection (b)(4)(C).

12 “(4) AVAILABILITY.—The list (including the
13 talent marketplace if one has been established by the
14 State), and the accompanying information shall be
15 made available to such participants and to members
16 of the public through the one-stop delivery system in
17 the State—

18 “(A) on a publicly accessible website
19 that—

20 “(i) is consumer-tested; and

21 “(ii) is searchable, easily understand-
22 able, and navigable, and allows for the
23 comparison of eligible programs through
24 the use of common, linked, open-data de-

1 scriptive language, including interoperable
2 skills and competency data; and

3 “(B) in a manner that does not reveal per-
4 sonally identifiable information about an indi-
5 vidual participant.

6 “(5) WEBSITE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The
7 Secretary shall—

8 “(A) upon request, provide technical assist-
9 ance to a State on establishing a website that
10 meets the requirements of paragraph (4); and

11 “(B) disseminate to each State effective
12 practices or resources from States and private
13 sector entities related to establishing a website
14 that is consumer-tested to ensure that the
15 website is easily understood, searchable, and
16 navigable.

17 “(6) LIMITATION.—In carrying out the require-
18 ments of this subsection, no personally identifiable
19 information regarding a student, including a Social
20 Security number, student identification number, or
21 other identifier, may be disclosed without the prior
22 written consent of the student or student’s parent in
23 compliance with section 444 of the General Edu-
24 cation Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g).

1 “(e) OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT COMMENTS.—In es-
2 tablishing, under this section, criteria, procedures, and the
3 list of eligible providers described in subsection (d), the
4 Governor shall provide an opportunity for interested mem-
5 bers of the public to make recommendations and submit
6 comments regarding such criteria, procedures, and list.

7 “(f) PROVIDER PERFORMANCE INCENTIVES.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Governor shall estab-
9 lish a system of performance incentive payments to
10 be awarded to eligible providers in addition to the
11 amount paid under section 133(b) to such providers
12 for the provision of training services to participants
13 of eligible programs. Such system of performance in-
14 centive payments may be established to award the
15 payments to providers of eligible programs that—

16 “(A) achieve levels of performance above
17 the minimum levels established by the Governor
18 under subsection (b)(2);

19 “(B) serve a significantly higher number of
20 individuals with barriers to employment com-
21 pared to training providers offering similar
22 training services; or

23 “(C) achieve other performance successes,
24 including those related to jobs that provide eco-
25 nomic stability and upward mobility (such as

1 jobs with high wages and family sustainable
2 benefits) as determined by the State or the
3 local board.

4 “(2) INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.—Incentive pay-
5 ments to providers established under paragraph (1)
6 shall be awarded to eligible providers from funds re-
7 served by the Governor under section 128(a)(1), ex-
8 cept that not more than 5 percent of the funds re-
9 served by the Governor under section 128(a)(1) may
10 be used for such payments.”;

11 (3) by striking subsections (i) and (j) and in-
12 serting the following:

13 “(i) ON-THE-JOB TRAINING, EMPLOYER-DIRECTED
14 SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING,
15 AND OTHER TRAINING EXCEPTIONS.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Providers of on-the-job
17 training, employer-directed skills development, in-
18 cumbent worker training, internships, paid or un-
19 paid work experience opportunities, or transitional
20 employment shall not be subject to the requirements
21 of subsections (a) through (f).

22 “(2) COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF IN-
23 FORMATION.—A one-stop operator in a local area
24 shall collect the minimum amount of information
25 from providers of on-the-job training, employer-di-

1 rected skills development, incumbent worker train-
2 ing, internships, paid or unpaid work experience op-
3 portunities, or transitional employment as necessary
4 to enable the use of State administrative data to
5 generate such performance information as the Gov-
6 ernor may require, and use the information to deter-
7 mine whether the providers meet such performance
8 criteria as the Governor may require. The one-stop
9 operator shall disseminate information identifying
10 such providers that meet the criteria as eligible pro-
11 viders, and the performance information, through
12 the one-stop delivery system. Providers determined
13 to meet the criteria shall be considered to be identi-
14 fied as eligible providers of training services.

15 “(j) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Governor may
16 apply to the Secretary for technical assistance, as de-
17 scribed in section 168(c), for purposes of carrying out the
18 requirements of the amendments made by the A Stronger
19 Workforce for America Act of 2026 to this section, and
20 the Secretary shall provide such technical assistance in a
21 timely manner.”.

22 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON STATE PERFORMANCE
23 CRITERIA.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enact-
24 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall submit a
25 report to the Committee on Education and Workforce of

1 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
2 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate on
3 eligible providers of training services under section 122 of
4 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
5 3152), as amended by this Act, in each State that shall
6 include—

7 (1) the minimum levels of performance estab-
8 lished by the Governor of each State with respect to
9 the performance criteria under subsection (b)(2) of
10 that section 122 for such eligible providers of train-
11 ing services in the State;

12 (2) the number of such eligible providers of
13 training services in the State in each program year
14 that begins after the date of enactment of this Act,
15 compared with the number of such providers in the
16 State in the program year that began immediately
17 preceding that date of enactment; and

18 (3) the average length of time that such eligible
19 providers of training services in the State maintain
20 eligibility, disaggregated by the type of entity that
21 provided the training services.

22 **SEC. 123. ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS OF YOUTH WORKFORCE IN-**
23 **VESTMENT ACTIVITIES.**

24 Section 123(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
25 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3153(a)) is amended by insert-

1 ing “, which may include providers of pre-apprenticeship
2 programs, and apprenticeship programs, that serve
3 youth,” before “identified based”.

4 **CHAPTER 2—YOUTH WORKFORCE**
5 **INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES**

6 **SEC. 131. RESERVATIONS; REALLOCATION.**

7 (a) RESERVATIONS FOR STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES.—
8 Section 128(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
9 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3163(a)) is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “reserved
11 amounts” in each place and inserting “reserved
12 amounts required under paragraph (1)”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(3) CRITICAL INDUSTRY SKILLS FUND, AND
15 INDUSTRY SECTOR PARTNERSHIP AND CAREER
16 PATHWAYS DEVELOPMENT FUND.—

17 “(A) AUTHORIZED RESERVATION.—In ad-
18 dition to the reservations required under para-
19 graph (1) and section 133(a)(2), and subject to
20 subparagraph (B), the Governor may reserve
21 not more than 10 percent of each of the
22 amounts allotted to the State under section
23 127(b)(1)(C) and paragraphs (1)(B) and (2)(B)
24 of section 132(b) for a fiscal year to establish

1 and administer any one, or both, of the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(i) A critical industry skills fund de-
4 scribed in section 134(a)(4).

5 “(ii) An industry or sector partner-
6 ship and career pathways development
7 fund described in section 134(a)(5).

8 “(B) MATCHING FUNDS.—

9 “(i) REQUIREMENT.—The amount of
10 funds reserved by a Governor under sub-
11 paragraph (A) for a fiscal year may not ex-
12 ceed the amount of funds that such Gov-
13 ernor commits to using from any of the
14 funds listed in clause (ii) of this subpara-
15 graph for the purposes of establishing and
16 administering the funds described in
17 clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) for
18 such fiscal year.

19 “(ii) SOURCES OF MATCHING
20 FUNDS.—The funds listed in this clause
21 are as follows:

22 “(I) Funds reserved by the Gov-
23 ernor under paragraph (1) of this
24 subsection.

1 “(II) Other Federal funds not
2 described in subclause (I).

3 “(III) State funds.”.

4 (b) REALLOCATION AMONG LOCAL AREAS.—Section
5 128(c) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
6 (29 U.S.C. 3173(c)) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting the following
8 before the period at the end: “as performance-based
9 incentive payments”; and

10 (2) in paragraph (4)—

11 (A) by striking “that does not” and insert-
12 ing the following: “that—

13 “(A) does not”;

14 (B) by striking the period at the end and
15 inserting a semicolon; and

16 (C) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(B) has met or exceeded an average of
18 100 percent of the local level of performance
19 described in section 116(c)(1)(B) for the local
20 area across all indicators for the youth program
21 authorized under this chapter for the most re-
22 cent program year for which performance data
23 is available; and

24 “(C) was not subject to corrective action
25 by the Governor under section 184(a)(5)(A) for

1 a determination of non-compliance with the uni-
2 form administrative requirements described in
3 section 184(a)(3) for the program year for
4 which the determination under paragraph (2) is
5 made.”.

6 **SEC. 132. USE OF FUNDS FOR YOUTH WORKFORCE INVEST-**
7 **MENT ACTIVITIES.**

8 (a) **YOUTH PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY.—**

9 (1) **ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION.—**

10 (A) **ELIGIBILITY.—**Subparagraph (A) of
11 section 129(a)(1) of the Workforce Innovation
12 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(1)) is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 “(A) **ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION.—**

15 “(i) **IN GENERAL.—**To be eligible to
16 participate in activities carried out under
17 this chapter during any program year, an
18 individual shall, at the time the eligibility
19 determination is made, be an out-of-school
20 youth or an in-school youth.

21 “(ii) **ENROLLMENT.—**If a one-stop
22 operator or eligible provider of youth work-
23 force activities carrying out activities under
24 this chapter reasonably believes that an in-
25 dividual is eligible to participate in such

1 activities, the operator or provider may
2 allow such individual to participate in such
3 activities for not more than a 40-day pe-
4 riod during which the operator or provider
5 shall obtain the necessary information to
6 make an eligibility determination with re-
7 spect to such individual (which may involve
8 working with such individual and other en-
9 tities in the local area, and using available
10 sources of administrative data, to obtain
11 the necessary information).

12 “(iii) DETERMINATION OF INELIGI-
13 BILITY.—With respect to an individual who
14 is determined to be ineligible for activities
15 under this chapter by a one-stop operator
16 or an eligible provider of youth workforce
17 activities during the period described in
18 clause (ii) and who does not qualify for an
19 exception under paragraph (3)(A)(ii) appli-
20 cable to the local area involved, such oper-
21 ator or service provider—

22 “(I) may—

23 “(aa) continue serving such
24 individual using non-Federal
25 funds; or

1 “(bb) end the participation
2 of such individual in activities
3 under this chapter and refer the
4 individual to other services that
5 may be available in the local area
6 for which the individual may be
7 eligible; and

8 “(II) shall be paid for any serv-
9 ices provided to such individual under
10 this chapter during the period de-
11 scribed in clause (ii) by the local area
12 involved using funds allocated to such
13 area under section 128(b).

14 “(iv) DETERMINATION PROCESS FOR
15 HOMELESS YOUTH AND FOSTER YOUTH.—

16 In determining whether an individual is eli-
17 gible to participate in activities carried out
18 under this chapter on the basis of being an
19 individual who is a homeless youth, or a
20 youth in foster care, as described in sub-
21 paragraph (B)(iii)(V), the one-stop oper-
22 ator or service provider involved may—

23 “(I) if determining whether the
24 individual is a homeless youth, use a
25 process that is in compliance with the

1 requirements of subsection (a) of sec-
2 tion 479D of the Higher Education
3 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087uu-2)
4 for financial aid administrators; and

5 “(II) if determining whether the
6 individual is a youth in foster care,
7 use a process that is in compliance
8 with the requirements of subsection
9 (b) of section 479D of the Higher
10 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
11 1087uu-2) for financial aid adminis-
12 trators.”.

13 (B) DEFINITION OF OUT-OF-SCHOOL
14 YOUTH.—Subparagraph (B) of section
15 129(a)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
16 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(1)) is amend-
17 ed—

18 (i) in clause (i), by inserting “, except
19 that an individual described in subpara-
20 graph (IV) or (V) of clause (iii) may be at-
21 tending school (as defined under State
22 law)” after “(as defined under State law)”;

23 (ii) in clause (ii), by inserting before
24 the semicolon at the end, the following : “,
25 except that an individual described in sub-

1 paragraph (IV) or (V) of clause (iii) may
2 be not younger than age 14 or older than
3 age 24”; and

4 (iii) in clause (iii)—

5 (I) in subclause (III)—

6 (aa) in the matter preceding
7 item (aa)—

8 (AA) by striking “sec-
9 ondary school diploma or its
10 recognized equivalent” and
11 inserting “regular high
12 school diploma or its recog-
13 nized equivalent”; and

14 (BB) by striking “and
15 is” and inserting “and”;

16 (bb) in item (aa), by striking
17 “basic skills deficient;” and in-
18 serting “has foundational skill
19 needs;”; and

20 (cc) in item (bb), by striking
21 “an English language learner”
22 and inserting “is an English
23 learner”; and

1 (II) in subclause (V), by striking
2 “(42 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6))” and in-
3 serting “(34 U.S.C. 12473(6))”.

4 (C) DEFINITION OF IN-SCHOOL YOUTH.—
5 Clause (iv) of section 129(a)(1)(C) of the Work-
6 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
7 U.S.C. 3164(a)(1)(C)) is amended—

8 (i) in subclause (I), by striking “Basic
9 skills deficient.” and inserting “An indi-
10 vidual who has foundational skill needs.”;

11 (ii) in subclause (II), by striking “lan-
12 guage”;

13 (iii) by striking subclauses (III) and
14 (IV); and

15 (iv) by redesignating subclauses (V),
16 (VI), and (VII) as subclauses (III), (IV),
17 and (V), respectively.

18 (D) RULE FOR CERTAIN OUT-OF-SCHOOL
19 YOUTH.—Section 129(a)(1) of the Workforce
20 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
21 3164(a)(1)) is amended by adding at the end
22 the following:

23 “(D) RULE FOR CERTAIN OUT-OF-SCHOOL
24 YOUTH.—An out-of-school youth described in
25 subclause (IV) or (V) of subparagraph (B)(iii)

1 who is attending any school (as defined under
2 State law) shall be eligible to participate in any
3 activity for in-school youth carried out under
4 this chapter.”.

5 (2) EXCEPTION AND LIMITATION.—Section
6 129(a)(3) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
7 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(3)) is amended—

8 (A) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking
9 “5” and inserting “10”; and

10 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

11 (i) by striking “5” and inserting
12 “10”; and

13 (ii) by striking “paragraph
14 (1)(C)(iv)(VII)” and inserting “paragraph
15 (1)(C)(iv)(V)”.

16 (3) OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH PRIORITY.—Section
17 129(a)(4) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
18 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(a)(4)) is amended—

19 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

20 (i) by striking “75” each place it ap-
21 pears and inserting “70”;

22 (ii) by inserting “the total amount of”
23 before “funds available”; and

24 (iii) by inserting “in the State” after
25 “subsection (c)”;

1 (B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking
2 “75” and inserting “70”;

3 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (B), as
4 so amended, as subparagraph (C); and

5 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (A)
6 the following:

7 “(B) LOCAL AREA TARGETS.—The local
8 board, the chief elected official, and the Gov-
9 ernor shall negotiate and reach agreement on
10 the minimum amount of funds provided to a
11 local area under subsection (c) that shall be
12 used to provide youth workforce investment ac-
13 tivities for out-of-school youth based on the
14 needs of the youth in the local area, which—

15 “(i) may not be an amount that is less
16 than 45 percent of the funds provided to
17 such local area under subsection (c); and

18 “(ii) shall be the amount that is nec-
19 essary for the State to meet the require-
20 ments of subparagraph (A) with respect to
21 the total amount of funds available for
22 local areas under subsection (c).”.

23 (b) REQUIRED STATEWIDE YOUTH ACTIVITIES.—
24 Section 129(b)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
25 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(b)(1)) is amended—

1 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
2 by striking “sections 128(a)” and inserting “sections
3 128(a)(1)”;

4 (2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “through
5 a website that is consumer-tested to ensure that the
6 website is easily understood, searchable, and navi-
7 gable and allows for comparison of eligible providers
8 based on the program elements offered by such pro-
9 viders and the performance of such providers on the
10 primary indicators of performance for the youth pro-
11 gram as described in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii)” after
12 “under section 123”; and

13 (3) in subparagraph (D), by striking “section
14 116(i)” and inserting “section 116(j)”.

15 (c) ALLOWABLE STATEWIDE YOUTH ACTIVITIES.—
16 Section 129(b)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
17 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(b)(2)) is amended—

18 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
19 by striking “sections 128(a)” and inserting “sections
20 128(a)(1)”;

21 (2) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “, which
22 may include providing guidance on career options in
23 in-demand industry sectors or occupations” after “in
24 the State”;

25 (3) in subparagraph (D)—

1 (A) in clause (iv), by striking “and” at the
2 end; and

3 (B) by inserting after clause (v) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(vi) supporting the ability to under-
6 stand relevant tax information and obliga-
7 tions;”;

8 (4) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period
9 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

10 (5) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(F) establishing, supporting, and expand-
12 ing work-based learning opportunities (includ-
13 ing transitional jobs and work-based learning
14 opportunities designed for youth to develop and
15 gain experience using emerging technologies, in-
16 cluding artificial intelligence, in the workplace)
17 that are aligned with career pathways;

18 “(G) raising public awareness (including
19 through public service announcements, such as
20 social media campaigns and elementary and
21 secondary school showcases and school visits)
22 about career and technical education programs
23 and community-based and youth services orga-
24 nizations, and other endeavors focused on pro-

1 grams that prepare students for in-demand in-
2 dustry sectors or occupations;

3 “(H) developing partnerships between edu-
4 cational institutions (including area career and
5 technical schools and institutions of higher edu-
6 cation) and employers to create or improve
7 workforce development programs to address the
8 identified education and skill needs of the work-
9 force (including the skills needed to use emerg-
10 ing technology tools and systems in the work-
11 place) and the employment needs of employers
12 in the regions or local areas of the State, as de-
13 termined based on the most recent analysis con-
14 ducted under subparagraphs (B) and (C) of
15 section 102(b)(1);

16 “(I) coordinating activities with providers
17 of a pre-apprenticeship program or apprentice-
18 ship program for youth in the State to estab-
19 lish, support, or expand the program described
20 in this subparagraph, including any such pro-
21 gram in the State receiving assistance under
22 section 173;

23 “(J) coordinating activities with entities
24 implementing reentry projects in the State fo-
25 cused on establishing or improving workforce

1 development programs for juvenile offenders,
2 including any such reentry projects in the State
3 receiving assistance under section 172; and

4 “(K) coordinating activities with agencies
5 implementing corrections education and other
6 education programs in the State focused on
7 providing incarcerated youth with education
8 and skills development programs, including any
9 such programs in the State receiving assistance
10 under section 225.”.

11 (d) LOCAL ELEMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS.—

12 (1) PROGRAM DESIGN.—Section 129(c)(1) of
13 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
14 U.S.C. 3164(c)(1)) is amended—

15 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
16 “basic skills” and inserting “foundational skill
17 needs”;

18 (B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
19 “(which, in the case of a participant 18 years
20 or older, may include co-enrollment in any em-
21 ployment or training activity provided under
22 section 134 for adults)” after “services for the
23 participant”;

24 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

1 (i) in clause (i), by striking “sec-
2 ondary school diploma or its recognized
3 equivalent” and inserting “regular high
4 school diploma or its recognized equiva-
5 lent”; and

6 (ii) in clause (v), by inserting “high-
7 skill, high-wage, or” after “small employ-
8 ers, in”; and

9 (D) in subparagraph (D), by striking “10”
10 and inserting “30”.

11 (2) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—Section 129(c)(2)
12 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
13 (29 U.S.C. 3164(c)(2)) is amended—

14 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
15 (A), by striking “secondary school diploma or
16 its recognized equivalent” and inserting “reg-
17 ular high school diploma or its recognized
18 equivalent”;

19 (B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sec-
20 ondary school diploma or its recognized equiva-
21 lent” and inserting “regular high school di-
22 ploma or its recognized equivalent”;

23 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

24 (i) in clause (i)—

1 (I) by striking “other” and in-
2 serting “year-round”; and

3 (II) by inserting “that meet the
4 requirements of paragraph (10)” after
5 “school year”;

6 (ii) in clause (ii), by inserting “and
7 apprenticeship programs that serve youth”
8 after “programs”;

9 (iii) by amending clause (iii) to read
10 as follows:

11 “(iii) internships that—

12 “(I) are paid internships or are
13 unpaid internships for which academic
14 credit may be awarded;

15 “(II) are, to the extent prac-
16 ticable, aligned with in-demand indus-
17 try sectors or occupations in the State
18 or local area; and

19 “(III) for which participants
20 shall be paid (by the entity providing
21 the internship, through funds allo-
22 cated to the local area pursuant to
23 paragraph (1) for the program, or by
24 another entity) if such internships are
25 longer than—

1 “(aa) 4 weeks in the sum-
2 mer or 8 weeks during the school
3 year for in-school youth and out-
4 of-school youth who are enrolled
5 in school; or

6 “(bb) 8 weeks for out-of-
7 school youth who are not enrolled
8 in school;”;

9 (iv) by redesignating clause (iv) as
10 clause (v);

11 (v) by inserting after clause (iii), as so
12 amended, the following:

13 “(iv) job shadowing;”;

14 (vi) in clause (v), as so redesignated,
15 by inserting “and” at the end; and

16 (vii) by adding at the end the fol-
17 lowing:

18 “(vi) work-based learning;”;

19 (D) in subparagraph (H), by striking
20 “adult mentoring” and inserting “coaching and
21 adult mentoring services”;

22 (E) in subparagraph (I), by inserting “(in-
23 cluding case management)” after “services”;

24 (F) in subparagraph (M)—

1 (i) by inserting “high-skill, high-wage,
2 or” before “in-demand industry”; and

3 (ii) by striking the “and” at the end;

4 (G) in subparagraph (N), by striking the
5 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

6 (H) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(O) activities to develop fundamental
8 workforce readiness, which may include cre-
9 ativity, collaboration, critical thinking, digital
10 literacy, persistence, and other relevant skills.”.

11 (3) PRIORITY.—Section 129(c)(4) of the Work-
12 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
13 3164(c)(4)) is amended to read as follows:

14 “(4) PRIORITY.—

15 “(A) WORK EXPERIENCES.—Not less than
16 40 percent of the funds allocated to the local
17 area as described in paragraph (1) shall be
18 used to provide in-school youth and out-of-
19 school youth with activities under paragraph
20 (2)(C).

21 “(B) APPRENTICESHIPS AND PRE-APPREN-
22 TICESHIPS FOR YOUTH.—Not less than 12 and
23 1/2 percent of the funds used for the purposes
24 described in subparagraph (A) shall be used to

1 provide in-school youth and out-of-school youth
2 with activities under paragraph (2)(C)(ii).”.

3 (4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Section
4 129(c)(5) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
5 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(c)(5)) is amended by in-
6 serting “or local area” after “youth services”.

7 (5) LINKAGES.—Section 129(c)(7) of the Work-
8 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
9 3164(c)(7)) is amended by inserting “, secondary
10 schools, and area career and technical schools” after
11 “agencies”.

12 (6) INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNTS.—Section
13 129(c) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
14 Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(c)) is amended by adding at
15 the end the following:

16 “(9) INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNTS.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
18 graph (B), funds allocated pursuant to para-
19 graph (1) to a local area may be used to pay,
20 through an individual training account, an eligi-
21 ble provider of training services described in
22 section 122(d) for training services described in
23 section 134(c)(3) provided to in-school youth
24 who are not younger than age 16 and not older
25 than age 21 and out-of-school youth, in the

1 same manner that an individual training ac-
2 count is used to pay an eligible provider of
3 training services under section 134(e)(3)(F)(iii)
4 for training services provided to an adult or dis-
5 located worker.

6 “(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR IN-SCHOOL
7 YOUTH YOUNGER THAN AGE 18.—To use an in-
8 dividual training account to pay for a program
9 of training services that will take place during
10 regular school hours for an in-school youth who
11 is younger than the age 18, the local area shall
12 receive written approval from the secondary
13 school at which the in-school youth is enrolled
14 prior to the start of the program of training
15 services.”.

16 (7) SUMMER AND YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT
17 OPPORTUNITIES REQUIREMENTS.—Section 129(e) of
18 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
19 U.S.C. 3164(e)) is further amended by adding at the
20 end the following:

21 “(10) SUMMER AND YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT
22 OPPORTUNITIES REQUIREMENTS.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A summer employ-
24 ment opportunity or a year-round employment
25 opportunity referred to in paragraph (2)(C)(i)

1 shall be a program that matches eligible youth
2 participating in such program with an appro-
3 priate employer (based on factors including the
4 needs of the employer and the age, skill, and in-
5 formed aspirations of the eligible youth) that—

6 “(i) shall include—

7 “(I) a component of occupational
8 skills education; and

9 “(II) not less than 2 of the ac-
10 tivities described in subparagraphs
11 (G), (H), (I), (K), (M), and (O) of
12 paragraph (2);

13 “(ii) may not use funds allocated
14 under this chapter to subsidize more than
15 50 percent of the wages of each eligible
16 youth participant in such program;

17 “(iii) in the case of a summer employ-
18 ment opportunity, complies with the re-
19 quirements of subparagraph (B); and

20 “(iv) in the case of a year-round em-
21 ployment opportunity, complies with the
22 requirements of subparagraph (C).

23 “(B) SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPOR-
24 TUNITY.—In addition to the applicable require-

1 ments described in subparagraph (A), a sum-
2 mer employment opportunity—

3 “(i) may not be less than 4 weeks;

4 and

5 “(ii) may not pay less than the high-
6 est applicable wage required by the appli-
7 cable Federal, State, or local minimum
8 wage law.

9 “(C) YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT OPPOR-
10 TUNITY.—In addition to the applicable require-
11 ments described in subparagraph (A), a year-
12 round employment opportunity—

13 “(i) may not be shorter than 180 days
14 or longer than 1 year;

15 “(ii) may not pay less than the high-
16 est applicable wage required by the appli-
17 cable Federal, State, or local minimum
18 wage law; and

19 “(iii) may not employ the eligible
20 youth for less than 20 hours per week, ex-
21 cept in instances when the eligible youth
22 are under the age of 18 or enrolled in
23 school.

24 “(D) PRIORITY.—In selecting summer em-
25 ployment opportunities or year-round employ-

1 ment opportunities for purposes of paragraph
2 (2)(C)(i), a local area shall give priority to such
3 opportunities that meet the requirements of this
4 paragraph and that are in existing or emerging
5 high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry
6 sectors or occupations.”.

7 (8) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
8 129(e)(3)(B) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
9 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3164(e)(3)(B)) is amended
10 by striking “basic skills” and inserting
11 “foundational skill needs”.

12 **CHAPTER 3—ADULT AND DISLOCATED**
13 **WORKER EMPLOYMENT AND TRAIN-**
14 **ING ACTIVITIES**

15 **SEC. 141. STATE ALLOTMENTS.**

16 Section 132(a)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation
17 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3172(a)(2)(A)) is amend-
18 ed by—

19 (1) striking “, 169(e) (relating to dislocated
20 worker projects),”; and

21 (2) by inserting “, and under subsections (c)
22 (related to dislocated worker projects) and (d) (re-
23 lated to workforce data quality initiatives) of section
24 169” before “; and”

1 **SEC. 142. RESERVATIONS FOR STATE ACTIVITIES; WITHIN**
2 **STATE ALLOCATIONS; REALLOCATION.**

3 (a) RESERVATIONS FOR STATE ACTIVITIES.—Section
4 133(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
5 (29 U.S.C. 3173(a)) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “section
7 128(a)” and inserting “section 128(a)(1)”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(3) CRITICAL INDUSTRY SKILLS FUND, AND
10 INDUSTRY OR SECTOR PARTNERSHIP AND CAREER
11 PATHWAYS FUND.—In addition to the reservations
12 required under paragraphs (1) and (2), the Gov-
13 ernor may make the reservation authorized under
14 section 128(a)(3).”.

15 (b) WITHIN STATE ALLOCATIONS.—Section
16 133(b)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
17 Act (29 U.S.C. 3173(b)) is amended—

18 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sub-
19 section (a)(1)” and inserting “paragraph (1) or (3)
20 of subsection (a)”; and

21 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “para-
22 graph (1) or (2) of subsection (a)” and inserting
23 “paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (a)”.

24 (c) REALLOCATION AMONG LOCAL AREAS.—Section
25 133(c) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
26 (29 U.S.C. 3173(c)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting before the pe-
2 riod at the end, the following: “as performance-
3 based incentive payments”;

4 (2) in paragraph (4)—

5 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

6 (i) by striking “that does not” and in-
7 serting the following: “that—

8 “(i) does not”;

9 (ii) by striking “; and” and inserting
10 a semicolon; and

11 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(ii) has met or exceeded an average
14 of 100 percent of the local level of per-
15 formance described in section 116(c)(1)(B)
16 for the local area across all indicators for
17 the adult program authorized under this
18 chapter for the most recent program year
19 for which performance data is available;
20 and

21 “(iii) was not subject to corrective ac-
22 tion by the Governor under section
23 184(a)(5)(A) for a determination of non-
24 compliance with the uniform administrative
25 requirements described in section

1 184(a)(3) for the program year for which
2 the determination under paragraph (2) is
3 made; and”; and
4 (B) in subparagraph (B)—
5 (i) by striking “that does not” and in-
6 serting the following: “that—
7 “(i) does not”;
8 (ii) by striking the period at the end
9 and inserting a semicolon; and
10 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:
12 “(ii) has met or exceeded an average
13 of 100 percent of the local level of per-
14 formance described in section 116(c)(1)(B)
15 for the local area across all indicators for
16 the dislocated worker program authorized
17 under this chapter for the most recent pro-
18 gram year for which performance data is
19 available; and
20 “(iii) was not subject to corrective ac-
21 tion by the Governor under section
22 184(a)(5)(A) for a determination of non-
23 compliance with the uniform administrative
24 requirements described in section
25 184(a)(3) for the program year for which

1 the determination under paragraph (2) is
2 made; and”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(5) USE OF INCENTIVE FUNDS.—Any amounts
5 provided to a local area as a performance incentive
6 payment under this subsection shall not be subject
7 to the requirements described in section
8 134(c)(1)(B).”.

9 **SEC. 143. USE OF FUNDS FOR EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**
10 **ACTIVITIES.**

11 (a) STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AC-
12 TIVITIES.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 134(a)(1) of the
14 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
15 U.S.C. 3174(a)(1))—

16 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
17 “and” at the end;

18 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

19 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),
20 by striking “128(a)” and inserting
21 “128(a)(1)”; and

22 (ii) by amending clause (ii) to read as
23 follows:

24 “(ii) may be used to carry out any of
25 the statewide employment and training ac-

1 activities described in paragraph (3) (includ-
2 ing establishing and administering any
3 one, or both, of the funds referred to in
4 subparagraph (C));” and

5 (C) by inserting before the flush left text
6 at the end the following:

7 “(C) as described in section 128(a)(3),
8 shall be used to establish and administer any
9 one, or both, of the following:

10 “(i) a critical industry skills fund de-
11 scribed in paragraph (4); or

12 “(ii) an industry or sector partnership
13 and career pathways development fund de-
14 scribed in paragraph (5),”.

15 (2) REQUIRED STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT AND
16 TRAINING ACTIVITIES.—

17 (A) STATEWIDE RAPID RESPONSE ACTIVI-
18 TIES.—Section 134(a)(2)(A) of the Workforce
19 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
20 3174(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

21 (i) in clause (i)—

22 (I) in subclause (I)—

23 (aa) by striking “working”
24 and inserting “as a rapid re-
25 sponse unit working”; and

1 (bb) by striking “and” at
2 the end;

3 (II) in subclause (II), by striking
4 the period at the end and inserting “;
5 and”; and

6 (III) by adding at the end the
7 following:

8 “(III) provision of additional as-
9 sistance to any local area that has ex-
10 cess demand for individual training
11 accounts for dislocated workers in
12 such local area and requests such ad-
13 ditional assistance under this sub-
14 clause in accordance with paragraph
15 (4) of section 414(c) of the American
16 Competitiveness and Workforce Im-
17 provement Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.
18 3224a(5)), upon a determination by
19 the State that, in using funds allo-
20 cated to such local area pursuant to
21 paragraph (1) of such section 414(c)
22 and in using funds as required under
23 subsection (c)(1)(B) of this section for
24 the purpose described in paragraph
25 (2)(A) of such section 414(c), the

1 local area is in compliance with the
2 requirements of such section 414(c).”;
3 and

4 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(iii) INSUFFICIENT FUNDS TO MEET
7 EXCESS DEMAND.—If a State determines
8 that a local area with excess demand as
9 described in clause (i)(III) has met the
10 compliance requirements described in such
11 clause, but the State does not have suffi-
12 cient funds reserved under section
13 133(a)(2) to meet such excess demand, the
14 State—

15 “(I) shall notify the Secretary of
16 such excess demand; and

17 “(II) if eligible, may apply for a
18 national dislocated worker grant
19 under section 170 of this Act.”.

20 (B) STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAIN-
21 ING ACTIVITIES.—Section 134(a)(2)(B) of the
22 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
23 U.S.C. 3174(a)(2)(B) is amended—

24 (i) in clause (i)—

1 (I) in subclause (III), by striking
2 “and” at the end;

3 (II) by amending subclause (IV)
4 to read as follows:

5 “(IV) local areas, one-stop opera-
6 tors, one-stop partners, and eligible
7 providers, including the development
8 and training of staff, which may in-
9 clude—

10 “(aa) the development and
11 training of staff to provide infor-
12 mation about wage levels and
13 available benefits across in-de-
14 mand industry sectors or occupa-
15 tions, and information about op-
16 portunities for individuals with
17 barriers to employment to enter
18 in-demand industry sectors or oc-
19 cupations and nontraditional oc-
20 cupations;

21 “(bb) providing capacity
22 building and technical assistance
23 to State board and local board
24 members on the development of
25 exemplary program activities;

1 “(cc) the development and
2 education of staff to increase ex-
3 pertise in providing opportunities
4 for covered veterans (as defined
5 in section 4212(a)(3)(A) of title
6 38, United States Code) to enter
7 in-demand industry sectors or oc-
8 cupations and nontraditional oc-
9 cupations: and

10 “(dd) the provision of tech-
11 nical assistance to local areas
12 that fail to meet local perform-
13 ance accountability measures de-
14 scribed in section 116(c); and”;
15 and

16 (III) by adding at the end the
17 following:

18 “(V) local boards and eligible
19 providers of training services in car-
20 rying out the performance reporting
21 required under section 116(d), includ-
22 ing facilitating data matches for pro-
23 gram participants—

24 “(aa) using quarterly wage
25 record information (including the

1 wage records made available by
2 any other State and information
3 provided from the National Di-
4 rectory of New Hires in accord-
5 ance with section 453(j)(8) of the
6 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
7 653(j)(8)); and

8 “(bb) other sources of infor-
9 mation, as necessary to measure
10 the performance of programs and
11 activities conducted under this
12 chapter or chapter 2 of this sub-
13 title;”;

14 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “section
15 106(b)(7)” and inserting “section
16 106(b)(6)”;

17 (iii) in clause (iii), by striking “section
18 116(i)” and inserting “section 116(j)”;
19 and

20 (iv) in clause (v)—

21 (I) in subclause (II)—

22 (aa) by striking “customized
23 training” and inserting “em-
24 ployer-directed skills develop-
25 ment”; and

1 (bb) by striking “transi-
2 tional jobs” and inserting “tran-
3 sitional jobs, or sponsors of ap-
4 prenticeships and pre-apprentice-
5 ships”;

6 (II) in subclause (III), by insert-
7 ing “, including business engaged in
8 joint labor-management partnerships”
9 before the semicolon;

10 (III) by redesignating subclauses
11 (V) and (VI) as subclauses (VI) and
12 (VII), respectively;

13 (IV) by inserting after subclause
14 (IV) the following:

15 “(V) information on effective co-
16 ordination of supportive services for
17 workers and jobseekers;”;

18 (V) in subclause (VI), as so re-
19 designated—

20 (aa) by striking “subsections
21 (d) and (h) of section 122” and
22 inserting “subsections (d) and (i)
23 of section 122”; and

24 (bb) by striking “and” at
25 the end; and

1 (VI) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(VIII) information to partici-
4 pants on understanding and accessing
5 State-administered programs and
6 services available to jobseekers;”;

7 (v) by redesignating clause (vi) as
8 clause (vii);

9 (vi) by inserting after clause (v) the
10 following:

11 “(vi) notifying participants of an eligi-
12 ble program of training services whose par-
13 ticipation is funded under this Act, if such
14 program’s status as an eligible program of
15 training services is revoked under section
16 122(c)(4);”;

17 (vii) in clause (vii), as so redesi-
18 gnated, by striking the period at the end
19 and inserting a semicolon; and

20 (viii) by adding at the end the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(viii) coordinating (which may be
23 done in partnership with other States) with
24 industry organizations, employers (includ-
25 ing small and mid-sized employers), indus-

1 try or sector partnerships, training pro-
2 viders, local boards, and institutions of
3 higher education to identify or develop
4 competency-based assessments that are a
5 valid and reliable method of collecting in-
6 formation with respect to, and measuring,
7 the prior knowledge, skills, and abilities of
8 individuals who are adults or dislocated
9 workers for the purpose of—

10 “(I) awarding, based on the
11 knowledge, skills, and abilities of such
12 an individual validated by such assess-
13 ments—

14 “(aa) a recognized postsec-
15 ondary credential that is used by
16 employers in the State for re-
17 cruitment, hiring, retention, or
18 advancement purposes;

19 “(bb) postsecondary credit
20 toward a recognized postsec-
21 ondary credential aligned with in-
22 demand industry sectors and oc-
23 cupations in the State for the
24 purpose of accelerating attain-
25 ment of such credential; and

1 “(cc) postsecondary credit
2 for progress along a career path-
3 way developed by the State or a
4 local area within the State;

5 “(II) developing individual em-
6 ployment plans under subsection
7 (c)(2)(B)(vii)(II) that incorporate the
8 knowledge, skills, and abilities of such
9 an individual to identify—

10 “(aa) in-demand industry
11 sectors or occupations that re-
12 quire similar knowledge, skills,
13 and abilities; and

14 “(bb) any upskilling needed
15 for the individual to secure em-
16 ployment in such a sector or oc-
17 cupation; and

18 “(III) helping such an individual
19 communicate such knowledge, skills,
20 and abilities to prospective employers
21 through a skills-based resume, profile,
22 or portfolio; and

23 “(ix) disseminating to local areas and
24 employers information relating to the com-
25 petency-based assessments identified or de-

1 veloped pursuant to clause (viii), includ-
2 ing—

3 “(I) any credential or credit
4 awarded pursuant to items (aa)
5 through (cc) of clause (viii)(I);

6 “(II) the industry organizations,
7 employers, training providers, and in-
8 stitutions of higher education located
9 within the State that recognize the
10 knowledge, skills, and abilities of an
11 individual validated by such assess-
12 ments;

13 “(III) how such assessments may
14 be provided to, and accessed by, indi-
15 viduals through the one-stop delivery
16 system; and

17 “(IV) information on the extent
18 to which such assessments are being
19 used by employers and local areas in
20 the State.”.

21 (3) ALLOWABLE STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT AND
22 TRAINING ACTIVITIES.—Section 134(a)(3)(A) of the
23 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
24 U.S.C. 3174(a)(3)(A))—

25 (A) in clause (i)—

1 (i) by inserting “or evidence-based”
2 after “innovative”;

3 (ii) by inserting “local communities
4 and” after “needs of”;

5 (iii) by striking “customized training”
6 and inserting “employer-directed skills de-
7 velopment”;

8 (iv) by inserting “and partnerships
9 with” after “utilization of”;

10 (v) by inserting “and labor-manage-
11 ment partnerships” after “business inter-
12 mediaries”; and

13 (vi) by inserting “and medium-sized”
14 before “employers) in the State, and”;

15 (B) in clause (ii)—

16 (i) by inserting “, or bringing evi-
17 dence-based strategies to scale,” after
18 “strategies”; and

19 (ii) by inserting “supporting such in-
20 dividuals in achieving economic self-suffi-
21 ciency and mobility, and” after “employ-
22 ment and”;

23 (C) in clause (iii)—

24 (i) by striking “ and prior learning as-
25 sessment to” and inserting “, prior learn-

1 ing assessment, or a competency-based as-
2 sessment identified or developed by the
3 State under paragraph (2)(B)(viii), to”;
4 and

5 (ii) by striking “stackable” and insert-
6 ing “permit articulation into higher level
7 degree or other credential programs”;

8 (D) in clause (iv), by inserting “, which
9 may include on-the job training, employer-di-
10 rected skills development, transitional jobs, in-
11 dustry or sector partnerships, apprenticeships,
12 and other programs” after “employment”;

13 (E) in clause (viii)—

14 (i) in subclause (I), by inserting “, in-
15 cluding such activities funded through
16 other Federal and State laws” after “de-
17 velopment activities”; and

18 (ii) in subclause (II)—

19 (I) in item (cc), by inserting “ac-
20 tivities carried out by comprehensive
21 transition and postsecondary pro-
22 grams for students with intellectual
23 disabilities established under section
24 767 of the Higher Education Act of

1 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1140g),” after “de-
2 velopmental disabilities,”;

3 (II) in item (dd), by striking “ac-
4 tivities, including those” and inserting
5 “activities and services to promote
6 digital literacy skills, including activi-
7 ties and services”;

8 (III) by adding at the end the
9 following:

10 “(gg) programs under the
11 Older Americans Act of 1965 (42
12 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) that support
13 employment and economic secu-
14 rity; and”;

15 (F) in clause (xi), by inserting “that ex-
16 ceed the local levels of performance” after
17 “local areas”;

18 (G) in clause (xiii), by striking “and” at
19 the end;

20 (H) in clause (xiv)—

21 (i) by inserting “conducting feasibility
22 studies for the effectiveness of such strate-
23 gies in meeting the employment and skills
24 development needs of target populations in

1 the local areas that are using such feasi-
2 bility studies,” after “data collection,”; and

3 (ii) by striking the period at the end
4 and inserting a semicolon; and

5 (I) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(xv) supporting employers seeking to
7 implement skills-based hiring practices,
8 which may include technical assistance on
9 the use and validation of employment as-
10 sssments (including competency-based as-
11 sssments developed or identified by the
12 State pursuant to paragraph (2)(B)(viii)),
13 and support in the creation of skills-based
14 job descriptions;

15 “(xvi) developing partnerships be-
16 tween educational institutions (including
17 area career and technical education
18 schools, local educational agencies, and in-
19 stitutions of higher education) and employ-
20 ers to create or improve workforce develop-
21 ment programs to address the identified
22 education and skill needs of the workforce
23 and the employment needs of employers in
24 regions of the State, as determined by the
25 most recent analysis conducted under sub-

1 paragraphs (A), (B), and (D) of section
2 102(b)(1);

3 “(xvii) identifying and making avail-
4 able to residents of the State, free or re-
5 duced cost access to online skills develop-
6 ment programs that are aligned with in-de-
7 mand industries or occupations in the
8 State and lead to attainment of a recog-
9 nized postsecondary credential valued by
10 employers in such industries or occupa-
11 tions;

12 “(xviii) establishing and administering
13 a critical industry skills fund described in
14 paragraph (4); and

15 “(xix) establishing and administering
16 an industry or sector partnership and ca-
17 reer pathways development fund described
18 in paragraph (5).”.

19 (4) CRITICAL INDUSTRY SKILLS FUND.—Sec-
20 tion 134(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
21 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(a)), as amended, is fur-
22 ther amended by adding at the end the following:

23 “(4) CRITICAL INDUSTRY SKILLS FUND.—

24 “(A) PERFORMANCE-BASED PAYMENTS.—

25 In addition to the funds described in paragraph

1 (3)(A), a State may use any funds reserved
2 under paragraph (3)(A) of section 128(a) to es-
3 tablish and administer a critical industry skills
4 fund to award performance-based payments on
5 a per-worker basis to eligible entities that pro-
6 vide, to prospective workers or incumbent work-
7 ers (which may include youth age 18 through
8 age 24), eligible skills development programs
9 that are in any of the industries and occupa-
10 tions identified by the Governor (in consultation
11 with the State board) for purposes of this para-
12 graph, and that will result in employment or re-
13 tention with an employer in such an industry or
14 occupation (in this paragraph referred to as a
15 ‘participating employer’).

16 “(B) OPTIONAL PRIORITY.—The Governor
17 (in consultation with the State board) may se-
18 lect the industries and occupations identified
19 under subparagraph (A) that should be
20 prioritized under this paragraph.

21 “(C) SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS.—To be
22 eligible to receive a payment under the critical
23 industry skills fund established under this para-
24 graph by a State, an eligible entity shall submit
25 to the Governor, a proposal describing the eligi-

1 ble skills development program to be provided
2 by the eligible entity under this paragraph, in
3 such form, at such time, and containing such
4 information, as the Governor may reasonably
5 require.

6 “(D) REIMBURSEMENT FOR APPROVED
7 PROPOSALS.—

8 “(i) STATE REQUIREMENTS.—

9 “(I) IN GENERAL.—With respect
10 to each eligible entity whose proposal
11 under subparagraph (C) has been ap-
12 proved by the Governor, the Governor
13 shall make payments (in an amount
14 determined by the Governor and sub-
15 ject to the requirements of subclause
16 (II) of this clause, subparagraph (E),
17 and any other limitations determined
18 necessary by the State) from the crit-
19 ical industry skills fund established
20 under this paragraph to such eligible
21 entity for each participant of the eligi-
22 ble skills development program de-
23 scribed in such proposal and with re-
24 spect to whom the eligible entity
25 meets the requirements of clause (ii).

1 “(II) PAYMENTS.—In making
2 payments to an eligible entity under
3 subclause (I) with respect to a partici-
4 pant—

5 “(aa) a portion of the total
6 payment shall be made after the
7 participant successfully completes
8 the eligible skills development
9 program offered by the eligible
10 entity; and

11 “(bb) the remainder of such
12 total payment shall be made after
13 the participant has been em-
14 ployed by the participating em-
15 ployer of the eligible entity for
16 the 6-month period after success-
17 ful completion of the program.

18 “(ii) ELIGIBLE ENTITY REQUIRE-
19 MENTS.—To be eligible to receive the pay-
20 ments described in clause (i) with respect
21 to a participant, an eligible entity shall
22 submit such documentation as the Gov-
23 ernor determines necessary to verify
24 whether the participant meets the require-
25 ments of items (aa) and (bb) of clause

1 (i)(II), and to comply with the perform-
2 ance reporting described in subparagraph
3 (F).

4 “(E) NON-FEDERAL COST SHARING.—

5 “(i) LIMITS ON FEDERAL SHARE.—An
6 eligible entity may not receive funds under
7 subparagraph (D) with respect to a partici-
8 pant of the eligible skills development pro-
9 gram offered by the eligible entity in ex-
10 cess of the following costs of such program
11 with respect to such participant:

12 “(I) In the case of a partici-
13 pating employer of such eligible entity
14 with 25 or fewer employees, 90 per-
15 cent of the costs.

16 “(II) In the case of a partici-
17 pating employer of such eligible entity
18 with more than 25 employees, but
19 fewer than 100 employees, 75 percent
20 of the costs.

21 “(III) In the case of a partici-
22 pating employer of such eligible entity
23 with 100 or more employees, 50 per-
24 cent of the costs.

25 “(ii) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

1 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Any costs of
2 the eligible skills development pro-
3 gram offered to a participant by such
4 eligible entity that are not covered by
5 the funds received under subpara-
6 graph (D) shall be the non-Federal
7 share provided by the eligible entity
8 (in cash or in-kind).

9 “(II) EMPLOYER COST SHAR-
10 ING.—If the eligible skills develop-
11 ment program is being provided on-
12 the-job, the non-Federal share pro-
13 vided by an eligible entity may include
14 the amount of the wages paid by the
15 participating employer of the eligible
16 entity to a participant while such par-
17 ticipant is receiving the training.

18 “(F) PERFORMANCE REPORTING.—Using
19 the participant information provided by eligible
20 entities under subparagraph (D)(ii), the State
21 shall submit to the Secretary a report, on an
22 annual basis, with respect to all participants for
23 which the eligible entities received funds under
24 this paragraph for the most recent program
25 year, which shall include—

1 “(i) the number of individuals who
2 participated in eligible skills development
3 programs provided by such eligible entities
4 through the critical industry skills fund
5 under this paragraph; and

6 “(ii) the performance of such partici-
7 pants on the primary indicators of per-
8 formance described in subclauses (I)
9 through (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i).

10 “(G) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

11 “(i) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘el-
12 igible entity’ means—

13 “(I) a participating employer or
14 a group of participating employers;

15 “(II) an industry or sector part-
16 nership that includes a participating
17 employer; or

18 “(III) another entity serving as
19 an intermediary (such as a local
20 board) that is in partnership with a
21 participating employer.

22 “(ii) ELIGIBLE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
23 PROGRAM.—The term ‘eligible skills devel-
24 opment program’, when used with respect
25 to an eligible entity—

1 “(I) means a program with re-
2 spect to which a State may set a max-
3 imum and minimum length (in
4 weeks);

5 “(II) includes work-based edu-
6 cation or related occupational skills
7 instruction that—

8 “(aa) develops the specific
9 technical skills necessary for suc-
10 cessful performance of the occu-
11 pations in which participants are
12 to be employed upon completion;
13 and

14 “(bb) may be provided—

15 “(AA) by the eligible
16 entity; or

17 “(BB) by any training
18 provider that is selected by
19 the eligible entity and with-
20 out regard to whether such
21 provider is on a list of eligi-
22 ble providers of training
23 services described in section
24 122(d); and

1 “(III) does not include employee
2 onboarding, orientation, or profes-
3 sional development generally provided
4 to employees.”.

5 (5) INDUSTRY OR SECTOR PARTNERSHIP AND
6 CAREER PATHWAYS DEVELOPMENT FUND.—Section
7 134(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
8 Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(a)), as amended, is further
9 amended by adding at the end the following:

10 “(5) INDUSTRY OR SECTOR PARTNERSHIP AND
11 CAREER PATHWAYS DEVELOPMENT FUND.—

12 “(A) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this para-
13 graph is to establish new or expand existing in-
14 dustry or sector partnerships and career path-
15 way programs to encourage regional economic
16 growth and competitiveness, and improve work-
17 er training, retention, and advancement.

18 “(B) DESCRIPTION OF FUND.—In addition
19 to the funds described in paragraph (3)(A), a
20 State may use any funds reserved under para-
21 graph (3)(A) of section 128(a) to establish and
22 administer an industry or sector partnership
23 and career pathways development fund to
24 award grants to eligible partnerships to estab-
25 lish or expand industry or sector partnerships

1 that include employers in a high-growth or
2 high-wage industry of the State in order to
3 meet the following objectives:

4 “(i) Build capacity among such part-
5 nerships to prepare jobseekers and incum-
6 bent workers participating in such partner-
7 ships for careers in such a high-growth or
8 high-wage industry.

9 “(ii) Leverage the capacity of such
10 partnerships to develop, improve, expand,
11 or implement education, employment, and
12 training opportunities for individuals with
13 barriers to employment.

14 “(iii) Strengthen coordination between
15 such industry or sector partnerships and
16 one-stop partners for the local areas in-
17 volved that are described in paragraphs (1)
18 and (2) of section 121(b).

19 “(iv) Develop or expand a career
20 pathway program that utilizes integrated
21 education and training strategies and sup-
22 ports multiple points of entry and exit for
23 working learners.

1 “(C) DURATION.—Each grant awarded
2 under this paragraph shall be for a period of
3 not more than 2 years.

4 “(D) AWARD BASIS.—

5 “(i) GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY.—The
6 Governor shall award grants under this
7 paragraph in a manner that ensures geo-
8 graphic diversity in the areas in the State
9 in which activities will be carried out under
10 the grants.

11 “(ii) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants
12 under this paragraph, the Governor shall
13 give priority consideration to eligible part-
14 nerships that—

15 “(I) include (or will include) as a
16 partner in the industry or sector part-
17 nership to be established or expanded
18 under this paragraph, a 2-year public
19 institution of higher education;

20 “(II) demonstrate long-term sus-
21 tainability of such industry or sector
22 partnership; and

23 “(III) demonstrate the ability of
24 such industry or sector partnership to
25 serve individuals who—

1 “(aa) are individuals with a
2 barrier to employment, including
3 individuals with disabilities;

4 “(bb) are facing significant
5 worker dislocation due to a dis-
6 ruption or change in the regional
7 or State economy or labor mar-
8 ket;

9 “(cc) have traditionally been
10 underserved by regional economic
11 development and sector partner-
12 ship activities (including rural
13 areas in the State); or

14 “(dd) are—

15 “(AA) out-of-school
16 youth, disadvantaged youth,
17 or disadvantaged adults; or

18 “(BB) unemployed in-
19 dividuals, within the mean-
20 ing of section 6(b)(1)(B) of
21 the Wagner-Peyser Act (29
22 U.S.C. 49e(b)(1)(B)).

23 “(iii) ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL PRI-
24 ORITY.—In awarding grants under this
25 paragraph, in addition to the priority con-

1 sideration required under clause (ii), the
2 Governor may give priority consideration
3 to eligible partnerships that include, or will
4 include, as a partner in the industry or
5 sector partnership to be established or ex-
6 panded under this section—

7 “(I) a 4-year public institution of
8 higher education at which the highest
9 degree that is predominantly awarded
10 to students is an associate degree; or

11 “(II) a 2-year Tribal College or
12 University (as defined in section
13 316(b) of the Higher Education Act
14 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)).

15 “(E) APPLICATION.—

16 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible part-
17 nership seeking a grant under this para-
18 graph shall submit an application to the
19 Governor at such time, in such manner,
20 and containing such information as the
21 Governor may reasonably require, includ-
22 ing the contents described in clause (ii).

23 “(ii) CONTENTS.—An eligible partner-
24 ship seeking a grant under this paragraph

1 shall submit an application to the Governor
2 under clause (i) containing, at minimum—

3 “(I) a description of the eligible
4 partnership, and the industry or sec-
5 tor partnership that will be estab-
6 lished or expanded with such grant;

7 “(II) the expected participation
8 and responsibilities of each of the
9 partners that will be included in such
10 industry or sector partnership;

11 “(III) a description of the high-
12 growth or high-wage industry sector
13 to be served by such industry or sec-
14 tor partnership, and a description of
15 how such industry sector was identi-
16 fied;

17 “(IV) a description of the work-
18 ers and other individuals who will be
19 targeted or recruited by such industry
20 or sector partnership, including the
21 number of workers and other individ-
22 uals who will be served by the part-
23 nership;

24 “(V) an analysis of the existing
25 labor market to be served by such in-

1 industry or sector partnership, which in-
2 cludes—

3 “(aa) a description of poten-
4 tial barriers to employment for
5 the targeted workers and other
6 individuals;

7 “(bb) the estimated share of
8 such workers and other individ-
9 uals who are individuals with a
10 barrier to employment; and

11 “(cc) a description of strate-
12 gies that will be developed to help
13 such workers and other individ-
14 uals overcome such barriers;

15 “(VI) a description of the Fed-
16 eral and non-Federal resources, avail-
17 able under provisions of law other
18 than this paragraph, that will be le-
19 veraged in support of such industry or
20 sector partnership and the activities
21 carried out by the partnership under
22 this paragraph;

23 “(VII) a description, using com-
24 mon, linked, open-data descriptive
25 language, of the recognized postsec-

1 ondary credential that will be provided
2 to individuals who successfully com-
3 plete the education and training pro-
4 gram provided through an education
5 provider in such industry or sector
6 partnership;

7 “(VIII) an assurance that any el-
8 igible provider of training services in
9 such industry or sector partnership is
10 on a list of eligible providers of train-
11 ing services described in section
12 122(d); and

13 “(IX) a commitment from a par-
14 ticipating employer in such industry
15 or sector partnership to employ each
16 participant of such education and
17 training program (which may be a ca-
18 reer pathway program) for not less
19 than a 1-year period, in accordance
20 with the employment policies of such
21 employer, after successful completion
22 of the training portion of the edu-
23 cation and training program operated
24 by such participating employer.

25 “(F) USES OF FUNDS.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible part-
2 nership awarded a grant under this para-
3 graph shall use such grant funds to estab-
4 lish a new industry or sector partnership
5 or expand the industry or sector partner-
6 ship of the eligible partnership to meet the
7 objectives listed in subparagraph (B)—

8 “(I) by engaging businesses in
9 accordance with clause (iii); and

10 “(II) by carrying out an edu-
11 cation and training program that—

12 “(aa) leads to the recognized
13 postsecondary credential de-
14 scribed in the eligible partner-
15 ship’s application in subpara-
16 graph (E)(ii)(VII);

17 “(bb) includes an appren-
18 ticeship, apprenticeship degree,
19 work-based learning, or on-the-
20 job training program that leads
21 to an employment commitment
22 described in subparagraph
23 (E)(ii)(IX) with a participating
24 employer of the industry or sec-
25 tor partnership;

1 “(cc) may include the devel-
2 opment or expansion of a new or
3 existing career pathway program
4 as described in clause (iv); and

5 “(dd) may include the provi-
6 sion of supportive services as de-
7 scribed in clause (v).

8 “(ii) PLANNING ACTIVITIES.—An eli-
9 gible partnership receiving a grant under
10 this paragraph may use not more than 20
11 percent of the grant funds to carry out
12 planning activities during the first year of
13 the grant period that are necessary to es-
14 tablish a new industry or sector partner-
15 ship or expand the industry or sector part-
16 nership of the eligible partnership, which
17 may include—

18 “(I) recruiting key stakeholders
19 in the high-growth or high-wage in-
20 dustry to be served by such industry
21 or sector partnership;

22 “(II) conducting outreach to local
23 businesses, employers, labor organiza-
24 tions, local boards, education and

1 training providers, and business and
2 employer associations;

3 “(III) identifying, through an
4 evaluation, the training needs of mul-
5 tiple businesses in the high-growth or
6 high-wage industry, including identi-
7 fying any needs for—

8 “(aa) skills critical to com-
9 petitiveness and innovation in the
10 high-growth or high-wage indus-
11 try;

12 “(bb) an education and
13 training program, including any
14 apprenticeship program or other
15 work-based learning program
16 supported by the grant; and

17 “(cc) the usage of career
18 pathways to align education and
19 training with job openings in the
20 high-growth or high-wage indus-
21 try; and

22 “(IV) recruiting individuals with
23 barriers to employment to participate
24 in the education and training pro-
25 gram.

1 “(iii) BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT.—An
2 industry or sector partnership established
3 or expanded with a grant under this para-
4 graph shall use the grant funds to engage
5 businesses (including small and medium-
6 sized businesses that are in the high-
7 growth or high-wage industry and that
8 may be a participating employer of the
9 partnership) in the establishment and im-
10 plementation of an apprenticeship, appren-
11 ticeship degree, work-based learning, or
12 on-the-job training program offered
13 through the education and training pro-
14 gram of the partnership, and which may
15 include—

16 “(I) the navigation of the reg-
17 istration process for a sponsor of such
18 an apprenticeship or apprenticeship
19 degree program;

20 “(II) the connection of the busi-
21 ness with an education provider in the
22 industry or sector partnership to de-
23 velop classroom instruction to com-
24 plement learning through such an ap-
25 prenticeship, apprenticeship degree,

1 work-based learning, or on-the-job
2 training program;

3 “(III) the development of such a
4 work-based learning program;

5 “(IV) the provision of career
6 awareness activities for participants of
7 such an apprenticeship, apprenticeship
8 degree, work-based learning, or on-
9 the-job training program, such as ca-
10 reer guidance and academic coun-
11 seling;

12 “(V) the recruitment of individ-
13 uals with barriers to employment to
14 participate in such an apprenticeship,
15 apprenticeship degree, work-based
16 learning, or on-the-job training pro-
17 gram; and

18 “(VI) other evidence-based ap-
19 proaches to connecting businesses
20 with workers and establishing path-
21 ways to unsubsidized employment for
22 individuals participating in the edu-
23 cation and training program and
24 other programs funded under this
25 title.

1 “(iv) CAREER PATHWAY PROGRAMS.—

2 “(I) IN GENERAL.—An industry
3 or sector partnership established or
4 expanded with a grant under this
5 paragraph may use such grant funds
6 for the development or expansion of a
7 new or existing career pathway pro-
8 gram that utilizes integrated edu-
9 cation and training strategies and
10 supports multiple entry and exit
11 points for working students and other
12 working participants, which may in-
13 clude—

14 “(aa) dual-enrollment ap-
15 proaches for participants, includ-
16 ing youth, seeking to participate
17 in a career pathway program;
18 and

19 “(bb) strategies that help
20 working students and other non-
21 traditional and adult student
22 populations access skills and the
23 recognized postsecondary creden-
24 tials described in subparagraph

1 (E)(ii)(VII) of the eligible part-
2 nership’s application.

3 “(II) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—

4 In establishing or expanding such new
5 or existing career pathway program,
6 the industry or sector partnership
7 may use a grant under this paragraph
8 for—

9 “(aa) the provision of evi-
10 dence-based professional develop-
11 ment for faculty and other staff
12 of an education provider in the
13 industry or sector partnership;

14 “(bb) the acquisition of
15 equipment necessary to support
16 the delivery of the career path-
17 way program; and

18 “(cc) any other evidence-
19 based activities to support the
20 development or implementation
21 of the career pathway program.

22 “(v) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—In ac-
23 cordance with section 181(h), an industry
24 or sector partnership established or ex-
25 panded with a grant under this paragraph

1 may use such grant funds to provide sup-
2 portive services to support the success of
3 individuals, including individuals with bar-
4 riers to employment, who are participating
5 in training services, as described in sub-
6 section (c)(3)(D), which are offered
7 through such partnership.

8 “(G) DESIGNATION OF A FISCAL AGENT.—
9 An eligible partnership receiving a grant under
10 this paragraph shall designate an entity of the
11 eligible partnership as the fiscal agent for the
12 receipt, management, and expenditure of the
13 grant funds.

14 “(H) NON-FEDERAL COST SHARING.—

15 “(i) LIMITS ON FEDERAL SHARE.—An
16 industry or sector partnership established
17 or expanded with a grant under this para-
18 graph may not receive such grant funds
19 for purposes of funding the education and
20 training program offered through such
21 partnership in excess of the following costs
22 of establishing, operating, and sustaining
23 such program:

24 “(I) In the case in which the par-
25 ticipating employers in such eligible

1 partnership employ 25 or fewer em-
2 ployees, 70 percent of the costs.

3 “(II) In the case in which the
4 participating employers in such eligi-
5 ble partnership employ more than 25
6 employees, but fewer than 100 em-
7 ployees, 55 percent of the costs.

8 “(III) In the case in which the
9 participating employers in such eligi-
10 ble partnership employ 100 or more
11 employees, 40 percent of the costs.

12 “(ii) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—Any
13 costs of establishing, operating, and sus-
14 taining such program that are not covered
15 by the grant received under this paragraph
16 shall be the non-Federal share provided by
17 the industry or sector partnership.

18 “(I) PERFORMANCE REPORTING.—Not
19 later than 2 years after the first award of funds
20 under this paragraph is made by the Governor
21 and on an annual basis thereafter, the Governor
22 shall prepare and submit to the Secretary a re-
23 port with respect to the participants served by
24 each eligible partnership receiving funds under

1 this paragraph in the most recent program
2 year, which report shall include—

3 “(i) levels of performance achieved by
4 the eligible partnership, with respect to the
5 primary indicators of performance under
6 clause (i) or (ii) of section 116(b)(2)(A), as
7 applicable, for all individuals served by the
8 eligible partnership, disaggregated by race,
9 ethnicity, sex, disability status, and age;
10 and

11 “(ii) levels of performance achieved by
12 the eligible partnership with respect to the
13 primary indicators of performance under
14 clause (i) or (ii) of section 116(b)(2)(A), as
15 applicable, for individuals with barriers to
16 employment served by the eligible partner-
17 ship, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, sex,
18 disability status, and age.

19 “(J) AVAILABILITY OF REPORT.—The re-
20 port submitted by eligible partnerships under
21 subparagraph (I) shall—

22 “(i) be made digitally available by the
23 Secretary using linked, open, and inter-
24 operable data; and

1 “(ii) include the number of individuals
2 who were served by each such eligible part-
3 nership.

4 “(K) LIMIT ON ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—
5 An eligible partnership receiving a grant under
6 this paragraph may not use more than 10 per-
7 cent of the grant funds for administrative costs.

8 “(L) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

9 “(i) ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.—The
10 term ‘eligible partnership’ means—

11 “(I) an industry or sector part-
12 nership that—

13 “(aa) includes a partici-
14 pating employer; and

15 “(bb) is seeking to further
16 implement or expand such indus-
17 try or sector partnership; or

18 “(II) a workforce collaborative
19 that is seeking to become an industry
20 or sector partnership that includes a
21 participating employer.

22 “(ii) HIGH-GROWTH OR HIGH-WAGE
23 INDUSTRY.—The term ‘high-growth or
24 high-wage industry’, when used with re-

1 spect to an eligible partnership, means an
2 industry that—

3 “(I) has, or is expected to have,
4 a high rate of growth and an unmet
5 demand for skilled workers, as deter-
6 mined by the Governor of the State in
7 which the eligible partnership is lo-
8 cated;

9 “(II) has been designated by the
10 Governor as an in-demand industry
11 experiencing high growth in such
12 State; and

13 “(III) includes occupations deter-
14 mined by the Governor—

15 “(aa) with wages that are
16 significantly higher than an occu-
17 pation of similar level of skill or
18 needed skill development; or

19 “(bb) that are aligned with
20 career pathways into higher wage
21 occupations.

22 “(iii) PARTICIPATING EMPLOYER.—
23 The term ‘participating employer’, when
24 used with respect to an eligible partner-
25 ship, means an employer in a high-growth

1 or high-wage industry that is (or will be)
2 part of the industry or sector partnership
3 that will be expanded (or established) by
4 the eligible partnership under this para-
5 graph.”.

6 (b) REQUIRED LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
7 ACTIVITIES.—

8 (1) MINIMUM AMOUNT FOR SKILLS DEVELOP-
9 MENT.—Section 134(c)(1) of the Workforce Innova-
10 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(c)(1)) is
11 amended—

12 (A) in subparagraph (A)(iv), by striking
13 “to” and inserting “to provide business services
14 described in paragraph (4) and”;

15 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as
16 subparagraph (C); and

17 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (A),
18 as so amended, the following:

19 “(B) MINIMUM AMOUNT FOR SKILLS DE-
20 VELOPMENT.—

21 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
22 (ii), not less than 50 percent of the funds
23 described in subparagraph (A) shall be
24 used by the local area—

1 “(I) for the payment of training
2 services—

3 “(aa) provided to adults
4 under paragraph (3)(F)(iii); and

5 “(bb) provided to adults and
6 dislocated workers under para-
7 graph (3)(G)(ii); and

8 “(II) for the payment of training
9 services under paragraph (2)(A) of
10 section 414(c) of the American Com-
11 petitiveness and Workforce Improve-
12 ment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.
13 3224a(c)) after funds allocated to
14 such local area under paragraph (1)
15 of such section 414(c) have been ex-
16 hausted.

17 “(ii) EXCEPTION.—With respect to a
18 local area that uses any funds described in
19 subparagraph (A) to provide supportive
20 services, in accordance with subsection
21 (d)(2) of this section, for adults and dis-
22 located workers who are participating in
23 training services, or individualized career
24 services described in clauses (iii) and (vii)
25 of paragraph (2)(B) that enable participa-

1 tion in training services, each percentage
2 of such funds so used shall reduce, by one
3 percentage point, the percentage of such
4 funds required to be used by such local
5 area in accordance with clause (i), except
6 that such percentage of funds may not be
7 reduced by more than 10 percentage points
8 pursuant to this clause.”; and

9 (D) in subparagraph (C), as so redesign-
10 nated, by striking “and (ii)” and inserting “,
11 (ii), and (iv)”.

12 (2) CAREER SERVICES.—Section 134(c)(2) of
13 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
14 U.S.C. 3174(c)(2)) is amended—

15 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
16 through (C) as subparagraphs (B) through (D),
17 respectively;

18 (B) by inserting before subparagraph (B),
19 as so redesignated, the following:

20 “(A) BASIC CAREER SERVICES.—

21 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The one-stop de-
22 livery system—

23 “(I) shall coordinate with the
24 Employment Service office colocated
25 with the one-stop delivery system for

1 such Employment Service office to
2 provide, using the funds allotted to
3 the State under section 6 of the Wag-
4 ner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49e), basic
5 career services, which—

6 “(aa) shall—

7 “(AA) include, at a
8 minimum, the services listed
9 in clause (ii); and

10 “(BB) be available to
11 individuals who are adults or
12 dislocated workers in an in-
13 tegrated manner to stream-
14 line access to assistance for
15 such individuals, to avoid
16 duplication of services, and
17 to enhance coordination of
18 services; and

19 “(bb) may include access to
20 talent marketplaces; and

21 “(II) may use funds allocated
22 under paragraph (1), as necessary, to
23 supplement the services that are pro-
24 vided pursuant to subclause (I) to in-

1 dividuals who are adults or dislocated
2 workers.

3 “(ii) SERVICES.—The basic career
4 services provided pursuant to clause (i)
5 shall include—

6 “(I) provision of workforce and
7 labor market employment statistics in-
8 formation, including the provision of
9 accurate (and, to the extent prac-
10 ticable, real-time) information relating
11 to local, regional, and national labor
12 market areas, including—

13 “(aa) job vacancy listings in
14 such labor market areas;

15 “(bb) information on job
16 skills necessary to obtain the jobs
17 included on such listings; and

18 “(cc) information relating to
19 local occupations in demand
20 (which may include entrepreneur-
21 ship opportunities), and the earn-
22 ings, skill requirements, and op-
23 portunities for advancement for
24 such occupations;

1 “(II) labor exchange services, in-
2 cluding job search and placement as-
3 sistance and, in appropriate cases, ca-
4 reer counseling, including—

5 “(aa) provision of informa-
6 tion on in-demand industry sec-
7 tors and occupations;

8 “(bb) provision of informa-
9 tion on nontraditional employ-
10 ment; and

11 “(cc) provision of informa-
12 tion on entrepreneurship, as ap-
13 propriate;

14 “(III)(aa) provision of informa-
15 tion, in formats that are usable by
16 and understandable to one-stop center
17 customers, relating to the availability
18 of supportive services or assistance,
19 including child care, child support,
20 medical or child health assistance
21 under title XIX or XXI of the Social
22 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.
23 and 1397aa et seq.), benefits under
24 the supplemental nutrition assistance
25 program established under the Food

1 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.
2 2011 et seq.), assistance through the
3 earned income tax credit under sec-
4 tion 32 of the Internal Revenue Code
5 of 1986, and assistance under a State
6 program for temporary assistance for
7 needy families funded under part A of
8 title IV of the Social Security Act (42
9 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) and other sup-
10 portive services and transportation
11 provided through funds made avail-
12 able under such part, available in the
13 local area; and

14 “(bb) referral to the services or
15 assistance described in item (aa), as
16 appropriate;

17 “(IV) provision of information
18 and assistance regarding filing claims
19 for unemployment compensation; and

20 “(V) assistance in establishing
21 eligibility for programs of financial aid
22 assistance for training and education
23 programs that are not funded under
24 this Act.”;

1 (C) in subparagraph (B), as so redesignig-
2 nated—

3 (i) in the heading, by striking the
4 heading and inserting “INDIVIDUALIZED
5 CAREER”;

6 (ii) in the matter preceding clause
7 (i)—

8 (I) by inserting “individualized”
9 before “career services”; and

10 (II) by inserting “shall, to the ex-
11 tent practicable, be evidence-based,”
12 before “and shall”;

13 (iii) in clause (iii), by inserting “, and
14 a determination (considering factors in-
15 cluding prior work experience, military
16 service, education, and the in-demand in-
17 dustry sectors and occupations in the local
18 area) of whether such an individual would
19 benefit from a competency-based assess-
20 ment developed or identified by the State
21 pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(B)(viii) to
22 accelerate the time to obtaining employ-
23 ment that leads to economic self-sufficiency
24 or career advancement” before the semi-
25 colon at the end;

1 (iv) by striking clauses (iv), (vi), (ix),
2 (x), and (xi);

3 (v) by redesignating clauses (v), (vii),
4 (viii), (xii), and (xiii) as clauses (iv), (v),
5 (vi), (vii), and (viii), respectively;

6 (vi) in clause (v), as so redesignated,
7 by inserting “and credential” after “by
8 program”;

9 (vii) in clause (vi), as so redesignated,
10 by inserting “and in multiple languages, to
11 the extent practicable,” after “customers,”;
12 and

13 (viii) in clause (vii), as so redesignated—
14

15 (I) in subclause (I)(aa), as so re-
16 designated, by inserting “, including a
17 competency-based assessment devel-
18 oped or identified by the State pursu-
19 ant to subsection (a)(2)(B)(viii)” after
20 “tools”;

21 (II) in subclause (VI), by insert-
22 ing “digital literacy skills,” after
23 “learning skills,”;

24 (III) in subclause (X), by strik-
25 ing “or” at the end;

1 (IV) in subclause (XI)—
2 (aa) by striking “language”;
3 and
4 (bb) by striking “and” at
5 the end and inserting “or”;
6 (V) by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:
8 “(XII) review or creation of a re-
9 sume or similar document showcasing
10 the skills, experience, relevant creden-
11 tials, and education of the individual;
12 and”.

13 (D) by amending subparagraph (C), as so
14 redesignated, to read as follows:

15 “(C) USE OF PREVIOUS ASSESSMENTS.—A
16 one-stop operator or one-stop partner shall not
17 be required to conduct a new interview, evalua-
18 tion, or assessment of a participant under sub-
19 paragraph (B)(vii) if the one-stop operator or
20 one-stop partner determines that—

21 “(i) it is appropriate to use a recent
22 interview, evaluation, or assessment of the
23 participant conducted pursuant to another
24 education or training program; and

1 “(ii) using such recent interview, eval-
2 uation, or assessment will accelerate an eli-
3 gibility determination.”; and

4 (E) in subparagraph (D), as so redesign-
5 nated—

6 (i) in the matter preceding clause

7 (i)—

8 (I) by inserting “individualized”
9 before “career”; and

10 (II) by striking “subparagraph
11 (A)” and inserting “subparagraph
12 (B)”;

13 (ii) in clause (ii), by inserting “, li-
14 braries, and community-based organiza-
15 tions” after “nonprofit service providers”.

16 (3) TRAINING SERVICES.—Section 134(c)(3) of
17 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
18 U.S.C. 3174(c)(3)) is amended—

19 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

20 (i) in clause (i), in the matter pre-
21 ceding subclause (I), by striking “clause
22 (ii)” and inserting “clause (ii) or (iii)”;

23 (ii) by amending clause (i)(II) to read
24 as follows:

1 “(II) who select programs of
2 training services that are directly
3 linked to the employment opportuni-
4 ties—

5 “(aa) in the local area or the
6 planning region;

7 “(bb) in another area to
8 which the adults or dislocated
9 workers are willing to commute
10 or relocate; or

11 “(cc) that may be performed
12 remotely;”.

13 (iii) by redesignating clause (iii) as
14 clause (iv);

15 (iv) by inserting after clause (ii) the
16 following:

17 “(iii) EMPLOYER REFERRAL.—

18 “(I) IN GENERAL.—A one-stop
19 operator or one-stop partner shall not
20 be required to conduct an interview,
21 evaluation, or assessment of an indi-
22 vidual under clause (i) if such indi-
23 vidual—

24 “(aa) is referred by an em-
25 ployer to receive on-the-job train-

1 ing or employer-directed skills de-
2 velopment in connection with
3 that employer; and

4 “(bb) has been certified by
5 the employer as being an indi-
6 vidual who is in need of training
7 services to obtain unsubsidized
8 employment with such employer
9 and who has the skills and quali-
10 fications to successfully partici-
11 pate in the selected program of
12 training services.

13 “(II) PRIORITY.—A one-stop op-
14 erator or one-stop partner shall follow
15 the priority system in effect under
16 subparagraph (E) to determine wheth-
17 er an individual who meets the re-
18 quirements of subclause (I) of this
19 clause is eligible to receive training
20 services.”; and

21 (v) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(v) ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY
23 LITERACY ACTIVITIES.—In the case of an
24 individual who, after an interview, evalua-
25 tion, or assessment under clause (i)(I), is

1 determined to not have the skills and
2 qualifications to successfully participate in
3 the selected program of training services
4 under clause (i)(I)(cc), the one-stop oper-
5 ator or one-stop partner shall refer such
6 individual to adult education and literacy
7 activities under title II, including for co-en-
8 rollment in such activities, as appro-
9 priate.”;

10 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

11 (i) in clause (i)—

12 (I) in subclause (I), by striking
13 “other grant assistance for such serv-
14 ices, including” and inserting “assist-
15 ance for such services under”; and

16 (II) by striking “under other
17 grant assistance programs, including”
18 and inserting “under”; and

19 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
20 lowing:

21 “(iv) PARTICIPATION DURING ELIGI-
22 BILITY DETERMINATION.—An individual
23 may participate in a program of training
24 services during the period during which
25 such individual’s eligibility for training

1 services under subparagraph (A)(i) is being
2 determined, except that the provider of
3 such a program shall receive reimburse-
4 ment under this Act for the individual's
5 participation during such period only if
6 such individual is determined to be eligible
7 under subparagraph (A)(i).”;

8 (C) in subparagraph (D)(xi), by striking
9 “customized training” and inserting “employer-
10 directed skills development”;

11 (D) in subparagraph (E)—

12 (i) by striking “are basic skills defi-
13 cient” and inserting “have foundational
14 skill needs”; and

15 (ii) by striking “paragraph
16 (2)(A)(xii)” and inserting “paragraph
17 (2)(B)(vii)”;

18 (E) in subparagraph (F)(ii), by inserting
19 “and the levels of performance for such pro-
20 viders on the performance criteria described in
21 section 122(b) for the 2 most recent program
22 years” after “in section 122(d)”;

23 (F) in subparagraph (G)(ii)—

- 1 (i) in subclause (II), by striking “cus-
2 tomized training” and inserting “employer-
3 directed skills development”; and
- 4 (ii) in subclause (IV)—
- 5 (I) by striking “is a” and insert-
6 ing “is an evidence-based”; and
- 7 (II) by inserting “and to support
8 such individuals in gaining requisite
9 skills for in-demand industry sectors
10 or occupations in the local area, ob-
11 taining recognized postsecondary cre-
12 dentials, and entering unsubsidized
13 employment” after “employment”;
- 14 (G) in subparagraph (H)—
- 15 (i) in clause (i), in the matter pre-
16 ceding subclause (I), by striking “reim-
17 bursement described in section 3(44)” and
18 inserting “reimbursement described in sec-
19 tion 3(48)”; and
- 20 (ii) in clause (ii)—
- 21 (I) in subclause (I), by inserting
22 “, such as the extent to which partici-
23 pants are individuals with barriers to
24 employment” after “participants”;
25 and

1 (II) in subclause (III), by insert-
2 ing “in an occupation or industry sec-
3 tor, including whether the skills a par-
4 ticipant will obtain are transferable to
5 other employers, occupations, or in-
6 dustries in the local area or the
7 State” after “opportunities”; and

8 (H) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(I) EMPLOYER-DIRECTED SKILLS DEVEL-
10 OPMENT.—An employer may receive a contract
11 from a local board to provide employer-directed
12 skills development to a participant or group of
13 participants if the employer submits to the local
14 board an agreement that establishes—

15 “(i) the provider of the skills develop-
16 ment program, which may be the employer;

17 “(ii) the length of the skills develop-
18 ment program;

19 “(iii) the recognized postsecondary
20 credentials that will be awarded to, or the
21 occupational skills that will be gained by,
22 program participants;

23 “(iv) the cost of the skills development
24 program;

1 “(v) the estimated earnings of pro-
2 gram participants upon successful comple-
3 tion of the program;

4 “(vi) the amount of such cost that will
5 be paid by the employer, which shall not be
6 less than the amount specified in subpara-
7 graph (C) of section 3(19); and

8 “(vii) a commitment by the employer
9 to employ the participating individual or
10 individuals upon successful completion of
11 the program.”.

12 (c) BUSINESS SERVICES.—Section 134(c) of the
13 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
14 3174(c)) is further amended by adding at the end the fol-
15 lowing:

16 “(4) BUSINESS SERVICES.—Funds described in
17 paragraph (1) shall be used to provide appropriate
18 recruitment and other business services and strate-
19 gies on behalf of employers, including small employ-
20 ers and mid-sized employers, that meet the work-
21 force investment needs of area employers, as deter-
22 mined by the local board and consistent with the
23 local plan under section 108, which services—

24 “(A) may be provided—

1 “(i) through effective business inter-
2 mediaries working in conjunction with the
3 local board;

4 “(ii) on a fee-for-service basis; or

5 “(iii) through the leveraging of eco-
6 nomic development, philanthropic, and
7 other public and private resources in a
8 manner determined appropriate by the
9 local board; and

10 “(B) may include one or more of the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(i) Developing and implementing in-
13 dustry sector strategies (including strate-
14 gies involving industry partnerships, re-
15 gional skills alliances, industry skill panels,
16 and sectoral skills partnerships).

17 “(ii) Developing and delivering inno-
18 vative workforce investment services and
19 strategies for area employers, which may
20 include career pathways, skills upgrading,
21 skill standard development and certifi-
22 cation for recognized postsecondary creden-
23 tial or other employer use, apprenticeship,
24 developing and offering industry-recognized
25 credential (including short-term industry-

1 recognized credential) programs, including
2 those that support individuals with
3 foundational skill needs, and other effective
4 initiatives for meeting the workforce in-
5 vestment needs of area employers and
6 workers.

7 “(iii) Assistance to area employers in
8 managing reductions in force in coordina-
9 tion with rapid response activities provided
10 under subsection (a)(2)(A) and developing
11 strategies for the aversion of layoffs, which
12 strategies may include early identification
13 of firms at risk of layoffs, use of feasibility
14 studies to assess the needs of and options
15 for at-risk firms, and the delivery of em-
16 ployment and training activities to address
17 risk factors.

18 “(iv) The marketing of business serv-
19 ices offered under this title to appropriate
20 area employers, including small and mid-
21 sized employers.

22 “(v) Technical assistance or other
23 support to employers seeking to implement
24 skills-based hiring practices, which may in-
25 clude technical assistance on the use and

1 validation of employment assessments, in-
2 cluding competency-based assessments de-
3 veloped or identified by the State pursuant
4 to paragraph (2)(B)(viii), and support in
5 the creation of skills-based job descrip-
6 tions.

7 “(vi) Other services described in this
8 subsection, including providing information
9 and referral to microenterprise services, as
10 appropriate, and specialized business serv-
11 ices not traditionally offered through the
12 one-stop delivery system.”.

13 (d) PERMISSIBLE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND TRAIN-
14 ING ACTIVITIES.—

15 (1) ACTIVITIES.—Section 134(d)(1)(A) of the
16 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
17 U.S.C. 3174(d)(1)(A)) is amended—

18 (A) in clause (iii), by striking “10 percent”
19 and inserting “30 percent”;

20 (B) in clause (v), by inserting “case man-
21 agement,” after “assessments,”;

22 (C) in clause (vi)—

23 (i) in subclause (III), by striking
24 “and” at the end;

1 (ii) by redesignating subclause (IV) as
2 subclause (VI); and

3 (iii) by inserting after subclause (III)
4 the following:

5 “(IV) employment and training
6 activities under subsections (d) and
7 (o) of section 6 of the Food and Nu-
8 trition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015);

9 “(V) programs under the Older
10 Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C.
11 3001 et seq.) that support employ-
12 ment and economic security; and”;

13 (D) in clause (vii)—

14 (i) in subclause (II)—

15 (I) by inserting “and providers of
16 supportive services,” after “small em-
17 ployers,”; and

18 (II) by striking “and” at the end;

19 (ii) in subclause (III), by inserting
20 “and” at the end; and

21 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(IV) to strengthen, through pro-
24 fessional development activities, the
25 knowledge and capacity of one-stop

1 staff to use the latest digital tech-
2 nologies, tools, and strategies to de-
3 liver high quality services and out-
4 comes for jobseekers, workers, and
5 employers;”;

6 (E) by striking clause (ix);

7 (F) by redesignating clauses (x) through
8 (xii) as clauses (ix) through (xi), respectively;

9 (G) in clause (x), as so redesignated, by
10 striking “and” at the end;

11 (H) in clause (xi), as so redesignated, by
12 striking the period at the end and inserting a
13 semicolon; and

14 (I) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(xii) training programs for individ-
16 uals who are dislocated workers as a result
17 of advances in automation technology;

18 “(xiii) the use of competency-based
19 assessments for individuals upon initial as-
20 sessment of skills (pursuant to subsection
21 (c)(2)(A)(iii)) or completion of training
22 services or other learning experiences;

23 “(xiv) the development of partnerships
24 between educational institutions (including
25 area career and technical education

1 schools, local educational agencies, and in-
2 stitutions of higher education) and employ-
3 ers to create or improve workforce develop-
4 ment programs to address the identified
5 education and skill needs of the workforce
6 and the employment needs of employers in
7 a region, as determined based on the most
8 recent analysis conducted by the local
9 board under section 107(d)(2); and

10 “(xv) assistance to one or more public
11 libraries located in the local area that has
12 demonstrated success in leveraging addi-
13 tional resources (such as staff, facilities,
14 computers, and learning materials) to pro-
15 vide free and open access to individualized
16 career services, in order to promote and
17 expand access to such services.”.

18 (2) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Section
19 134(d)(2)(B) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
20 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(d)(2)(B)) is amend-
21 ed, by inserting “, including through programs of
22 one-stop partners, who are” after “programs”.

23 (3) NEEDS-RELATED PAYMENTS.—Section
24 134(d)(3) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
25 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(d)(3)) is amended—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or
2 for financial assistance through a program car-
3 ried out by a one-stop partner” after “com-
4 pensation”; and

5 (B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or
6 financial assistance through a program carried
7 out by a one-stop partner” after “compensa-
8 tion”.

9 (4) INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING PRO-
10 GRAMS.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 134(d)(4)(A) of
12 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
13 (29 U.S.C. 3174(d)(4)(A)) is amended—

14 (i) in clause (i), by striking “20” and
15 inserting “30”;

16 (ii) by redesignating clauses (ii) and
17 (iii) as clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively;
18 and

19 (iii) by inserting after clause (i) the
20 following:

21 “(ii) INCREASE IN RESERVATION OF
22 FUNDS.—Notwithstanding clause (i)—

23 “(I) with respect to a local area
24 that had a rate of unemployment of
25 not more than 3 percent for not less

1 than 6 months during the preceding
2 program year, clause (i) shall be ap-
3 plied by substituting ‘40 percent’ for
4 ‘30 percent’; or

5 “(II) with respect to a local area
6 that meets the requirement in sub-
7 clause (I) and is located in a State
8 that had a labor force participation
9 rate of not less than 69 percent for
10 not less than 6 months during the
11 preceding program year, clause (i)
12 shall be applied by substituting ‘45
13 percent’ for ‘30 percent’.”.

14 (B) TRAINING ACTIVITIES.—Section
15 134(d)(4)(B) of the Workforce Innovation and
16 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(d)(4)(B)) is
17 amended—

18 (i) by striking “The training”, and in-
19 serting the following:

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The training”;
21 and

22 (ii) by striking “delivering training”
23 and inserting “delivering training, such as
24 industry or sector partnerships”.

1 (C) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—Section
2 134(d)(4)(D)(ii)(III) of the Workforce Innova-
3 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
4 3174(d)(4)(D)(ii)(III)) is amended by striking
5 “50” and inserting “55”.

6 (D) INCUMBENT WORKER UPSKILLING AC-
7 COUNTS.—Section 134(d)(4) of the Workforce
8 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
9 3174(d)(4)) is further amended by adding at
10 the end the following:

11 “(E) INCUMBENT WORKER UPSKILLING
12 ACCOUNTS.—

13 “(i) IN GENERAL.—To establish in-
14 cumbent worker upskilling accounts
15 through which an eligible provider of train-
16 ing services under section 122 may be paid
17 for the program of training services pro-
18 vided to an incumbent worker, a local
19 board—

20 “(I)(aa) may use, from the funds
21 reserved by the local area under sub-
22 paragraph (A)(i), an amount that
23 does not exceed 5 percent of the funds
24 allocated to such local area under sec-
25 tion 133(b); or

1 “(bb) if the local area reserved funds
2 under subparagraph (A)(ii), may use, from
3 the funds reserved by the local area under
4 subparagraph (A)(ii), an amount that does
5 not exceed 10 percent of the funds allo-
6 cated to such local area under section
7 133(b); and

8 “(II) may use funds reserved
9 under section 134(a)(2)(A) for state-
10 wide rapid response activities and pro-
11 vided by the State to local area to es-
12 tablish such accounts.

13 “(ii) ELIGIBILITY.—

14 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to
15 subclause (II), a local board that
16 seeks to establish incumbent worker
17 upskilling accounts under clause (i)
18 shall establish criteria for determining
19 the eligibility of an incumbent worker
20 to receive such an account, which
21 shall take into account factors of—

22 “(aa) the wages of the in-
23 cumbent worker as of the date of
24 determining such worker’s eligi-
25 bility under this clause;

1 “(bb) the career advance-
2 ment opportunities for the in-
3 cumbent worker in the occupa-
4 tion of such worker as of such
5 date; and

6 “(cc) the ability of the in-
7 cumbent worker to, upon comple-
8 tion of the program of training
9 services selected by such worker,
10 secure employment in an in-de-
11 mand industry or occupation in
12 the local area that will lead to
13 economic self-sufficiency and
14 wages higher than the current
15 wages of the incumbent worker.

16 “(II) LIMITATION.—

17 “(aa) IN GENERAL.—An in-
18 cumbent worker described in item
19 (bb) shall be ineligible to receive
20 an incumbent worker upskilling
21 account under this subparagraph.

22 “(bb) INELIGIBILITY.—Item
23 (aa) shall apply to an incumbent
24 worker—

1 “(AA) whose total an-
2 nual wages for the most re-
3 cent year are greater than
4 the median household in-
5 come of the State; or

6 “(BB) who has earned
7 a baccalaureate or profes-
8 sional degree.

9 “(iii) COST SHARING FOR CERTAIN IN-
10 CUMBENT WORKERS.—With respect to an
11 incumbent worker who is determined to be
12 eligible to receive an incumbent worker
13 upskilling account and who is not a low-in-
14 come individual—

15 “(I) such incumbent worker shall
16 pay not less than 25 percent of the
17 cost of the program of training serv-
18 ices selected by such worker; and

19 “(II) funds provided through the
20 incumbent worker upskilling account
21 established for such worker shall cover
22 the remaining 75 percent of the cost
23 of the program.”.

24 (E) TRANSITIONAL JOBS.—Section
25 134(d)(5) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-

1 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(d)(5)) is amend-
2 ed by striking “10” and inserting “15”.

3 (e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Section 134 of the
4 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
5 3174) is further amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
8 tion shall be construed to abrogate a collective bargaining
9 agreement that covers employees of an entity providing a
10 program of training services, including an incumbent
11 worker training program.”.

12 **CHAPTER 4—GENERAL WORKFORCE**
13 **INVESTMENT PROVISIONS**

14 **SEC. 145. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

15 Section 136 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
16 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3181) is amended to read as follows:

17 **“SEC. 136. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 “(a) YOUTH WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVI-
19 TIES.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry
20 out the activities described in section 127(a)
21 \$948,130,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027 through
22 2032.

23 “(b) ADULT EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACTIVI-
24 TIES.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry
25 out the activities described in section 132(a)(1)

1 \$875,649,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027 through
2 2032.

3 “(c) DISLOCATED WORKER EMPLOYMENT AND
4 TRAINING ACTIVITIES.—There are authorized to be ap-
5 propriated to carry out the activities described in section
6 132(a)(2) \$1,331,412,000 for each of the fiscal years
7 2027 through 2032.”.

8 **Subtitle D—Job Corps**

9 **SEC. 151. PURPOSES.**

10 Section 141 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
11 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3191) is amended—

12 (1) by striking “centers” each place it appears
13 and inserting “campuses”; and

14 (2) in paragraph (1)(A)—

15 (A) by striking “secondary school diplo-
16 mas” and inserting “regular high school diplo-
17 mas or their recognized equivalents”;

18 (B) in clause (i), by striking “or” at the
19 end;

20 (C) in clause (ii), by striking “, including
21 an apprenticeship program; and” and inserting
22 “; or”; and

23 (D) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(iii) enrollment in an apprenticeship
25 program; and”.

1 **SEC. 152. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 142 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
3 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3192) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraphs (1), (7), (8), and (10), by
5 striking “center” each place it appears and inserting
6 “campus”;

7 (2) in paragraph (1)(B), by inserting “the com-
8 munity in which the Job Corps campus is located or
9 the” after “serves”;

10 (3) in paragraph (5)—

11 (A) by striking “secondary school diploma
12 or” and inserting “regular high school diploma
13 or its”;

14 (B) by striking “that prepares” and insert-
15 ing “that—

16 “(A) prepares”;

17 (C) in subparagraph (A), as so redesign-
18 nated, by striking the period at the end and in-
19 serting “; and”; and

20 (D) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(B) may lead to the attainment of a rec-
22 ognized postsecondary credential.”; and

23 (4) in paragraph (7), by striking “CENTER” in
24 the heading and inserting “CAMPUS”.

1 **SEC. 153. INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR THE JOB CORPS.**

2 Section 144 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
3 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3194) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) in paragraph (1)—

6 (i) by striking “21” and inserting
7 “24”;

8 (ii) by inserting “ or, if the date of
9 enrollment is not greater than 60 days
10 after the date of application, the date of
11 application,” after “enrollment,”;

12 (iii) by amending subparagraph (A) to
13 read as follows:

14 “(A) an individual who is age 16 or 17
15 shall be eligible only upon an individual deter-
16 mination by the director of a Job Corps campus
17 that such individual meets the criteria described
18 in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section
19 145(b)(1); and”;

20 (iv) in subparagraph (B), by striking
21 “either”;

22 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting after
23 “individual” the following: “or a resident of a
24 qualified opportunity zone as defined in section
25 1400Z–1(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of
26 1986”;

1 (C) in paragraph (3)—

2 (i) by amending subparagraph (A) to
3 read as follows:

4 “(A) Has foundational skill needs.”; and

5 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
6 “(42 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6))” and inserting
7 “(34 U.S.C. 12473(6))”.

8 (2) in subsection (b)—

9 (A) in the heading, by inserting “AND
10 CERTAIN OTHER ARMED FORCES MEMBERS”
11 after “VETERANS”; and

12 (B) by inserting “or a member of the
13 Armed Forces eligible for preseparation coun-
14 seling of the Transition Assistance Program
15 under section 1142 of title 10, United States
16 Code,” after “a veteran”; and

17 (3) by inserting at the end the following:

18 “(c) SPECIAL RULE FOR HOMELESS YOUTH AND
19 FOSTER YOUTH.—In determining whether an individual
20 is eligible to enroll for services under this subtitle on the
21 basis of being a homeless youth, or a youth in foster care,
22 as described in subsection (a)(3)(C), staff shall—

23 “(1) if determining whether the individual is a
24 homeless youth, use a process that is in compliance
25 with the requirements of subsection (a) of section

1 479D of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
2 U.S.C. 1087uu-2) for financial aid administrators;
3 and

4 “(2) if determining whether the individual is a
5 youth in foster care, use a process that is in compli-
6 ance with the requirements of subsection (b) of such
7 section 479D of the Higher Education Act of 1965
8 (20 U.S.C. 1087uu-2) for financial aid administra-
9 tors.”.

10 **SEC. 154. RECRUITMENT, SCREENING, SELECTION, AND AS-**
11 **SIGNMENT OF ENROLLEES.**

12 Section 145 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
13 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3195) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)(2)—

15 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “45”
16 and inserting “55”;

17 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking
18 “and”;

19 (C) in subparagraph (E), by striking the
20 period and inserting “; and”; and

21 (D) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(F) assist applicable one-stop centers and
23 other entities identified in paragraph (3) in de-
24 veloping joint applications for Job Corps,

1 YouthBuild, and the youth activities described
2 in section 129.”; and

3 (2) in subsections (b), (c), and (d)—

4 (A) by striking “center” each place it ap-
5 pears and inserting “campus”; and

6 (B) by striking “centers” each place it ap-
7 pears and inserting “campuses”.

8 **SEC. 155. JOB CORPS CAMPUSES.**

9 Section 147 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
10 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3197) is amended—

11 (1) in the heading, by striking “**CENTERS**”
12 and inserting “**CAMPUSES**”;

13 (2) in subsection (a)—

14 (A) in paragraph (1)—

15 (i) by striking “center” each place it
16 appears and inserting “campus”; and

17 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
18 after “area career and technical education
19 school,” the following: “an institution of
20 higher education,”;

21 (B) in paragraph (2)—

22 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

23 (I) by striking “center” each
24 place it appears and inserting “cam-
25 pus”; and

1 (II) by inserting after “United
2 States Code,” the following: “and sec-
3 tion 159(f)(2)(B)(i)(III),”; and
4 (ii) in subparagraph (B)—
5 (I) in clause (i)—
6 (aa) by striking “operate a
7 Job Corps center” and inserting
8 “operate a Job Corps campus”;
9 (bb) by striking subclause
10 (IV);
11 (cc) by redesignating sub-
12 clauses (I), (II), (III), and (V),
13 as subclauses (III), (IV), (V),
14 and (VI), respectively;
15 (dd) by inserting before sub-
16 clause (III), as so redesignated,
17 the following:
18 “(I)(aa) in the case of an entity
19 that has previously operated a Job
20 Corps campus, a numeric metric of
21 the past achievement on the primary
22 indicators of performance for eligible
23 youth described in section
24 116(b)(2)(A)(ii); or

1 “(bb) in the case of an entity that has
2 not previously operated a Job Corps cam-
3 pus, a comparable alternative numeric met-
4 ric on the past effectiveness of the entity
5 in successfully assisting at-risk youth to
6 connect to the labor force, based on such
7 primary indicators of performance for eligi-
8 ble youth;

9 “(II) in the case of an entity that
10 has previously operated a Job Corps
11 campus, any information regarding
12 the entity included in any report de-
13 veloped by the Office of Inspector
14 General of the Department of
15 Labor;”;

16 (ee) in subclause (III), as so
17 redesignated, by striking “cen-
18 ter” and inserting “campus”;

19 (ff) by amending subclause
20 (IV), as so redesignated, to read
21 as follows:

22 “(IV) the ability of the entity to
23 offer career and technical education
24 and training that has been proposed

1 by the workforce council under section
2 154(c), including—

3 “(aa) the degree to which
4 such education and training re-
5 flects employment opportunities
6 in the local areas in which enroll-
7 ees at the campus intend to seek
8 employment; and

9 “(bb) the degree to which
10 such education and training leads
11 to a recognized postsecondary
12 credential, or postsecondary cred-
13 it, that permits articulation into
14 a higher level or other degree or
15 credential program;”;

16 (gg) in subclause (V), as so
17 redesignated, by striking “center
18 is located;” and inserting “cam-
19 pus is located, including agree-
20 ments to provide off-campus
21 work-based learning opportunities
22 aligned with the career and tech-
23 nical education provided to en-
24 rollees; and”; and

1 (hh) by amending subclause
2 (VI), as so redesignated, to read
3 as follows:

4 “(VI) the ability of the entity to
5 implement an effective behavior man-
6 agement plan, as described in section
7 152(a), and maintain a safe and se-
8 cure learning environment for enroll-
9 ees.”; and

10 (II) in clause (ii), by striking
11 “center” and inserting “campus”; and
12 (C) in paragraph (3)—

13 (i) by striking “center” each place it
14 appears and inserting “campus”;

15 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
16 “or postsecondary credit, which credit shall
17 permit articulation into a credential pro-
18 gram” after “program”;

19 (iii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting
20 after “is located” the following: “, includ-
21 ing agreements to provide off-campus
22 work-based learning opportunities aligned
23 with the career and technical education
24 provided to enrollees”;

1 (iv) by redesignating subparagraphs
2 (E), (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), and (K) as
3 subparagraphs (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), (K),
4 and (L), respectively; and

5 (v) by inserting after subparagraph
6 (D) the following:

7 “(E) A description of the policies that will
8 be implemented at the campus regarding secu-
9 rity and access to campus facilities, including
10 procedures to report on and respond to viola-
11 tions of the disciplinary policy described in sec-
12 tion 152(b) and other emergencies occurring on
13 campus.”;

14 (3) in subsection (b)—

15 (A) in the heading, by striking “CENTERS”
16 and inserting “CAMPUSES”;

17 (B) by striking “center” each place it ap-
18 pears and inserting “campus”;

19 (C) by striking “centers” each place it ap-
20 pears and inserting “campuses”;

21 (D) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “20
22 percent” and inserting “25 percent”; and

23 (E) in paragraph (3)(A)(iv), by striking
24 “secondary school diplomas” and inserting
25 “regular high school diplomas”;

1 (4) in subsection (c)—

2 (A) by striking “centers” and inserting
3 “campuses”; and

4 (B) by striking “20 percent” and inserting
5 “30 percent”;

6 (5) in subsection (d)—

7 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “cen-
8 ters” and inserting “campuses”; and

9 (B) in the second sentence, by striking
10 “centers” and inserting “Centers”;

11 (6) in subsection (e)—

12 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “centers”
13 and inserting “campuses”; and

14 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “450b)”
15 and inserting “5304”;

16 (7) in subsection (f), by striking “2-year pe-
17 riod” and inserting “3-year period”; and

18 (8) in subsection (g)—

19 (A) by striking “center” each place it ap-
20 pears and inserting “campus”;

21 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking subpara-
22 graphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

23 “(A) failed to achieve an average of 80
24 percent or higher of the expected level of per-
25 formance under section 159(c)(1) across all of

1 the primary indicators of performance for eligi-
2 ble youth described in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii);
3 or

4 “(B) failed to—
5 “(i) take reasonable measures to
6 achieve an average of 80 percent of the
7 planned average onboard strength that was
8 agreed to in the agreement described in
9 subsection (a)(1)(A); or

10 “(ii) achieve an average of 60 percent
11 of the planned average onboard strength
12 that was agreed to in the agreement de-
13 scribed in subsection (a)(1)(A).”;

14 (C) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “or
15 onboard strength or enrollment” after “per-
16 formance”;

17 (D) in paragraph (3), by striking “shall
18 provide” and inserting “shall provide, at least
19 30 days prior to renewing the agreement”; and

20 (E) in paragraph (4)—

21 (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking
22 “and” after the semicolon;

23 (ii) by redesignating subparagraph
24 (D) as subparagraph (E); and

1 (iii) by inserting after subparagraph
2 (C) the following:

3 “(D) has maintained a safe and secure
4 campus environment; and”.

5 **SEC. 156. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.**

6 Section 148 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
7 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3198) is amended—

8 (1) by striking “center” each place it appears
9 and inserting “campus”;

10 (2) by striking “centers” each place it appears
11 and inserting “campuses”;

12 (3) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking
14 “CENTERS” and inserting “CAMPUSES”;
15 and

16 (B) in paragraph (1)—

17 (i) by inserting before the period at
18 the end the following: “, and productive ac-
19 tivities, such as tutoring or other skills de-
20 velopment opportunities, for enrollees to
21 participate in outside of regular class time
22 and work hours”; and

23 (ii) by striking “clauses (i) through
24 (xi) of section 134(c)(2)(A)” and inserting
25 “subclauses (I) through (V) of section

1 134(c)(2)(A)(ii) or in clauses (i) through
2 (viii) of section 134(c)(2)(B)”;

3 (4) in subsection (b), by striking “career and
4 technical educational institutions” and inserting
5 “area career and technical education schools”;

6 (5) in subsection (c)(1)—

7 (A) by striking “the eligible providers” and
8 inserting “any eligible provider”; and

9 (B) by inserting after “under section 122”
10 the following: “that is aligned with the career
11 and technical education an enrollee has com-
12 pleted”; and

13 (6) in subsection (d), by inserting “, in coordi-
14 nation with the operator of the Job Corps program
15 in which a graduate was enrolled,” after “Sec-
16 retary”.

17 **SEC. 157. COUNSELING AND JOB PLACEMENT.**

18 Section 149(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
19 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3199(b)) is amended—

20 (1) by inserting “, in coordination with the op-
21 erator of a Job Corps campus,” after “The Sec-
22 retary”;

23 (2) by inserting “assigned to such campus”
24 after “for enrollees”; and

1 (3) by inserting “, in coordination with the op-
2 erator,” after “, the Secretary”.

3 **SEC. 158. SUPPORT.**

4 Section 150 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
5 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3200) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “centers” and
7 inserting “campuses”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(d) PERIOD OF TRANSITION.—Notwithstanding the
10 requirements of section 146(b), a Job Corps graduate may
11 remain an enrollee and a resident of a Job Corps campus
12 for not more than one month after graduation as such
13 graduate transitions into independent living and employ-
14 ment if such graduate receives written approval from the
15 director of the Job Corps campus to remain such a resi-
16 dent.”.

17 **SEC. 159. OPERATIONS.**

18 Section 151 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
19 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3201) is amended—

20 (1) by striking “center” each place it appears
21 and inserting “campus”; and

22 (2) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(d) LOCAL AUTHORITY.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitations
25 of the budget approved by the Secretary for a Job

1 Corps campus, the operator of a Job Corps campus
2 shall have the authority, without prior approval from
3 the Secretary, to—

4 “(A) hire staff and provide staff profes-
5 sional development;

6 “(B) set terms and enter into agreements
7 with Federal, State, or local educational part-
8 ners, such as secondary schools, institutions of
9 higher education, child development centers,
10 units of Junior Reserve Officers’ Training
11 Corps programs established under section 2031
12 of title 10, United States Code, or employers;
13 and

14 “(C) engage with and educate stakeholders
15 (including eligible applicants for the Job Corps)
16 about Job Corps operations, selection proce-
17 dures, and activities.

18 “(2) NONAPPLICABILITY.—Notwithstanding
19 section 6702 of title 41, United States Code, or any
20 other provision of law, chapter 67 of such title shall
21 not apply to any agreement described in paragraph
22 (1)(B) for the purpose of providing child care to en-
23 rollees between an entity described in such para-
24 graph and an operator of a Job Corps campus, if
25 the operator is not using amounts made available

1 under this subtitle to pay for such child care serv-
2 ices.

3 “(e) PRIOR NOTICE.—Prior to making a change to
4 the agreement described in section 147(a) or an operating
5 plan described in this section, the Secretary shall solicit
6 from the operators of the Job Corps campuses information
7 on any operational costs the operators expect to result
8 from such change.”.

9 **SEC. 160. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT.**

10 Section 152 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
11 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3202) is amended—

12 (1) by striking “centers” each place it appears
13 and inserting “campuses”;

14 (2) in subsection (a), by inserting “As part of
15 the operating plan required under section 151(a),
16 the director of each Job Corps campus shall develop
17 and implement a behavior management plan con-
18 sistent with the standards of conduct and subject to
19 the approval of the Secretary.” at the end;

20 (3) in subsection (b)(2)—

21 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or
22 disruptive”; and

23 (B) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by inserting
24 “, subject to the appeal process described in
25 subsection (c)” after “subparagraph (A)”; and

1 (4) by amending subsection (c) to read as fol-
2 lows:

3 “(c) APPEAL PROCESS.—

4 “(1) ENROLLEE APPEALS.—A disciplinary
5 measure taken by a director under this section shall
6 be subject to expeditious appeal in accordance with
7 procedures established by the Secretary.

8 “(2) DIRECTOR APPEALS.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year
10 after the date of enactment of the A Stronger
11 Workforce for America Act of 2026, the Sec-
12 retary shall establish an appeals process under
13 which the director of a Job Corps campus may
14 submit a request that an enrollee who has en-
15 gaged in an activity which is a violation of the
16 guidelines established pursuant to subsection
17 (b)(2)(A) remain enrolled in the program, but
18 be subject to other disciplinary actions in lieu
19 of automatic separation from the program.

20 “(B) CONTENTS.—A request under sub-
21 paragraph (A) shall include—

22 “(i) a signed certification from the di-
23 rector attesting that, to the belief of the di-
24 rector, the continued enrollment of such

1 enrollee would not impact the safety or
2 learning environment of the campus; and

3 “(ii) the behavioral records of such
4 enrollee.

5 “(C) DEFAULT APPROVAL.—The Secretary
6 shall review such appeal within 30 days of re-
7 ceiving such appeal and either approve or deny
8 the appeal. An appeal shall be considered ap-
9 proved if the Secretary has not denied such ap-
10 peal after 30 days.”.

11 **SEC. 161. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION.**

12 Section 153 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
13 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3203) is amended—

14 (1) by striking “center” each place it appears
15 and inserting “campus”;

16 (2) in subsection (a), by striking “centers” and
17 inserting “campuses”;

18 (3) in subsection (b)(1)(C)—

19 (A) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the
20 end; and

21 (B) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(v) industry or sector partnerships, where
23 applicable; and”; and

24 (4) in subsection (c), in the heading, by striking
25 “CENTERS” and inserting “CAMPUSES”.

1 **SEC. 162. WORKFORCE COUNCILS.**

2 Section 154 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
3 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3204) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “center” each place it appears
5 and inserting “campus”;

6 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking
8 “and” at the end;

9 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as
10 subparagraph (D); and

11 (C) by inserting the following after sub-
12 paragraph (B):

13 “(C) representatives of community-based
14 organizations; and”;

15 (3) in subsection (c)(2)(C), by inserting “, rec-
16 ognized postsecondary credentials,” after “skills”;
17 and

18 (4) in subsection (d), in the heading, by strik-
19 ing “NEW CENTERS” and inserting “NEW CAM-
20 PUSES”.

21 **SEC. 163. ADVISORY COMMITTEES.**

22 Section 155 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
23 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3205) is amended—

24 (1) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting
25 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”;

1 (2) by striking “centers” and inserting “cam-
2 puses”;

3 (3) by striking “center” and inserting “cam-
4 pus”; and

5 (4) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(b) ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO IMPROVE JOB CORPS
7 SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE.—Not later than one year
8 after the date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce
9 for America Act of 2026, the Secretary shall establish an
10 advisory committee to provide recommendations on effec-
11 tive or evidence-based strategies to improve—

12 “(1) safety, security, and learning conditions on
13 Job Corps campuses;

14 “(2) the standards for campus safety estab-
15 lished under section 159(c)(4);

16 “(3) the levels of performance established under
17 section 159(c)(1), including recommendations to im-
18 prove the effectiveness and rigor of such levels of
19 performance and recommendations to ensure such
20 levels promote continuous performance improvement;
21 and

22 “(4) the effectiveness of performance improve-
23 ment plans and other measures to continuously im-
24 prove the performance of the Job Corps program.”.

1 **SEC. 164. EXPERIMENTAL PROJECTS AND TECHNICAL AS-**
2 **SISTANCE.**

3 Section 156 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
4 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3206) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “center” and inserting “cam-
6 pus”;

7 (2) by striking “centers” and inserting “cam-
8 puses”; and

9 (3) in subsection (b)—

10 (A) by striking “ $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 percent to pro-
11 vide” and inserting “1.25 percent to provide”;
12 and

13 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at
14 the end of subparagraph (C) and by adding at
15 the end the following:

16 “(D) in the development and implementa-
17 tion of a behavior management plan under sec-
18 tion 152(a); and

19 “(E) in complying with the campus and
20 student safety standards described in section
21 159(c)(4); and”.

22 **SEC. 165. SPECIAL PROVISIONS.**

23 Section 158 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
24 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3208) is amended—

25 (1) by striking “center” each place it appears
26 and inserting “campus”; and

1 (2) in subsection (f)—

2 (A) by striking “may accept on behalf of
3 the Job Corps or individual Job Corps cam-
4 puses charitable donations of cash” and insert-
5 ing “(or the Secretary of Agriculture, as appro-
6 priate), on behalf of the Job Corps, or a Job
7 Corps campus operator, on behalf of such cam-
8 pus, may accept grants, charitable donations of
9 cash,”; and

10 (B) by inserting at the end the following:
11 “Notwithstanding sections 501(b) and 522 of
12 title 40, United States Code, any property ac-
13 quired by a Job Corps campus shall be directly
14 transferred, on a nonreimbursable basis, to the
15 Secretary.”.

16 **SEC. 166. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION.**

17 (a) **LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.**—Section 159 of the
18 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
19 3209) is amended—

20 (1) by striking “center” each place it appears
21 and inserting “campus”;

22 (2) in subsection (c)—

23 (A) in paragraph (1)—

24 (i) by striking “The Secretary” and
25 inserting the following:

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”;

2 (ii) by inserting “that are ambitious
3 yet achievable and” after “program”; and

4 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing new subparagraphs:

6 “(B) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—In es-
7 tablishing the expected levels of performance
8 under subparagraph (A) for a Job Corps cam-
9 pus, the Secretary may take into account fac-
10 tors including—

11 “(i) how the levels involved compare
12 with the recent performance of such cam-
13 pus and the performance of other cam-
14 puses within the same State or geographic
15 region;

16 “(ii) the levels of performance set for
17 the primary indicators of performance de-
18 scribed in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii) for the
19 youth programs authorized under chapter
20 2 of subtitle B for the State in which the
21 campus is located;

22 “(iii) the extent to which the levels in-
23 volved promote continuous improvement in
24 performance on the primary indicators of
25 performance by such campus and ensure

1 optimal return on the use of Federal
2 funds; and

3 “(iv) any other considerations identi-
4 fied by the Secretary after reviewing the
5 recommendations of the advisory group de-
6 scribed in section 155(b).

7 “(C) PERFORMANCE PER CONTRACT.—The
8 Secretary shall ensure the expected levels of
9 performance are established in the relevant con-
10 tract or agreement.

11 “(D) ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON ECONOMIC
12 CONDITIONS AND INDIVIDUALS SERVED DURING
13 THE PROGRAM YEAR.—

14 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In the event of a
15 significant economic downturn, the Sec-
16 retary shall adjust the applicable levels of
17 performance for each of the campuses for
18 a program year to reflect the actual eco-
19 nomic conditions during such program
20 year.

21 “(ii) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Prior
22 to implementing the adjustments described
23 in clause (i), the Secretary shall submit to
24 the Committee on Education and Work-
25 force of the House of Representatives and

1 the Committee on Health, Education,
2 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a re-
3 port explaining the reason for such adjust-
4 ments.

5 “(E) REVIEW OF LEVELS OF PERFORM-
6 ANCE.—The Office of Inspector General of the
7 Department of Labor shall, every 5 years, sub-
8 mit to the Committee on Education and Work-
9 force of the House of Representatives and the
10 Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and
11 Pensions of the Senate, and publish in the Fed-
12 eral Register and on a publicly available website
13 of the Department, a report containing—

14 “(i) a quadrennial review of the ex-
15 pected levels of performance; and

16 “(ii) an evaluation of whether—

17 “(I) the Secretary is establishing
18 such expected levels of performance in
19 accordance with this Act; and

20 “(II) such expected levels have
21 led to continued improvement of the
22 Job Corps program.”;

23 (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “(L),
24 and (M)” and inserting “(M), and (N)”;

1 (C) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking “(J),
2 and (K)” and inserting “(K), and (L)”;

3 (D) by redesignating paragraph (4) as
4 paragraph (5);

5 (E) by inserting after paragraph (3) the
6 following:

7 “(4) CAMPUS SAFETY.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
9 establish campus and student safety standards.
10 The Secretary shall provide technical assistance
11 and develop a safety improvement plan for a
12 Job Corps campus that fails to achieve such
13 standards.

14 “(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing
15 the campus and student safety standards under
16 subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall take into
17 account—

18 “(i) incidents related to safety that
19 are reported to the Secretary;

20 “(ii) survey data from enrollees, fac-
21 ulty, staff, and community members; and

22 “(iii) any other considerations identi-
23 fied by the Secretary after reviewing the
24 recommendations of the advisory group de-
25 scribed in section 155(b).”;

1 (F) in paragraph (5), as so redesignated—

2 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking

3 “and” at the end;

4 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking

5 the period at the end and inserting a semi-

6 colon; and

7 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-

8 lowing:

9 “(C) the number of contracts that were
10 awarded a renewal compared to those eligible
11 for a renewal;

12 “(D) the number of campuses where the
13 contract was awarded to a new operator; and

14 “(E) the number of campuses that were
15 required to receive performance improvement,
16 as described under subsection (f)(2).”; and

17 (G) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(6) WAGE RECORDS.—The Secretary shall
19 make arrangements with a State or other appro-
20 priate entity to facilitate the use of State wage
21 records to evaluate the performance of Job Corps
22 campuses on the employment and earnings indica-
23 tors described in clause (i)(III) of subparagraph (A)
24 of section 116(b)(2) and subclauses (I) and (II) of

1 clause (ii) of such subparagraph for the purposes of
2 the report required under paragraph (5).”;

3 (3) in subsection (d)(1)—

4 (A) by inserting “and make available on
5 the website of the Department pertaining to the
6 Job Corps program in a manner that is con-
7 sumer-tested to ensure it is easily understood,
8 searchable, and navigable,” after “subsection
9 (c)(4),”;

10 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “gen-
11 der” and inserting “sex”;

12 (C) in subparagraph (F), by striking “reg-
13 ular secondary school diploma” and inserting
14 “regular high school diploma”;

15 (D) in subparagraph (G), by striking “reg-
16 ular secondary school diploma” and inserting
17 “regular high school diploma”;

18 (E) by redesignating subparagraphs (J)
19 through (O) as subparagraphs (K) through (P),
20 respectively; and

21 (F) by inserting the following after sub-
22 paragraph (I):

23 “(J) the number of appeals under section
24 152(c) and a description of each appeal that
25 was approved;”;

1 (4) in subsection (e), by striking “116(i)(2)”
2 and inserting “116(j)(2)”; and

3 (5) in subsection (g)(2), by striking “comply”
4 and inserting “attest to compliance”.

5 (b) PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS AND IMPROVE-
6 MENTS.—Section 159(f) of the Workforce Innovation and
7 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3209) is amended to read as
8 follows:

9 “(f) PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS AND IMPROVE-
10 MENTS.—

11 “(1) ASSESSMENTS.—The Secretary shall con-
12 duct an annual assessment of the performance of
13 each Job Corps campus on the primary indicators of
14 performance described in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii),
15 where each indicator shall be given equal weight in
16 determining the overall performance of the campus.
17 Based on the assessment, the Secretary shall take
18 measures to continuously improve the performance
19 of the Job Corps program.

20 “(2) PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT.—

21 “(A) COMPREHENSIVE IMPROVEMENT.—

22 “(i) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a
23 Job Corps campus that, for a program
24 year, performs as described in clause (ii)
25 and is not already subject to a perform-

1 ance improvement plan under this para-
2 graph for such program year or the suc-
3 ceeding program year, the Secretary shall
4 develop and implement, for a comprehen-
5 sive improvement period beginning with
6 the succeeding program year, a perform-
7 ance improvement plan that meets the re-
8 quirements of clause (iii).

9 “(ii) PERFORMANCE FAILURES.—A
10 Job Corps campus performs as described
11 in this clause if, for a program year, such
12 campus—

13 “(I) fails to meet an average of
14 90 percent on the expected levels of
15 performance across all the primary in-
16 dicators of performance specified in
17 subsection (c)(1); and

18 “(II) is ranked among the lowest
19 20 percent of all Job Corps campuses.

20 “(iii) PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT
21 PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—A performance im-
22 provement plan, with respect to a Job
23 Corps campus, shall require the Secretary
24 to take substantial action during a 3 con-
25 secutive program year period (in this para-

1 graph, referred to as a ‘comprehensive im-
2 provement period’) to improve the perform-
3 ance of such campus, which shall include—

4 “(I) providing technical assist-
5 ance to the campus;

6 “(II) changing the management
7 staff of the campus;

8 “(III) changing the career and
9 technical education and training of-
10 fered at the campus;

11 “(IV) replacing the operator of
12 the campus; or

13 “(V) reducing the capacity of the
14 campus.

15 “(B) CHRONIC FAILURE.—

16 “(i) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a
17 Job Corps campus that, for the two con-
18 secutive program years immediately fol-
19 lowing a comprehensive improvement pe-
20 riod and regardless of whether such cam-
21 pus is subject to a subsequent comprehen-
22 sive improvement period, fails to meet an
23 average of 85 percent on the expected lev-
24 els of performance across all the primary
25 indicators and is ranked among the lowest

1 15 percent of all Job Corps campuses, the
2 Secretary shall take further substantial ac-
3 tion to improve the performance of such
4 campus, which shall include—

5 “(I) relocating the campus;

6 “(II) closing the campus; or

7 “(III) notifying the State in
8 which the campus is located of such
9 failure and, if such State submits a
10 written plan to operate a residential
11 campus in the current location, the
12 Secretary—

13 “(aa) shall enter into a
14 memorandum of understanding
15 with the State for the purpose of
16 so operating a residential campus
17 and award funding directly to the
18 State for such purpose;

19 “(bb) may encourage inno-
20 vation in such memorandum of
21 understanding by waiving any
22 statutory or regulatory require-
23 ment of this subtitle except for
24 those related to participant eligi-
25 bility under section 144, program

1 activities under section 148,
2 counseling and job placement
3 under section 149, standards of
4 conduct under section 152, and
5 performance reporting and ac-
6 countability under this section;
7 and

8 “(cc) if a State chooses to
9 award funds received under this
10 clause to an entity that is not a
11 State agency or other State enti-
12 ty, require that such State de-
13 velop award criteria that will give
14 priority consideration for the pri-
15 mary contract or grant for oper-
16 ation of the campus to any appli-
17 cant that is a non-profit organi-
18 zation with expertise in serving
19 out-of-school youth and that oth-
20 erwise meets such award criteria.

21 “(ii) INDIAN TRIBES.—

22 “(I) IN GENERAL.—In the case
23 of a Job Corps campus described in
24 clause (i) that is located on an Indian

1 reservation, subclause (III) of such
2 clause shall be applied by—

3 “(aa) by substituting ‘Indian
4 Tribe’ for ‘State’ in each place it
5 appears; and

6 “(bb) in item (cc), by sub-
7 stituting ‘Tribal organization’ for
8 ‘State agency or other State enti-
9 ty’.

10 “(II) DEFINITION.—In this para-
11 graph, the terms ‘Indian Tribe’ and
12 ‘Tribal organization’ have the mean-
13 ings given such terms in subsections
14 (e) and (l), respectively, of section 4
15 of the Indian Self-Determination and
16 Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.
17 5304).

18 “(3) ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE IMPROVE-
19 MENT.—In addition to the performance improvement
20 plans required under paragraph (2), the Secretary
21 may develop and implement additional performance
22 improvement plans for a Job Corps campus that
23 fails to meet criteria established by the Secretary
24 other than the expected levels of performance de-
25 scribed in subsection (c)(1).

1 “(4) CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CENTERS.—With
2 respect to a Civilian Conservation Center that, for 3
3 consecutive program years, fails to meet an average
4 of 90 percent of the expected levels of performance
5 across all the primary indicators of performance
6 specified in subsection (c)(1) and is ranked among
7 the lowest 15 percent of campuses, the Secretary of
8 Labor or, if appropriate, the Secretary of Agri-
9 culture shall select, on a competitive basis, an entity
10 to operate part or all of the Civilian Conservation
11 Center in accordance with the requirements of sec-
12 tion 147.”.

13 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 159 of the
14 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
15 3209) is further amended—

16 (1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking “centers”
17 and inserting “campuses”;

18 (2) in subsection (g)(1), in the heading, by
19 striking “CENTER” and inserting “CAMPUS”; and

20 (3) in subsection (j), in the heading, by striking
21 “CENTER” and inserting “CAMPUS”.

22 **SEC. 167. JOB CORPS OVERSIGHT AND REPORTING.**

23 Section 161 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
24 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3211) is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (c)—

1 (A) in the heading, by striking “CENTER”
2 and inserting “CAMPUS”; and

3 (B) by striking “center” and inserting
4 “campus”;

5 (2) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
6 section (e); and

7 (3) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
8 lowing new subsection:

9 “(d) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF REC-
10 OMMENDATIONS.—The Secretary shall, on an annual
11 basis, prepare and submit to the applicable committees a
12 report regarding the implementation of all outstanding
13 recommendations regarding the Job Corps program from
14 the Office of Inspector General of the Department of
15 Labor or the Government Accountability Office.”.

16 **SEC. 168. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 Section 162 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
18 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3212) is amended to read as follows:

19 **“SEC. 162. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

20 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
21 this subtitle \$1,760,155,000 for each of the fiscal years
22 2027 through 2032.”.

1 **SEC. 169. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

2 Section 146(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
3 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3196(a)) is amended by striking
4 “App. 451” and inserting “3801”.

5 **Subtitle E—National Programs**

6 **SEC. 171. NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS.**

7 Section 166 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
8 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3221) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “(25
10 U.S.C. 450 et seq.)” and inserting “(25 U.S.C.
11 5301 et seq.)”;

12 (2) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “(25
14 U.S.C. 450b)” and inserting “(25 U.S.C.
15 5304)”; and

16 (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “(20
17 U.S.C. 7517)” before the period at the end;

18 (3) in subsection (d)(1)—

19 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
20 “and”;

21 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

22 (i) by striking “leading” and inserting
23 “or self-employment that leads”; and

24 (ii) by striking the period at the end
25 and inserting “; and”; and

26 (C) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(C) are evidence-based, to the extent
2 practicable.”;

3 (4) in subsection (d)(2), by striking subpara-
4 graph (B) and inserting the following:

5 “(B) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more
6 than 15 percent of the funds made available to
7 an entity under subsection (c) may be used for
8 the administrative costs of the activities and
9 services described in subparagraph (A).

10 “(C) SPECIAL RULES.—

11 “(i) ELIGIBILITY.—Notwithstanding
12 any other provision of this section, individ-
13 uals who were eligible to participate in pro-
14 grams under section 401 of the Job Train-
15 ing Partnership Act (as such section was
16 in effect on the day before the date of en-
17 actment of the Workforce Investment Act
18 of 1998) shall be eligible to participate in
19 an activity assisted under this section.

20 “(ii) TRANSFER OF UNOBLIGATED
21 FUNDS.—An entity receiving funds under
22 subsection (c) may transfer such funds
23 that are unobligated for an award year to
24 the following award year for activities de-

1 scribed in subparagraph (A)(i) in that fol-
2 lowing award year.”;

3 (5) in subsection (e)(3), by inserting “or to de-
4 velop skills necessary for successful self-employ-
5 ment” before the semicolon at the end;

6 (6) in subsection (h)—

7 (A) in paragraph (1)—

8 (i) in the heading, by striking the
9 heading and inserting “PERFORMANCE
10 STANDARDS”;

11 (ii) by striking subparagraph (A) and
12 inserting the following:

13 “(A) CONSULTATION ON PERFORMANCE
14 STANDARDS.—The Secretary, in consultation
15 with the Native American Employment and
16 Training Council, shall develop performance
17 standards on the primary indicators of perform-
18 ance described in section 116(b)(2)(A) that
19 shall be applicable to programs under this sec-
20 tion.”; and

21 (iii) in subparagraph (B), in the mat-
22 ter preceding clause (i), by striking “indi-
23 cators and”;

24 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “section
25 116(b)(2)(A)” and all that follows through the

1 period at the end of the paragraph and insert-
2 ing the following: “section 116(b)(2)(A)—

3 “(A) taking into consideration—

4 “(i) economic conditions;

5 “(ii) characteristics and needs of the
6 individuals and groups served, including
7 the differences in needs among such
8 groups in various geographic service areas;
9 and

10 “(iii) other appropriate factors, in-
11 cluding the economic circumstances of the
12 communities served; and

13 “(B) using, to the extent practicable, the
14 statistical adjustment model under section
15 116(b)(3)(A)(viii).”; and

16 (C) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(3) PROGRAM PLAN.—The levels agreed to
18 under paragraph (2) shall be the adjusted levels of
19 performance and shall be incorporated in the pro-
20 gram plan.

21 “(4) WAGE RECORDS.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
23 make arrangements with any State or other ap-
24 propriate entity to facilitate the use of State
25 wage records to evaluate the performance of en-

1 tities funded under this section on the employ-
2 ment and earnings indicators described in sub-
3 clauses (I) through (III) of section
4 116(b)(2)(A)(i) for the purposes of the report
5 required under paragraph (5).

6 “(B) OTHER WAGE RECORDS.—For any
7 individual working in Indian country (as de-
8 fined in section 1151 of title 18, United States
9 Code) whose wages are not submitted to a rel-
10 evant State as an unemployment insurance
11 wage record, the Indian tribe with jurisdiction
12 over that Indian country may submit other
13 forms of documentation of the wages of such in-
14 dividual to the State for purposes of the report
15 required under paragraph (5).

16 “(5) PERFORMANCE RESULTS.—For each pro-
17 gram year, the Secretary shall make available on a
18 publicly accessible website of the Department of
19 Labor a report on the performance, during such pro-
20 gram year, of entities funded under this section
21 on—

22 “(A) the primary indicators of performance
23 described in section 116(b)(2)(A); and

1 “(B) the adjusted levels of performance for
2 such entities as described in paragraph (2).”;
3 and
4 (7) in subsection (i)—
5 (A) in paragraph (4)—
6 (i) in subparagraph (A)—
7 (I) by striking “Using” and in-
8 serting the following:
9 “(i) ESTABLISHMENT.—Using”; and
10 (II) by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:
12 “(ii) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Sec-
13 retary shall meet, on not less than an an-
14 nual basis, with the Council to consider
15 recommendations from the Council on the
16 operation and administration of the pro-
17 grams assisted under this section.”;
18 (ii) in subparagraph (B)—
19 (I) by striking “The Council”
20 and inserting the following:
21 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Council”; and
22 (II) by inserting at the end the
23 following:
24 “(ii) VACANCIES.—An individual ap-
25 pointed to fill a vacancy on the Council oc-

1 curring before the expiration of the term
2 for which the predecessor of such indi-
3 vidual was appointed shall be appointed
4 only for the remainder of that term. Such
5 an individual may serve on the Council
6 after the expiration of such term until a
7 successor is appointed.”; and

8 (iii) in subparagraph (F), by inserting
9 “, virtually or in person” before the period
10 at the end; and

11 (B) in paragraph (6)—

12 (i) by striking “more than one State”
13 and inserting “a State”;

14 (ii) by inserting “or provided by an-
15 other grantee that receives funds awarded
16 under subtitle B from any State for adult,
17 youth, or dislocated worker programs”
18 after “this title”;

19 (iii) by striking “Governors of the af-
20 fected States” and inserting “Governor of
21 any affected State”; and

22 (iv) by striking “the States” and in-
23 serting “the State or other grantee”.

1 **SEC. 172. MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKER PRO-**
2 **GRAMS.**

3 Section 167 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
4 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3222) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b)—

6 (A) by striking “To be” and inserting the
7 following:

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be”; and

9 (B) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(2) PROHIBITION ON GEOGRAPHIC LIMITA-
11 TIONS.—In determining eligibility under paragraph
12 (1), the Secretary may not place limitations on the
13 geographic location of the entity or on the intended
14 area to be served.”;

15 (2) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the
16 following:

17 “(5) WAGE RECORDS.—The Secretary shall
18 make arrangements with a State or other appro-
19 priate entity to facilitate the use of State wage
20 records to evaluate the performance of entities fund-
21 ed under this section on the employment and earn-
22 ings indicators described in subclauses (I) through
23 (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i) for the purposes of
24 the report required under paragraph (6).

25 “(6) PERFORMANCE RESULTS.—For each pro-
26 gram year, the Secretary shall make available on a

1 publicly accessible website of the Department a re-
2 port on the performance, during such program year,
3 of entities funded under this section on—

4 “(A) the primary indicators of performance
5 described in section 116(b)(2)(A); and

6 “(B) the adjusted levels of performance for
7 such entities as described in paragraph (3).”;

8 (3) in subsection (d)(1), by inserting “develop-
9 ment of digital literacy skills,” after “literacy in-
10 struction,”;

11 (4) by redesignating subsections (e) through (i)
12 as subsections (f) through (j), respectively;

13 (5) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-
14 lowing:

15 “(e) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than 10
16 percent of the funds provided to an entity under this sec-
17 tion may be used for the administrative costs of the activi-
18 ties and services carried out under subsection (d).”; and

19 (6) in subsection (i), as so redesignated—

20 (A) in the heading, by striking “ALLOCA-
21 TION” and inserting “ALLOCATION; FUNDING
22 OBLIGATION”;

23 (B) by striking “From” and inserting the
24 following:

25 “(1) FUNDING ALLOCATION.—From”; and

1 (C) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(2) FUNDING OBLIGATION.—Funds appro-
3 priated and made available to carry out this section
4 for any fiscal year may be obligated by the Secretary
5 during the period beginning on April 1 of the cal-
6 endar year that begins during such fiscal year and
7 ending on June 30 of the following calendar year to
8 be made available to an entity described in sub-
9 section (b).”.

10 **SEC. 173. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

11 (a) GENERAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section
12 168(a)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
13 Act (29 U.S.C. 3223(a)(1)) is amended—

14 (1) by striking “appropriate training, technical
15 assistance, staff development” and inserting “appro-
16 priate education, technical assistance, professional
17 development for staff”;

18 (2) in subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D), by
19 striking “training” each place it appears and insert-
20 ing “professional development”;

21 (3) by redesignating subparagraphs (G) and
22 (H) as subparagraphs (J) and (K), respectively; and

23 (4) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the fol-
24 lowing:

1 “(G) assistance to the one-stop delivery
2 system and the Employment Service established
3 under the Wagner-Peyser Act for the integra-
4 tion of basic career service activities pursuant
5 to section 134(c)(2)(A);

6 “(H) assistance to States with maintain-
7 ing, and making accessible to jobseekers and
8 employers, the lists of eligible providers of
9 training services required under section 122;

10 “(I) assistance to States that apply for
11 such assistance under section 122(j) for the
12 purposes described in such subsection;”.

13 (b) PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY TECHNICAL
14 ASSISTANCE.—Section 168(b) of the Workforce Innova-
15 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3223(b)) is amend-
16 ed—

17 (1) in the header, by striking “DISLOCATED
18 WORKER” and inserting “PERFORMANCE ACCOUNT-
19 ABILITY”; and

20 (2) in paragraph (1)—

21 (A) in the first sentence—

22 (i) by inserting “, pursuant to para-
23 graphs (1) and (2) of section 116(f),” after
24 “technical assistance”; and

1 (ii) by striking “with respect to em-
2 ployment and training activities for dis-
3 located workers” and inserting “with re-
4 spect to the core programs”; and

5 (B) in the second sentence—

6 (i) by striking “assistance to dis-
7 located workers” and inserting “assistance
8 to individuals served by a core program”;
9 and

10 (ii) by striking “provided to dislocated
11 workers” and inserting “provided to such
12 individuals”.

13 (c) COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY SUBSTANCE USE
14 DISORDERS.—Section 168 of the Workforce Innovation
15 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3223) is further amended
16 by adding at the end the following:

17 “(d) COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY SUBSTANCE USE
18 DISORDERS.—The Secretary shall, as part of the activities
19 described in subsection (c)(2), evaluate and disseminate
20 to States and local areas information regarding evidence-
21 based and promising practices for addressing the economic
22 workforce impacts associated with high rates of substance
23 use disorders, which information shall—

24 “(1) be updated annually to reflect the most re-
25 cent and available research; and

1 “(2) include information—

2 “(A) shared by States and local areas re-
3 garding effective practices for addressing such
4 impacts; and

5 “(B) on how to apply for any funding that
6 may be available under section 170(b)(1)(E).”.

7 **SEC. 174. EVALUATIONS AND RESEARCH.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 169 of the Workforce In-
9 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3224) is amend-
10 ed—

11 (1) in subsection (a)—

12 (A) in paragraph (2)—

13 (i) by redesignating subparagraph (G)
14 as subparagraph (H);

15 (ii) in subparagraph (F)—

16 (I) by striking “; and” at the
17 end; and

18 (II) by inserting “, including in-
19 dividuals with barriers to employ-
20 ment” after “demographic groups”;
21 and

22 (iii) by inserting the following after
23 subparagraph (F):

24 “(G) the extent to which such programs or
25 activities are using emerging technology to—

1 “(i) collect, analyze, use, and dissemi-
2 nate accurate and transparent local and
3 State level labor market information;

4 “(ii) integrate administrative data, in
5 accordance with Federal and State privacy
6 laws, to more comprehensively understand
7 and improve education and workforce out-
8 comes; and

9 “(iii) identify and address deficiencies
10 in existing Federal, State, and local work-
11 force data infrastructure and related
12 source systems; and”;

13 (B) in paragraph (3)—

14 (i) by striking “The Secretary” and
15 inserting the following:

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

17 (ii) by adding at the end the following
18 new subparagraph:

19 “(B) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may
20 not use the authority described in subparagraph
21 (A) if the evaluations required under paragraph
22 (1) have not been initiated or completed in the
23 time period required.”; and

24 (C) in paragraph (4), in the second sen-
25 tence—

1 (i) by striking “The Secretary” and
2 inserting “Beginning after the date of en-
3 actment of the A Stronger Workforce for
4 America Act of 2026, the Secretary”; and
5 (ii) by striking “2019” and inserting
6 “2028”; and

7 (2) in subsection (b)—

8 (A) by amending paragraph (4) to read as
9 follows:

10 “(4) STUDIES AND REPORTS.—

11 “(A) STUDY ON EMPLOYMENT CONDI-
12 TIONS.—The Secretary, in coordination with
13 other heads of Federal agencies, as appropriate,
14 may conduct a study examining the nature of
15 participants’ unsubsidized employment after
16 exit from programs carried out under this
17 Act—

18 “(i) including with respect to factors
19 such as the availability of paid time off in
20 the employment, health and retirement
21 benefits provided through the employment,
22 workplace safety standards at the place of
23 employment, the predictability and stability
24 of the work schedule for the employment,
25 the ability to obtain through the employ-

1 ment credentials that may permit articula-
2 tion into a higher level or other degree or
3 credential program, and advancement op-
4 portunities in the employment; and

5 “(ii) that includes a description of the
6 feasibility of Congress establishing,
7 through future legislation, an indicator of
8 performance under section 116 related to
9 such factors.

10 “(B) STUDY ON IMPROVING WORKFORCE
11 SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABIL-
12 ITIES.—The Secretary of Labor, in coordination
13 with the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
14 ices, may conduct studies that analyze the ac-
15 cess to services by individuals with disabilities,
16 including whether an individual who is unable
17 to receive services under title IV due to a wait
18 list for such services is able to receive services
19 under titles I through III.

20 “(C) STUDY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF
21 PAY FOR PERFORMANCE.—The Secretary shall,
22 not later than 4 years after the date of enact-
23 ment of the A Stronger Workforce for America
24 Act of 2026, conduct a study that—

1 “(i) compares the effectiveness of the
2 pay-for-performance strategies used under
3 sections 129, 134, and 172 after such date
4 of enactment to the awarding of grants
5 and contracts under such sections as in ef-
6 fect on the day before the date of enact-
7 ment of such Act; and

8 “(ii) examines, with respect to grants
9 under sections 129, 134, and 172 after
10 such date of enactment—

11 “(I) the competition structure of
12 pay-for-performance grants and con-
13 tracts under such sections;

14 “(II) the quality of applications
15 received for grants and contracts
16 under such sections; and

17 “(III) whether individuals with
18 barriers to employment were effec-
19 tively served under the pay-for-per-
20 formance strategies for grants and
21 contracts under such sections.

22 “(D) STUDY ON INDIVIDUAL TRAINING AC-
23 COUNTS FOR DISLOCATED WORKERS.—The Sec-
24 retary shall, not later than 4 years after the
25 date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce

1 for America Act of 2026, conduct a study that
2 compares the usage of individual training ac-
3 counts for dislocated workers after such date of
4 enactment to the usage of such accounts prior
5 to such date of enactment, including a compari-
6 son of—

7 “(i) the types of training services and
8 occupations targeted by dislocated workers
9 when using their individual training ac-
10 counts; and

11 “(ii) the effectiveness of the skills de-
12 velopment funded through individual train-
13 ing accounts in helping such individuals at-
14 tain credentials and secure unsubsidized
15 employment.

16 “(E) STUDY ON STATEWIDE CRITICAL IN-
17 DUSTRY SKILLS FUNDS.—The Secretary shall,
18 not later than 4 years after the date of enact-
19 ment of the A Stronger Workforce for America
20 Act of 2026, conduct a study that will review
21 the usage of statewide critical industry skills
22 funds established by States under section
23 134(a)(4) and identify, for purposes of meas-
24 uring the overall effectiveness of the program—

1 “(i) the industries targeted by the
2 funds under section 134(a)(4);

3 “(ii) the occupations for which work-
4 ers are being upskilled;

5 “(iii) how frequently skills develop-
6 ment is provided to prospective workers
7 and incumbent workers, and

8 “(iv) the reported performance out-
9 comes.

10 “(F) STUDY ON INDUSTRY OR SECTOR
11 PARTNERSHIP AND CAREER PATHWAYS DEVEL-
12 OPMENT FUNDS.—The Secretary shall, not later
13 than 4 years after the date of enactment of the
14 A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026,
15 conduct a study that will review the usage of in-
16 dustry or sector partnership and career path-
17 ways development funds established by States
18 under section 134(a)(5) and identify, for pur-
19 poses of measuring the overall effectiveness of
20 the program—

21 “(i) the industries targeted by the
22 funds under section 134(a)(5) and the
23 growth in employment opportunities in
24 such industries over the period of the
25 study;

1 “(ii) the occupations workers are re-
2 ceiving skills development for and how fre-
3 quently such skills development is occur-
4 ring through the funds under section
5 134(a)(5);

6 “(iii) the States where such funds
7 were used to establish new industry or sec-
8 tor partnerships, the States where such
9 funds were used to expand existing indus-
10 try or sector partnerships, and an overview
11 of the types of partners participating in
12 such partnerships; and

13 “(iv) the reported performance out-
14 comes.

15 “(G) STUDY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF
16 EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING.—The Secretary
17 shall, not later than 4 years after the date of
18 enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for
19 America Act of 2026, conduct a study that
20 measures the effectiveness of on-the-job train-
21 ing, employer-directed skills training, appren-
22 ticeship, and incumbent worker training under
23 this title in preparing jobseekers and workers,
24 including those with barriers to employment,
25 for unsubsidized employment. Such study shall

1 include the cost per participant and wage and
2 employment outcomes, as compared to other
3 methods of training.

4 “(H) STUDY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS AND
5 USE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGY IN THE WORK-
6 FORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM.—The Secretary
7 shall, not later than 4 years after the date of
8 enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for
9 America Act of 2026, conduct a study that—

10 “(i) measures the effectiveness of
11 emerging technology (including artificial
12 intelligence and machine learning) and
13 other advanced computational methods, in
14 improving State workforce development
15 system service delivery, labor market data
16 system performance, data collection and in-
17 tegration to understand participant and
18 program outcomes, and end-user tools for
19 facilitating career exploration or related
20 data insights;

21 “(ii) measures the extent to which
22 States have adopted and implemented such
23 technology and methods in their workforce
24 development systems, including by describ-
25 ing how the technology or method is being

1 used, analyzing the accuracy of such tech-
2 nology or method, and identifying any ex-
3 hibited bias by any such technology or
4 method; and

5 “(iii) includes an analysis of the con-
6 sequences of advances in automation tech-
7 nology on employment opportunities, skills
8 development, including digital literacy
9 skills development, and worker dislocation.

10 “(I) STUDY ON THE ALIGNMENT BETWEEN
11 EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
12 SYSTEMS.—The Secretary of Labor, shall, not
13 later than 4 years after the date of enactment
14 of the A Stronger Workforce for America Act of
15 2026, conduct a study on the alignment of
16 workforce development programs under this Act
17 with elementary and secondary education and
18 postsecondary education. The study shall exam-
19 ine—

20 “(i) State efforts to integrate data re-
21 lated to career and technical education
22 programs, dual enrollment programs, pre-
23 apprenticeships and apprenticeships, and
24 other work-based learning programs to in-

1 form decisionmaking and improve edu-
2 cational opportunities and outcomes;

3 “(ii) challenges related to and strate-
4 gies that promote such alignment to facili-
5 tate student participation in high-quality
6 college and career pathways; and

7 “(iii) governance structures and fund-
8 ing sources to promote such alignment.

9 “(J) STUDY ON JOB CORPS.—The Sec-
10 retary of Labor shall, not later than 4 years
11 after the date of enactment of the A Stronger
12 Workforce for America Act of 2026, conduct an
13 evaluation that—

14 “(i) uses the most rigorous available
15 methods that are appropriate and feasible
16 to evaluate program effectiveness;

17 “(ii) measures the effect of the Job
18 Corps program on participating individuals
19 on outcomes related to the purposes de-
20 scribed in section 141(1), including edu-
21 cational attainment, employment, earnings,
22 and other related outcomes, compared with
23 the non-participant peers of those individ-
24 uals, to determine if the program has a

1 statistically significant effect (including
2 long-term effects) on such outcomes; and
3 “(iii) evaluates the cost-effectiveness
4 of the program.

5 “(K) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall pre-
6 pare and disseminate to the Committee on
7 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the
8 Senate and the Committee on Education and
9 Workforce of the House of Representatives, and
10 on the publicly available website of the Depart-
11 ment, reports containing the results of the stud-
12 ies conducted under this paragraph.”; and

13 (B) in paragraph (5), by adding at the end
14 the following:

15 “(C) EVALUATION OF GRANTS.—

16 “(i) IN GENERAL.—For each grant or
17 contract awarded under this paragraph,
18 the Secretary shall conduct a rigorous eval-
19 uation of the multistate project to deter-
20 mine the impact of the activities supported
21 by the project, including the impact on the
22 employment and earnings of program par-
23 ticipants.

24 “(ii) REPORT.—The Secretary shall
25 prepare and disseminate to the Committee

1 on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
2 sions of the Senate and the Committee on
3 Education and Workforce of the House of
4 Representatives, and to the public, includ-
5 ing through electronic means, reports con-
6 taining the results of evaluations con-
7 ducted under this subparagraph.”.

8 (b) WORKFORCE DATA QUALITY INITIATIVE.—Sec-
9 tion 169 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
10 (29 U.S.C. 3224) is further amended by adding at the
11 end the following:

12 “(d) WORKFORCE DATA QUALITY INITIATIVE.—

13 “(1) GRANT PROGRAM.—Of the amount made
14 available pursuant to section 132(a)(2)(A) for any
15 program year, the Secretary shall use not less than
16 5 percent and not more than 10 percent of such
17 amount, and may also use funds authorized for pur-
18 poses of carrying out this section, to award grants
19 to eligible entities to create workforce longitudinal
20 data systems, talent marketplaces, and associated
21 resources for the purposes of assisting States to—

22 “(A) improve program quality;

23 “(B) produce evidence for decision making;

24 “(C) meet performance reporting require-
25 ments;

1 “(D) protect the privacy of users; and

2 “(E) improve transparency in relation to
3 labor market trends and changes in job skills
4 needed to obtain employment.

5 “(2) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a
6 grant under this subsection, an eligible entity shall
7 submit an application to the Secretary, at such time
8 and in such manner as the Secretary may require,
9 which shall include—

10 “(A) a description of the activities the eli-
11 gible entity is proposing, including a description
12 of the need for such activities and a detailed
13 budget;

14 “(B) a description of the expected out-
15 comes and outputs (such as systems or prod-
16 ucts) that will result from the proposed activi-
17 ties and the proposed uses of such outputs;

18 “(C) a description of how the proposed ac-
19 tivities will support the reporting of perform-
20 ance data for the performance accountability re-
21 quirements under section 116, including out-
22 comes for eligible training providers;

23 “(D) a description of the methods and pro-
24 cedures the eligible entity will use to ensure the
25 security and privacy of the collection, storage,

1 and use of all data involved in the systems and
2 resources supported through the grant, includ-
3 ing compliance with State and Federal privacy
4 and confidentiality law;

5 “(E) a plan for how the eligible entity will
6 continue the activities or sustain the use of the
7 outputs created with the grant funds after the
8 grant period ends; and

9 “(F) a description of how the eligible enti-
10 ty will ensure interoperability and portability
11 between the talent marketplace maintained by
12 the eligible entity and other talent marketplaces
13 through the use of open standards.

14 “(3) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under the
15 subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to eligi-
16 ble entities that—

17 “(A) are—

18 “(i) State agencies of States that have
19 not previously received a grant from the
20 Secretary for the purposes of this sub-
21 section and demonstrate a substantial need
22 to improve its data infrastructure, includ-
23 ing for the development of a talent market-
24 place; or

1 “(ii) consortia of State agencies that
2 are comprised of State agencies from mul-
3 tiple States and include at least one State
4 agency described in clause (i) and have the
5 capacity to make significant contributions
6 toward building interoperable and portable
7 interstate data infrastructure; and

8 “(B) will use grant funds to—

9 “(i) expand the adoption and use of
10 linked, publicly available, and interoperable
11 data on knowledge, skills, and abilities rep-
12 resented through credentials, occupational
13 job descriptions, and learning assertions,
14 including through the development of a tal-
15 ent marketplace or other tools and services
16 designed to help learners and workers
17 make informed decisions;

18 “(ii) participate in and contribute
19 data to a multistate data collaborative, in-
20 cluding data that provides participating
21 States the ability to better understand—

22 “(I) earnings and employment
23 outcomes of individuals who work out-
24 of-State; and

1 “(II) interstate earnings and em-
2 ployment trends;

3 “(iii) enhance collaboration with pri-
4 vate sector workforce and labor market
5 data entities and the end-users of work-
6 force and labor market data, including in-
7 dividuals, employers, economic development
8 agencies, and workforce development pro-
9 viders;

10 “(iv) leverage the use of non-Federal
11 contributions to improve workforce data in-
12 frastructure, including staff capacity build-
13 ing; or

14 “(v) expand existing statewide inte-
15 grated longitudinal data systems, including
16 such systems receiving assistance under
17 section 208 of the Educational Technical
18 Assistance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9607).

19 “(4) USE OF FUNDS.—In addition to the activi-
20 ties described in paragraph (3)(B), an eligible entity
21 awarded a grant under this subsection may use
22 funds to carry out any of the following activities:

23 “(A) Developing or enhancing a State’s
24 workforce longitudinal data system, including
25 by participating and contributing data to the

1 State’s data system, if applicable, that links
2 with elementary and secondary school and post-
3 secondary data.

4 “(B) Accelerating the replication and
5 adoption of data systems, projects, products, or
6 practices already in use in one or more States
7 to other States.

8 “(C) Research and labor market data im-
9 provement activities to improve the timeliness,
10 relevance, and accessibility of such data
11 through pilot projects that are developed locally
12 but designed to scale to other regions or States.

13 “(D) Establishing or enhancing a talent
14 marketplace.

15 “(E) Developing policies, guidelines, and
16 security measures for data collection, storing,
17 and sharing to ensure compliance with relevant
18 Federal and State privacy laws and regulations.

19 “(F) Increasing local board access to and
20 integration with the State’s workforce longitu-
21 dinal data system in a secure manner.

22 “(G) Creating or participating in a data
23 exchange for collecting and using standards-
24 based jobs and employment data including, at a
25 minimum, job titles or occupation codes.

1 “(H) Improving State and local staff ca-
2 capacity to understand, use, and analyze data to
3 improve decision-making and improve partici-
4 pant outcomes.

5 “(5) ADMINISTRATION.—

6 “(A) DURATION.—A grant awarded under
7 this subsection may be for a period of up to 3
8 years.

9 “(B) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—
10 Funds made available under this subsection
11 shall be used to supplement, and not supplant,
12 other Federal, State, or local funds used for de-
13 velopment of State data systems.

14 “(C) REPORT.—Each eligible entity that
15 receives a grant under this subsection shall sub-
16 mit a report to the Secretary not later than 180
17 days after the conclusion of the grant period on
18 the activities supported through the grant and
19 improvements in the use of workforce and labor
20 market information that have resulted from
21 such activities.

22 “(6) DEFINITION.—In this subsection—

23 “(A) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligi-
24 ble entity’ means a State agency, including a
25 State workforce agency or a consortium of

1 State agencies, including a multistate data col-
2 laborative, that is or includes the State agency
3 responsible for—

4 “(i) State employer wage records used
5 by the State’s unemployment insurance
6 programs in labor market information re-
7 porting and analysis and for fulfilling the
8 reporting requirements under section
9 116(d);

10 “(ii) the production of labor market
11 information; and

12 “(iii) the direct administration of one
13 or more of the core programs.

14 “(B) MULTISTATE DATA COLLABO-
15 RATIVE.—The term ‘multistate data collabo-
16 rative’ means a partnership among two or more
17 States to coordinate the governance and stand-
18 ards for workforce related data maintained by
19 such States in order to facilitate interoperability
20 and the secure exchange of such data between
21 such States.”.

22 **SEC. 175. NATIONAL DISLOCATED WORKER GRANTS.**

23 Section 170 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
24 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3225) is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)—

2 (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking
3 “and” at the end;

4 (ii) in subparagraph (D)(ii), by strik-
5 ing the period at the end and inserting “;
6 and”; and

7 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(E) to an entity described in subsection
10 (c)(1)(B) to provide employment and training
11 activities related to the prevention and treat-
12 ment of substance use disorders, including ad-
13 diction treatment, mental health treatment, and
14 pain management, in an area that, as a result
15 of widespread substance use, addiction, and
16 overdoses, has higher-than-average demand for
17 such activities that exceeds the availability of
18 State and local resources to provide such activi-
19 ties.”; and

20 (B) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(3) PERFORMANCE RESULTS.—The Secretary
22 shall collect the necessary information from each en-
23 tity receiving a grant under this section to determine
24 the performance of such entity on the primary indi-
25 cators of performance described in section

1 116(b)(2)(A)(i) and make such information available
2 on the publicly accessible website of the Department
3 in a format that does not reveal personally identifi-
4 able information.”; and

5 (2) in subsection (c)—

6 (A) in paragraph (1)(A)—

7 (i) by striking “subsection (b)(1)(A)”
8 and inserting “subparagraph (A) or (E) of
9 subsection (b)(1)”;

10 (ii) by striking “, in such manner, and
11 containing such information” and inserting
12 “and in such manner”;

13 (B) in paragraph (2)—

14 (i) in subparagraph (B)—

15 (I) in the heading, by striking
16 “RETRAINING” and inserting
17 “RESKILLING”;

18 (II) by striking “retraining” and
19 inserting “reskilling”;

20 (ii) by redesignating subparagraphs
21 (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and
22 (E), respectively; and

23 (iii) by inserting after subparagraph
24 (B) the following:

1 “(C) SUBSTANCE USE RELATED
2 GRANTS.—In order to be eligible to receive em-
3 ployment and training assistance under a na-
4 tional dislocated worker grant awarded pursu-
5 ant to subsection (b)(1)(E), an individual shall
6 be—

7 “(i) a dislocated worker;

8 “(ii) a long-term unemployed indi-
9 vidual;

10 “(iii) an individual who is unemployed
11 or significantly underemployed as a result
12 of widespread substance use in the area; or

13 “(iv) an individual who is employed or
14 seeking employment in a health care pro-
15 fession involved in the prevention and
16 treatment of substance use disorders, in-
17 cluding such professions that provide ad-
18 diction treatment, mental health treat-
19 ment, or pain management.”.

20 **SEC. 176. YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM.**

21 Section 171 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
22 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3226) is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (b)(7), by striking “(25
24 U.S.C. 450b)” and inserting “(25 U.S.C. 5304)”;

25 (2) in subsection (c)—

1 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as
2 follows:

3 “(1) AMOUNT OF GRANTS; RESERVATION.—

4 “(A) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—Subject to
5 subparagraph (B), the Secretary is authorized
6 to make grants to applicants for the purpose of
7 carrying out YouthBuild programs approved
8 under this section.

9 “(B) RESERVATION FOR RURAL AREAS
10 AND INDIAN TRIBES.—

11 “(i) TRIBAL RESERVATION.—Subject
12 to clause (iii), in carrying out subpara-
13 graph (A), the Secretary shall reserve not
14 less than 5 percent of the total amount ap-
15 propriated for the purposes of that sub-
16 paragraph to make grants to applicants
17 that are—

18 “(I) Indian tribes, tribal organi-
19 zations, or Native Hawaiian organiza-
20 tions (as such term is defined in sec-
21 tion 166(b)); or

22 “(II) carrying out programs for
23 the benefit of Indians.

24 “(ii) RURAL RESERVATION.—Subject
25 to clause (iii), in carrying out subpara-

1 graph (A), the Secretary shall reserve not
2 less than 10 percent of the total amount
3 appropriated for purposes of that subpara-
4 graph to make grants to applicants that
5 are located in rural areas.

6 “(iii) EXCEPTION.—If the Secretary
7 does not receive a sufficient number of ap-
8 plications of sufficient quality to award the
9 amounts reserved under clause (i) or
10 amounts reserved under clause (ii) in ac-
11 cordance with the requirements of the ap-
12 plicable clause, the Secretary may—

13 “(I) award grants to applicants
14 described in clause (i) or clause (ii),
15 as the case may be, in an amount not
16 to exceed \$1,500,000 per grant; and

17 “(II) use any remaining amount
18 reserved under the applicable clause
19 to, notwithstanding the requirements
20 of that clause, award grants under
21 subparagraph (A) to other applica-
22 tions that are not described in such
23 clause.”;

24 (B) in paragraph (2)—

25 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

- 1 (I) in clause (iv)—
- 2 (aa) in subclause (II), by
- 3 striking “language learners” and
- 4 inserting “learners”;
- 5 (bb) in subclause (III), by
- 6 striking “a secondary” and in-
- 7 serting “a regular high”; and
- 8 (cc) in subclause (IV), by
- 9 striking “required” and inserting
- 10 “available Federal, State, or in-
- 11 stitutional”;
- 12 (II) in clause (v), by striking
- 13 “drug and alcohol abuse” and insert-
- 14 ing “substance use disorder”;
- 15 (III) in clause (vii)—
- 16 (aa) by inserting “to ensure
- 17 full participation in a YouthBuild
- 18 program, including such services
- 19 for individuals with disabilities,”
- 20 after “services”; and
- 21 (bb) by inserting “unsub-
- 22 subsidized” after “retaining”; and
- 23 (IV) in clause (viii), by inserting
- 24 “, including career services” after
- 25 “assistance”; and

1 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(I) Provision of meals and other food as-
4 sistance to participants in conjunction with an-
5 other activity described in this paragraph.

6 “(J) Provision of information on and refer-
7 ral to Federal and State means tested pro-
8 grams.”;

9 (C) in paragraph (3)—

10 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
11 “such time, in such manner, and con-
12 taining such information” and inserting
13 “such time and in such manner”; and

14 (ii) in subparagraph (B)—

15 (I) in the header, by striking
16 “MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS” and in-
17 serting “REQUIREMENTS”;

18 (II) by striking “, at a min-
19 imum”;

20 (III) in clause (iii), by striking
21 “unions” and inserting “labor organi-
22 zations”;

23 (IV) by amending clause (v) to
24 read as follows:

1 “(v) a description of the educational
2 and job training activities, work opportuni-
3 ties, postsecondary education and training
4 opportunities, and other services that will
5 be provided to participants, and how those
6 activities, opportunities, and services will—

7 “(I) prepare youth for employ-
8 ment in in-demand industry sectors or
9 occupations in the labor market area
10 described in clause (i); and

11 “(II) support youth in attaining
12 a regular high school diploma or its
13 recognized equivalent;”;

14 (V) in clause (vii), by striking
15 “(including agencies of Indian tribes)”
16 and inserting “, Indian tribes, tribal
17 organizations, and tribal educational
18 agencies (as such term is defined in
19 section 6132(b) of the Elementary
20 and Secondary Education Act of 1965
21 (20 U.S.C. 7452(b)))”;

22 (VI) in clause (x), by inserting
23 “located in the region proposed to be
24 served by such applicant, as applica-
25 ble” after “tribes”;

1 (VII) by amending clause (xii) to
2 read as follows:

3 “(xii) a description of the levels of
4 performance the applicant expects to
5 achieve on the primary indicators of per-
6 formance described in section
7 116(b)(2)(A)(ii);”;

8 (VIII) in clause (xiii), by striking
9 “unions” and inserting “labor organi-
10 zations”;

11 (IX) by redesignating clauses
12 (xv) through (xxi) as clauses (xvi)
13 through (xxii), respectively; and

14 (X) by inserting after clause (xiv)
15 the following:

16 “(xv) a description of any strategies
17 the applicant will use to engage program
18 participants in providing feedback and in-
19 forming decision-making related to the
20 program;”;

21 (D) in paragraph (4)—

22 (i) by striking “such selection criteria
23 as the Secretary shall establish under this
24 section, which shall include criteria” and
25 inserting “selection criteria”;

1 (ii) in subparagraph (J)(iii), by add-
2 ing “and” after the semicolon;

3 (iii) in subparagraph (K), by striking
4 “; and” and inserting a period; and

5 (iv) by striking subparagraph (L);

6 (3) in subsection (e)(1)(B)(i)—

7 (A) by striking “are basic skills deficient”
8 and inserting “have foundational skill needs”;
9 and

10 (B) by striking “secondary” and inserting
11 “regular high”;

12 (4) in subsection (f), by striking paragraph (2)
13 and inserting the following:

14 “(2) USE OF WAGE RECORDS.—The Secretary
15 shall make arrangements with a State or other ap-
16 propriate entity to facilitate the use of State wage
17 records to evaluate the performance of YouthBuild
18 programs funded under this section on the employ-
19 ment and earnings indicators described in section
20 116(b)(2)(A)(ii) for the purposes of the report re-
21 quired under paragraph (3).

22 “(3) PERFORMANCE RESULTS.—For each pro-
23 gram year, the Secretary shall make available, on a
24 publicly accessible website of the Department, a re-
25 port on the performance of YouthBuild programs,

1 during such program year, funded under this section
2 on—

3 “(A) the primary indicators of performance
4 described in section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii); and

5 “(B) the expected levels of performance for
6 such programs as described in paragraph (1).

7 “(4) CONSULTATION.—In establishing expected
8 levels of performance under paragraph (1), the Sec-
9 retary shall consult, on not less than an annual
10 basis, with entities carrying out YouthBuild pro-
11 grams to ensure such levels of performance account
12 for the workforce development and postsecondary
13 education experiences of youth served by such pro-
14 grams.”;

15 (5) in subsection (g), by inserting at the end
16 the following:

17 “(4) ANNUAL RELEASE OF FUNDING OPPOR-
18 TUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT.—The Secretary shall, to
19 the greatest extent practicable, announce new fund-
20 ing opportunities for grants under this section dur-
21 ing the same time period each year for which such
22 grants are available.”; and

23 (6) by amending subsection (i) to read as fol-
24 lows:

1 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$105,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027 through
4 2032.”.

5 **SEC. 177. REENTRY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.**

6 Subtitle D of title I of the Workforce Innovation and
7 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3221 et seq.) is amended—
8 (1) by redesignating section 172 as section 175;
9 and
10 (2) by inserting after section 171 the following:

11 **“SEC. 172. REENTRY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.**

12 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

13 “(1) to improve the employment, earnings, and
14 skill attainment, and reduce recidivism, of adults
15 and youth who have been involved with the justice
16 system;

17 “(2) to prompt innovation and improvement in
18 the reentry of offenders into the workforce so that
19 successful initiatives can be established or continued,
20 and replicated; and

21 “(3) to further develop the evidence on how to
22 improve employment, earnings, and skill attainment,
23 and reduce recidivism, of offenders, through rigorous
24 evaluations of specific services provided, including
25 how they affect different populations and how they

1 are best combined and sequenced, and disseminate
2 such evidence to entities supporting the reentry of
3 offenders is into the workforce.

4 “(b) REENTRY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES PRO-
5 GRAM.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appro-
7 priated under section 175(e) and not reserved under
8 subsection (h), the Secretary shall carry out a Re-
9 entry Employment Opportunities Program, through
10 which the Secretary—

11 “(A) except as provided in subparagraph
12 (B), in order to implement reentry projects that
13 serve eligible adults or eligible youth shall, on
14 a competitive basis—

15 “(i) make direct awards (through
16 grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-
17 ments) to eligible entities to implement
18 such reentry projects; and

19 “(ii) in any year for which the Sec-
20 retary makes awards under clause (i),
21 make intermediary awards to eligible enti-
22 ties who are national or regional inter-
23 mediaries, who shall use the award
24 funds—

1 “(I) to make direct awards to eli-
2 gible entities to implement such re-
3 entry projects; or

4 “(II) to implement such reentry
5 projects; and

6 “(B) in order to implement youth reentry
7 employment opportunities projects, through
8 that program, that serve eligible youth shall, on
9 a competitive basis—

10 “(i) make direct awards to youth
11 project eligible entities to implement such
12 youth reentry projects; and

13 “(ii) in any year for which the Sec-
14 retary makes awards under clause (i),
15 make intermediary awards to youth project
16 eligible entities who are national or re-
17 gional intermediaries, who shall use the
18 award funds—

19 “(I) to make direct awards to
20 youth project eligible entities to imple-
21 ment such youth reentry projects; or

22 “(II) to implement such youth re-
23 entry projects.

1 “(2) ALLOCATION TO ACTIVITIES.—From the
2 amounts appropriated under section 175(e) and not
3 reserved under subsection (h), the Secretary—

4 “(A) shall use not less than 20 percent of
5 such amounts for awards under paragraph
6 (1)(A) to eligible entities to serve as national or
7 regional intermediaries to provide the award
8 funds to other eligible entities—

9 “(i) to implement reentry projects de-
10 scribed in paragraph (1)(A); and

11 “(ii) to monitor and support such en-
12 tities;

13 “(B) shall use not less than 20 percent of
14 such amounts for direct or intermediary awards
15 under paragraph (1)(B) to—

16 “(i) implement youth reentry projects
17 described in paragraph (1)(B); and

18 “(ii) in cases in which the award re-
19 cipients make direct awards to other youth
20 reentry project eligible entities, monitor
21 and support such entities;

22 “(C) shall use 20 percent of such amounts,
23 from the portion reserved to carry out para-
24 graph (1)(A), to award funds to eligible entities
25 using pay-for-performance contracts—

1 “(i) that specify a fixed amount that
2 will be paid to such an entity based on the
3 achievement, within a defined timeframe,
4 of proposed levels of performance described
5 under subsection (e)(2)(A) on the indica-
6 tors of performance described in subsection
7 (e)(1)(A)(i); and

8 “(ii) which may provide for bonus
9 payments to such entity to expand capacity
10 to provide effective services; and

11 “(D) shall ensure awards made under this
12 section are made to eligible entities from geo-
13 graphically diverse areas, in addition to giving
14 the priorities described in paragraph (5).

15 “(3) INITIAL AWARD PERIODS.—The Secretary
16 shall make an award under this section for an initial
17 period of not more than 4 years.

18 “(4) ADDITIONAL AWARDS.—The Secretary
19 may make, for a period of not more than 4 years,
20 1 or more additional awards to an eligible entity
21 that received an award under this section if the eligi-
22 ble entity achieved the levels of performance agreed
23 upon with the Secretary (as described in subsection
24 (e)(2)) for the most recent award period.

1 “(5) PRIORITY.—In awarding funds under this
2 section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible
3 entities whose applications submitted under sub-
4 section (c) demonstrate a commitment to use such
5 funds to implement a reentry project—

6 “(A) that will serve a high-poverty area;

7 “(B) that will enroll eligible youth or eligi-
8 ble adults—

9 “(i) prior to the release of such indi-
10 viduals from incarceration in a correctional
11 institution; or

12 “(ii) not later than 90 days after such
13 release;

14 “(C) whose strategy and design are evi-
15 dence-based;

16 “(D) for which the eligible entity will es-
17 tablish a partnership with—

18 “(i) a business;

19 “(ii) an institution of higher education
20 or provider under section 122 (as deter-
21 mined by the State where services are
22 being provided) to provide project partici-
23 pants with a program leading to a recog-
24 nized postsecondary credential in an in-de-
25 mand industry sector or occupation;

1 “(iii) a local educational agency; or

2 “(iv) an agency that receives assist-
3 ance for a program under section 225;

4 “(E) that provides training services, in-
5 cluding employment-directed skills development
6 and on-the-job training, that are designed to
7 meet the specific requirements of an employer
8 (including a group of employers), industry, or
9 sector, and are conducted with a commitment
10 by the employer to employ individuals upon suc-
11 cessful completion of the preparation; and

12 “(F) that will serve a rural area.

13 “(6) CONSTRUCTION.—

14 “(A) PROJECTS WITH INTERMEDIARIES.—

15 An intermediary who receives funds under para-
16 graph (1), to the extent that the intermediary
17 uses the funds to make direct awards to eligible
18 entities, shall carry out the functions of the
19 Secretary described in paragraphs (3), (4), and
20 (5) of this subsection, and paragraphs (1), (2)
21 (other than paragraph (2)(J)), and (4) of sub-
22 section (c).

23 “(B) REENTRY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNI-
24 TIES PROGRAM PROJECTS.—For purposes of
25 this section, a reference to an eligible entity,

1 used with respect to a youth reentry project
2 carried out under paragraph (1)(B), shall be
3 considered to be a reference to a youth project
4 eligible entity.

5 “(c) APPLICATION.—

6 “(1) FORM AND PROCEDURE.—To be qualified
7 to receive funds under this section, an eligible entity
8 shall submit an application to the Secretary at such
9 time, and in such manner, as is determined by the
10 Secretary, and containing the information described
11 in paragraph (2) and, as applicable, paragraph (3)
12 or (4).

13 “(2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted by
14 an eligible entity under paragraph (1) shall contain
15 the following:

16 “(A) A description of the eligible entity, in-
17 cluding the experience of the eligible entity in
18 providing education, employment, and training
19 services for offenders.

20 “(B) A description of the needs that will
21 be addressed by the reentry project supported
22 by the funds received under this section and the
23 target participant population and the geo-
24 graphic area to be served.

1 “(C) A description of the proposed edu-
2 cation, employment, and training services and
3 supportive services, if applicable, to be provided
4 under such reentry project, and how such ac-
5 tivities will prepare participants for employment
6 in an in-demand industry sector or occupation
7 within the geographic area to be served by such
8 reentry project.

9 “(D) The anticipated schedule for carrying
10 out the activities proposed for the reentry
11 project.

12 “(E) A description of—

13 “(i) the partnerships the eligible enti-
14 ty will establish with agencies and entities
15 within the criminal justice system, agencies
16 and entities within the juvenile justice sys-
17 tem, local boards, one-stop operators, one-
18 stop partners, community-based organiza-
19 tions, and employers (including local busi-
20 nesses) to provide participants in the re-
21 entry project with work-based learning, job
22 placement, and recruitment (if applicable);
23 and

24 “(ii) how the eligible entity will co-
25 ordinate its activities with other services

1 and benefits available to offenders in the
2 geographic area to be served by the reentry
3 project.

4 “(F) A description of the manner in which
5 individuals will be recruited and selected for
6 participation for the reentry project.

7 “(G) A detailed budget and a description
8 of the system of fiscal controls, and auditing
9 and accountability procedures, that will be used
10 to ensure fiscal soundness for the reentry
11 project.

12 “(H) A description of the proposed levels
13 of performance to be achieved with respect to
14 the indicators of performance described in sub-
15 section (e).

16 “(I) A description of the evidence-based
17 practices the eligible entity will use in adminis-
18 tration of the reentry project.

19 “(J) An assurance that the eligible entity
20 will collect, disaggregate by each subpopulation
21 of individuals with barriers to employment, and
22 by race, ethnicity, sex, and age, and report to
23 the Secretary the data required with respect to
24 the reentry project carried out by the eligible
25 entity for purposes of determining levels of per-

1 formance achieved and conducting the evalua-
2 tion under this section.

3 “(K) An assurance that the eligible entity
4 will provide a match as described in subsection
5 (d)(4).

6 “(L) A description of how the eligible enti-
7 ty plans to continue the reentry project after
8 the award period.

9 “(M) For any project offering a recognized
10 postsecondary credential, a description of how
11 the project leads to the credential.

12 “(N) For a project that also serves as a
13 program carried out under section 225, a de-
14 scription of how the award funds will be used
15 to carry out the education described in section
16 225, in conjunction with the activities described
17 in subsection (d).

18 “(3) ADDITIONAL CONTENT FOR INTER-
19 MEDIARY APPLICANTS.—An application submitted by
20 an eligible entity seeking to serve as a national or
21 regional intermediary as described in subparagraph
22 (A) or (B) of subsection (b)(1) shall also contain
23 each of the following:

24 “(A) An identification and description of
25 the eligible entities that will be subawardees of

1 such intermediary and implement the reentry
2 projects, which shall include subawardees in—

3 “(i) 3 or more noncontiguous metro-
4 politan areas or rural areas; and

5 “(ii) not fewer than 2 States.

6 “(B) A description of the services and sup-
7 ports the intermediary will provide to the sub-
8 awardees, including administrative and fiscal
9 support to ensure the subawardees comply with
10 all subaward requirements.

11 “(C) A description of how the intermediary
12 will facilitate the replication of evidence-based
13 practices or other best practices identified by
14 the intermediary across all subawardees.

15 “(D) If such intermediary is currently re-
16 ceiving, or has previously received, funds under
17 this section as an intermediary to implement a
18 reentry project, an assurance that none of the
19 subawardees identified under subparagraph (A)
20 are current or were previous subawardees of the
21 intermediary for such reentry project and failed
22 to meet the levels of performance established
23 for such reentry project.

24 “(4) ADDITIONAL CONTENT FOR YOUTH REO
25 APPLICATIONS.—An application submitted under

1 paragraph (1) by a youth project eligible entity seek-
2 ing to serve youth applicants through an award de-
3 scribed in subsection (b)(1)(B) shall also contain the
4 following:

5 “(A) A description of—

6 “(i) how the youth reentry project will
7 facilitate the enrollment of eligible youth in
8 a program of a local educational agency, a
9 program of adult education and literacy
10 activities, a YouthBuild program, the Job
11 Corps, or a program of an institution of
12 higher education;

13 “(ii) how the youth reentry project
14 will connect eligible youth with mentors or
15 peer support groups to provide guidance,
16 encouragement, and positive role modeling
17 during the reentry process;

18 “(iii) how the youth reentry project
19 will involve family members, guardians,
20 and other supportive people in an eligible
21 youth’s life in the reentry process;

22 “(iv) how the youth reentry project
23 will provide or support access to counseling
24 and substance use disorder programs for
25 an eligible youth;

1 “(v) how the youth reentry project
2 will assist eligible youth to find safe and
3 stable housing;

4 “(vi) how the youth reentry project
5 will ensure activities carried out under an
6 award described in subsection (b)(1)(B)
7 are designed to meet the needs of the pop-
8 ulation served; and

9 “(vii) the experience of the eligible en-
10 tity in providing services to youth, includ-
11 ing eligible youth, and the strategies the el-
12 igible entity will use to ensure that services
13 provided are age-appropriate for eligible
14 youth.

15 “(B) A description of how a youth project
16 eligible entity plans to provide skills develop-
17 ment, for stakeholders involved in an eligible
18 youth’s reentry, on best practices pertaining to
19 eligible youth and reentry.

20 “(d) USES OF FUNDS.—

21 “(1) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity
22 that receives funds under this section shall use such
23 funds to implement a reentry project for eligible
24 adults, eligible youth, or both, that provides each of
25 the following:

1 “(A) One or more of the individualized ca-
2 reer services listed in subclauses (I) through
3 (IX) of section 134(c)(2)(B)(vii).

4 “(B) One or more of the training services
5 listed in clauses (i) through (xi) in section
6 134(c)(3)(D), including subsidized employment
7 opportunities through transitional jobs.

8 “(C) For participants who are eligible
9 youth, 1 or more of the program elements listed
10 in subparagraphs (A) through (O) of section
11 129(c)(2).

12 “(2) ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES.—An eligible enti-
13 ty that receives funds under this section may use
14 such funds to provide to eligible adults, eligible
15 youth, or both, each of the following:

16 “(A) Followup services after placement in
17 unsubsidized employment as described in sec-
18 tion 134(c)(2)(B)(viii).

19 “(B) Apprenticeship programs.

20 “(C) Education in digital literacy skills.

21 “(D) Mentoring.

22 “(E) Assistance in obtaining employment,
23 including as a result of the eligible entity—

1 “(i) establishing and developing rela-
2 tionships and networks with large and
3 small employers; and

4 “(ii) coordinating with employers to
5 develop employer-directed skills develop-
6 ment programs and on-the-job training.

7 “(F) Assistance with driver’s license rein-
8 statement (including assistance with removing
9 or expunging records as permitted under the
10 applicable Federal or State law to facilitate that
11 reinstatement) and fees for driver’s licenses and
12 other necessary documents for employment and
13 removing barriers to employment.

14 “(G) Provision of or referral to evidence-
15 based mental health treatment by licensed prac-
16 titioners.

17 “(H) Provision of or referral to substance
18 use disorder treatment services, provided that
19 funds awarded under this section are only used
20 to provide such services to participants who are
21 unable to obtain such services through other
22 programs providing such services.

23 “(I) Provision of or referral to supportive
24 services, provided that, notwithstanding section
25 181(h)(2), no more than 10 percent of funds

1 awarded to an eligible entity under this section
2 may be used to provide such services to partici-
3 pants who may be able to obtain such services
4 through other programs providing such services.

5 “(3) ADMINISTRATIVE COST LIMIT.—An eligible
6 entity may not use more than 7 percent of the funds
7 received under this section for administrative costs,
8 including for costs related to collecting information,
9 analysis, and coordination for purposes of subsection
10 (e) or (f).

11 “(4) MATCHING.—An eligible entity shall pro-
12 vide a match, which may be provided in cash or in-
13 kind, for the costs of the project in an amount that
14 is not less than 25 percent of the total amount of
15 funds awarded to the entity under this section for
16 the period involved, except that the Secretary may
17 waive the matching requirement, on a case-by-case
18 basis and for not more than 20 percent of all awards
19 made under this section, if the eligible entity in-
20 volved demonstrates significant financial hardship.

21 “(e) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

22 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF LEVELS.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
24 establish expected levels of performance for re-
25 entry projects funded under this section for—

1 “(i) each of the primary indicators of
2 performance—

3 “(I) for adults, as described in
4 section 116(b)(2)(A)(i), for eligible
5 adults in reentry projects for eligible
6 adults or reentry projects for both eli-
7 gible adults and eligible youth; and

8 “(II) for youth, as described in
9 section 116(b)(2)(A)(ii), for eligible
10 youth in reentry projects for eligible
11 youth or reentry projects for both eli-
12 gible adults and eligible youth; and

13 “(ii) an indicator of performance es-
14 tablished by the Secretary with respect to
15 participant recidivism.

16 “(B) UPDATES.—The levels established
17 under subparagraph (A) shall be updated for
18 each 4-year-award period.

19 “(2) AGREEMENT ON LEVELS OF PERFORM-
20 ANCE.—In establishing and updating levels of per-
21 formance under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall
22 reach agreement on such levels with the eligible enti-
23 ties receiving awards under this section that will be
24 subject to such levels, based on, as the Secretary de-
25 termines relevant for each indicator of performance

1 applicable under paragraph (1), each of the fol-
2 lowing factors:

3 “(A) The proposed levels of performance of
4 each such eligible entity described in the appli-
5 cation submitted under subsection (c)(2)(H).

6 “(B) The local economic conditions of the
7 geographic area to be served by each such eligi-
8 ble entity, including differences in unemploy-
9 ment rates and job losses or gains in particular
10 industries.

11 “(C) The characteristics of project partici-
12 pants when entering the project involved, in-
13 cluding—

14 “(i) criminal records;

15 “(ii) indicators of work history;

16 “(iii) work experience;

17 “(iv) educational or occupational skills
18 attainment;

19 “(v) levels of literacy or English pro-
20 ficiency;

21 “(vi) disability status;

22 “(vii) homelessness; and

23 “(viii) receipt of public assistance.

24 “(3) FAILURE TO MEET LEVELS OF PERFORM-
25 ANCE.—In the case of an eligible entity that fails to

1 meet the levels of performance established under
2 paragraph (1) and updated to reflect the actual local
3 economic conditions and characteristics of partici-
4 pants (as described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of
5 paragraph (2)) served by the reentry project involved
6 for any award year, the Secretary shall provide tech-
7 nical assistance to the eligible entity, including the
8 development of a performance improvement plan.

9 “(f) EVALUATION OF REENTRY PROJECTS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years
11 after the first award of funds under this section is
12 made, the Secretary (acting through the Chief Eval-
13 uation Officer) shall meet each of the following re-
14 quirements:

15 “(A) DESIGN AND CONDUCT OF EVALUA-
16 TION.—Design and conduct an evaluation to
17 evaluate the effectiveness of the reentry projects
18 funded under this section, which meets the re-
19 quirements of paragraph (2), and includes an
20 evaluation of each of the following:

21 “(i) The effectiveness of such projects
22 in assisting individuals with finding unsub-
23 sidized employment, and maintaining un-
24 subsidized employment during the second

1 quarter and fourth quarter after exit from
2 the project.

3 “(ii) The effectiveness of such projects
4 in assisting individuals with earning recog-
5 nized postsecondary credentials.

6 “(iii) The effectiveness of such
7 projects in relation to their cost, including
8 the extent to which the projects improve
9 reentry outcomes, including in employ-
10 ment, compensation (which may include
11 wages earned and benefits), career ad-
12 vancement, measurable skills gains, and
13 recognized postsecondary credentials
14 earned, and including the extent to which
15 the projects reduce recidivism of partici-
16 pants in comparison to comparably situ-
17 ated individuals who did not participate in
18 such projects.

19 “(iv) The effectiveness of specific
20 services and interventions provided and of
21 the overall project design.

22 “(v) If applicable, the extent to which
23 such projects effectively serve various de-
24 mographic groups, including people of dif-
25 ferent geographic locations, ages, races,

1 national origins, and criminal records, and
2 individuals with disabilities.

3 “(vi) If applicable, the appropriate-
4 ness of the sequencing, combination, or
5 concurrent structure, of services for each
6 subpopulation of individuals who are par-
7 ticipants in such projects, such as the
8 order, combination, or concurrent structure
9 of services in which transitional jobs and
10 occupational skills development are pro-
11 vided, to ensure that such participants are
12 prepared to fully benefit from education,
13 employment, and training services provided
14 under the project.

15 “(vii) Limitations or barriers to edu-
16 cation and employment encountered by
17 participants served by the projects as a re-
18 sult of occupational or educational licens-
19 ing restrictions.

20 “(B) DATA ACCESSIBILITY.—Make avail-
21 able, on the publicly accessible website managed
22 by the Department of Labor, data collected
23 during the course of evaluation under this sub-
24 section, in an aggregated format that does not
25 disclose personally identifiable information.

1 “(2) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—An evaluation
2 under this subsection—

3 “(A) shall—

4 “(i) be designed by the Secretary (act-
5 ing through the Chief Evaluation Officer)
6 in conjunction with the eligible entities car-
7 rying out the reentry projects being evalu-
8 ated;

9 “(ii) include analysis of participant
10 feedback and outcome and process meas-
11 ures; and

12 “(iii) use designs that employ the
13 most rigorous analytical and statistical
14 methods that are reasonably feasible, such
15 as the use of control groups; and

16 “(B) may not—

17 “(i) collect personally identifiable in-
18 formation, except to the extent such infor-
19 mation is necessary to conduct the evalua-
20 tion; or

21 “(ii) reveal or share personally identi-
22 fiable information.

23 “(3) PUBLICATION AND REPORTING OF EVAL-
24 UATION FINDINGS.—The Secretary (acting through
25 the Chief Evaluation Officer) shall—

1 “(A) in accordance with the timeline deter-
2 mined to be appropriate by the Chief Evalua-
3 tion Officer, publish an interim report on such
4 evaluation;

5 “(B) not later than 90 days after the date
6 on which any evaluation is completed under this
7 subsection, publish and make publicly available
8 the results of such evaluation; and

9 “(C) not later than 60 days after the com-
10 pletion date described in subparagraph (B),
11 submit to the Committee on Education and
12 Workforce of the House of Representatives and
13 the Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
14 and Pensions of the Senate a report on such
15 evaluation.

16 “(g) ANNUAL REPORT.—

17 “(1) CONTENTS.—Subject to paragraph (2),
18 the Secretary shall post, using transparent, linked,
19 open, and interoperable data formats, on the publicly
20 accessible website described in subsection (f)(1)(B),
21 an annual report, covering the most recent program
22 preceding the report, on—

23 “(A) the number of individuals who par-
24 ticipated in projects assisted under this section
25 during the program year;

1 “(B) the percentage of such individuals
2 who successfully completed the requirements of
3 such projects;

4 “(C) the performance of eligible entities on
5 such projects as measured by the indicators of
6 performance set forth in subsection (e); and

7 “(D) an explanation of any waivers grant-
8 ed by the Secretary of the matching require-
9 ment under subsection (d)(4).

10 “(2) DISAGGREGATION.—The information pro-
11 vided under subparagraphs (A) through (C) of para-
12 graph (1) with respect to a program year shall be
13 disaggregated by each project assisted under this
14 section for such program year.

15 “(h) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Of the funds appro-
16 priated under section 175(e) for a fiscal year, the Sec-
17 retary—

18 “(1) may reserve not more than 5 percent for
19 the administration of awards made under this sec-
20 tion, of which not more than 2 percent of the appro-
21 priated funds may be reserved for the provision of—

22 “(A) technical assistance to eligible entities
23 that receive funds under this section; and

24 “(B) outreach and technical assistance to
25 eligible entities desiring to receive such funds,

1 including assistance with application develop-
2 ment and submission; and

3 “(2) shall reserve not less than 1 percent and
4 not more than 2.5 percent for the evaluation activi-
5 ties under subsection (f) or to support eligible enti-
6 ties with any required data collection, analysis, and
7 coordination related to such evaluation activities.

8 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 “(1) AWARD.—The term ‘award’ means an
10 award of funds through a grant, contract, or cooper-
11 ative agreement.

12 “(2) CHIEF EVALUATION OFFICER.—The term
13 ‘Chief Evaluation Officer’ means the head of the
14 independent evaluation office located in the Office of
15 the Assistant Secretary for Policy of the Department
16 of Labor.

17 “(3) CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION.—The term
18 ‘correctional institution’ has the meaning given the
19 term in section 225(e).

20 “(4) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
21 tity’ means—

22 “(A) a private nonprofit organization
23 under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
24 Code of 1986 that is exempt from taxation

1 under section 501(a) of such Code, including a
2 community-based or faith-based organization;

3 “(B) a local board;

4 “(C) a State or local government;

5 “(D) an Indian or Native American entity
6 eligible for grants under section 166;

7 “(E) a labor organization or joint labor-
8 management organization;

9 “(F) an industry or sector partnership;

10 “(G) an institution of higher education; or

11 “(H) a consortium of the entities described
12 in subparagraphs (A) through (G).

13 “(5) ELIGIBLE ADULT.—The term ‘eligible
14 adult’ means an offender who is age 25 or older.

15 “(6) ELIGIBLE YOUTH.—The term ‘eligible
16 youth’ means an offender who is not younger than
17 age 14 or older than age 24.

18 “(7) HIGH-POVERTY.—The term ‘high-poverty’,
19 when used with respect to a geographic area, means
20 an area with a poverty rate of at least 20 percent
21 as determined based on the most recently available
22 data from the American Community Survey con-
23 ducted by the Bureau of the Census.

24 “(8) OFFENDER.—Notwithstanding section 3,
25 the term ‘offender’ means—

1 “(A) an individual of any age who—

2 “(i) not more than 5 years before en-
3 rollment in a project funded under sub-
4 section (b)(1)—

5 “(I) was released from incarcer-
6 ation in a correctional institution (in-
7 cluding being enrolled in a work re-
8 lease center at the institution); or

9 “(II) finished serving an alter-
10 native sentence, or a sentence to a di-
11 version program, ordered through the
12 adult criminal justice system; or

13 “(ii) on such date of enrollment, is
14 subject to the adult criminal justice sys-
15 tem, including an individual who—

16 “(I) is incarcerated in a correc-
17 tional institution (including being en-
18 rolled in a work release center at the
19 institution), but is scheduled to be re-
20 leased not more than 180 days after
21 such date of enrollment;

22 “(II) is residing in a residential
23 reentry center;

24 “(III) is subject to electronic or
25 home-based monitoring;

1 “(IV) is in the community on
2 probation or parole; or

3 “(V) is serving an alternative
4 sentence, or a sentence to a diversion
5 program, ordered through that sys-
6 tem; or

7 “(B) an individual who—

8 “(i) is not younger than age 14 or
9 older than age 24; and

10 “(ii) has been—

11 “(I) charged with, or convicted
12 of, any criminal offense; or

13 “(II) charged with, detained for,
14 or adjudicated of, a delinquent act or
15 status offense in a juvenile court.

16 “(9) YOUTH PROJECT ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The
17 term ‘youth project eligible entity’ means—

18 “(A) an organization described in section
19 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
20 that is exempt from taxation under section
21 501(a) of such Code; or

22 “(B) a State or local juvenile justice agen-
23 cy, or a State or local adult correctional agency
24 with a focus on eligible youth.”.

1 **SEC. 178. YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP READINESS GRANT**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 Subtitle D of title I of the Workforce Innovation and
4 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3221 et seq.) is further
5 amended by inserting after section 172, as added by the
6 preceding section, the following:

7 **“SEC. 173. YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP READINESS GRANT**
8 **PROGRAM.**

9 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

10 “(1) to increase earnings and employment for
11 in-school youth and out-of-school youth, ages 16
12 through 24, through enrollment in and completion of
13 evidence-based pre-apprenticeship programs and ap-
14 prenticeship programs that serve youth;

15 “(2) to engage educational entities, organiza-
16 tions carrying out programs that serve out-of-school
17 youth, local educational agencies, State boards, local
18 boards, employers, workforce partners (including
19 one-stop partners), and other apprenticeship inter-
20 mediaries, to establish innovative models for pre-ap-
21 prenticeship programs and apprenticeship programs
22 that serve youth, including coordinating with pro-
23 grams that offer supportive services that can enable
24 participation in and completion of the program; and

25 “(3) to promote alignment between education
26 and workforce development systems (such as

1 through public-private partnerships) to enable in-
2 school youth and out-of-school youth to participate
3 in postsecondary education and career pathways, in-
4 cluding apprenticeships, that result in careers.

5 “(b) YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP READINESS GRANT
6 PROGRAM.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts made
8 available to carry out this section under section
9 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and Work-
10 force Improvement Act (29 U.S.C. 3224a) and not
11 reserved under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall,
12 on a competitive basis, make grants to eligible enti-
13 ties for projects to develop new or expand existing
14 pre-apprenticeship programs and apprenticeships
15 that serve youth.

16 “(2) ADMINISTRATIVE RESERVATION.—Of the
17 amounts made available to carry out this section, the
18 Secretary may reserve not more than 5 percent for
19 the administration of grants made under this sec-
20 tion, including—

21 “(A) not more than 3 percent for the pro-
22 vision of technical assistance to eligible entities
23 during the application period or the implemen-
24 tation phase of such grant; and

1 “(B) not more than 2 percent for evalua-
2 tions of employment and earnings outcomes de-
3 scribed in clauses (vi), (vii), and (viii) of sub-
4 section (e)(2)(B), identifying best practices, and
5 facilitating the sharing of best practices among
6 eligible entities by carrying out the identifica-
7 tion and dissemination described in subsection
8 (f)(2).

9 “(3) GRANT PERIOD.—The Secretary shall
10 make such a grant for a period of not more than 4
11 years and may extend the grant for a period of not
12 more than 2 additional years if the grant recipient
13 is making progress in achieving the objectives of the
14 project’s identified programs.

15 “(4) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this
16 section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible
17 entities that—

18 “(A) serve an area with significant work-
19 force shortages in the industry sector or occu-
20 pation for which the eligible entity proposes to
21 establish an identified program;

22 “(B) propose to expand or have a dem-
23 onstrated track record of expanding employ-
24 ment opportunities and career pathways for in-
25 dividuals with a barrier to employment;

1 “(C) propose to primarily serve a popu-
2 lation that is located in a rural or urban com-
3 munity and has an area median household in-
4 come of not more than 150 percent of the pov-
5 erty line; or

6 “(D) include within the eligible entity a
7 high-need local educational agency or a high-
8 need educational service agency.

9 “(5) MATCHING REQUIREMENT FOR GRANTS.—
10 In order to receive a grant from the Secretary under
11 this section, an eligible entity shall provide a non-
12 Federal contribution, which may be provided in cash
13 or in-kind, for the costs of the project in an amount
14 that is not less than 25 percent of the total amount
15 of funds awarded to the entity for such period.

16 “(c) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that desires to
17 receive a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
18 tion to the Secretary at such time and in such manner
19 as the Secretary may require and shall include the fol-
20 lowing:

21 “(1)(A) A description of the eligible entity’s
22 proposed project, to be supported by such grant, in-
23 cluding a provision identifying whether such project
24 will develop or expand 1 or more pre-apprenticeship

1 programs or 1 or more apprenticeship programs that
2 serve youth.

3 “(B) Except in the case of an identified program by
4 an eligible entity described in subsection (i)(5)(A)(i) that
5 is an apprenticeship program that serves youth and re-
6 quires each enrolled youth apprentice to have a regular
7 high school diploma (or recognized equivalent) as a condi-
8 tion of enrollment, an assurance that each identified pro-
9 gram will be designed to enable—

10 “(i) in-school youth to receive a regular high
11 school diploma (in partnership with the local edu-
12 cational agency that serves such youth) and receive
13 a recognized postsecondary credential (other than
14 such a credential that is a baccalaureate degree)
15 upon completion of the program; or

16 “(ii) out-of-school youth to receive a high school
17 diploma or recognized equivalent and receive a rec-
18 ognized postsecondary credential (other than such a
19 credential that is a baccalaureate degree) upon com-
20 pletion of the program.

21 “(2) A description of the eligible entity and a
22 description of how such eligible entity will—

23 “(A) engage with employers to develop or
24 expand, and sustain, each identified program;
25 and

1 “(B) combine academic, career and tech-
2 nical education, or related classroom instruction
3 with on-the-job training, allowing youth to de-
4 velop industry-specific or occupation-specific
5 workplace competencies and skills.

6 “(3) A description of the need for and design
7 of the project, including—

8 “(A) a description of the specific youth
9 population to be served by the project, includ-
10 ing—

11 “(i) the subgroups of participants in
12 the population and skill levels of such par-
13 ticipants, and whether such participants
14 are in-school youth or out-of-school youth;

15 “(ii) how the project will increase em-
16 ployment opportunities for youth who are
17 individuals with a barrier to employment
18 and youth from different subgroups of par-
19 ticipants; and

20 “(iii) how the eligible entity will en-
21 sure that a wide range of youth, including
22 youth who are individuals with a barrier to
23 employment and youth from different sub-
24 groups of participants, are able to partici-
25 pate in each identified program;

1 “(B) a description of the industry sector or
2 occupation targeted through the eligible entity’s
3 proposed project, the projected demand for the
4 project in the area served by the eligible entity,
5 and a citation of the data source for the pro-
6 jected demand;

7 “(C) a description of the on-the-job train-
8 ing portion of the project, including a list of the
9 partners responsible for providing the on-the-
10 job training, and how such training will be de-
11 signed flexibly to meet the needs and schedule
12 of in-school youth and out-of-school youth;

13 “(D) a description of the related classroom
14 instruction portion of the project, including—

15 “(i) how coursework for that instruc-
16 tion will be integrated into each identified
17 program and developed in conjunction with
18 and provided by education and training
19 providers that are or are within the eligible
20 entity, the specific partners that will pro-
21 vide the related classroom instruction, and
22 (as applicable) how the program may be
23 aligned with the programs of early college
24 high schools or dual or concurrent enroll-
25 ment programs to support youth pre-ap-

1 prentices or apprentices involved in earning
2 postsecondary credit;

3 “(ii) with respect to an identified
4 project by an eligible entity described in
5 subsection (i)(5)(A)(ii) that is designed to
6 serve in-school youth, a description of how
7 the eligible entity, through the project, will
8 partner with the local educational agency
9 that serves such youth to align challenging
10 State academic standards and occupational
11 skill standards to enable such youth to ob-
12 tain a regular high school diploma while
13 served by the program; and

14 “(iii) an explanation of how the
15 project will combine academic, career and
16 technical education, or related classroom
17 instruction with on-the-job training;

18 “(E) a description of the proposed sup-
19 portive services strategy for the youth pre-ap-
20 prentices or apprentices involved, how the
21 project will partner with or refer youth pre-ap-
22 prentices or apprentices to entities in the area
23 served by the eligible entity that provide sup-
24 portive services, how such supportive services
25 will promote retention in and completion of the

1 identified program involved, and the projected
2 Federal, State, and local costs of such sup-
3 portive services;

4 “(F) if the eligible entity proposes to oper-
5 ate an apprenticeship program that serves
6 youth—

7 “(i) the youth apprenticeship agree-
8 ment the eligible entity intends to use;

9 “(ii) a description of how such eligible
10 entity will incorporate into the apprentice-
11 ship program recognized postsecondary
12 credentials that enable youth apprentices
13 to articulate to employment or higher level
14 degree or other credential programs for
15 multiple pathways, including enrollment in
16 postsecondary education and employment;
17 and

18 “(iii) if the eligible entity proposes to
19 develop a new apprenticeship program that
20 serves youth, a description of how the lead
21 applicant and partners will register such
22 new program with the Office of Appren-
23 ticeship or State apprenticeship agency
24 and ensure the employer or sponsor is in
25 compliance with the standards and require-

1 ments of a registered apprenticeship under
2 the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly
3 known as the ‘National Apprenticeship
4 Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C.
5 50 et seq.), and that youth apprentices will
6 earn a recognized postsecondary credential;
7 and

8 “(G) if the eligible entity proposes to oper-
9 ate a pre-apprenticeship program—

10 “(i) a description of how the eligible
11 entity, through the program, will connect
12 participants to and prepare participants
13 for an apprenticeship program; and

14 “(ii) an explanation of how the eligible
15 entity, in carrying out the project involved,
16 will work with alternative and non-tradi-
17 tional schools, institutions of higher edu-
18 cation, and out-of-school youth programs.

19 “(4) A description of how the eligible entity will
20 promote alignment between local or State education
21 and workforce development systems by supporting
22 policies or practices that facilitate transitions from
23 secondary school (including alternative and nontradi-
24 tional schools) and pre-apprenticeship programs to

1 apprenticeship programs and postsecondary edu-
2 cation.

3 “(5) A description of expected outcomes and
4 outputs from the project that includes—

5 “(A) an attestation that the eligible entity
6 will report to the Secretary, in a timely and
7 complete manner, the information required
8 under subsection (e); and

9 “(B) estimated levels of performance over
10 each year of the grant period for each of the in-
11 dicators described in subparagraphs (B) and
12 (C) of subsection (e)(2).

13 “(6) A description of the roles and responsibil-
14 ities of each entity involved in the project, including
15 any such entity that is a State or local government
16 entity, qualified intermediary, service provider, inde-
17 pendent evaluator, or other stakeholder.

18 “(7) An attestation that the eligible entity has,
19 or will attempt to develop, a memorandum of under-
20 standing with any relevant State workforce agency
21 to facilitate matches to wage record data for youth
22 pre-apprentices or apprentices to obtain the nec-
23 essary information to fulfill the requirements of sub-
24 section (e)(2).

1 “(8) The total intended budget for the project,
2 including a description of any additional resources
3 that may supplement the amount awarded under
4 this section, including any funds the eligible entity
5 intends to use to fulfill the matching funds require-
6 ment described under subsection (b)(5), and a de-
7 scription of the eligible entity’s plan to sustain the
8 project funded through the grant beyond the conclu-
9 sion of the grant period.

10 “(9) For any program offering a recognized
11 postsecondary credential, a description of how the
12 program leads to the credential.

13 “(d) USES OF FUNDS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity receiving
15 a grant under this section shall use the grant funds
16 to carry out the project proposed under subsection
17 (c) for purposes of carrying out 1 or more of the fol-
18 lowing activities:

19 “(A) Develop or expand a pre-apprentice-
20 ship program.

21 “(B) Develop or expand an apprenticeship
22 program that serves youth, including registering
23 such a program and its youth apprentices
24 through the Office of Apprenticeship or an ap-
25 plicable State apprenticeship agency.

1 “(2) ADDITIONAL USES.—An eligible entity re-
2 ceiving a grant under this section may use the grant
3 funds, for each identified program, to—

4 “(A) recruit youth to and enroll youth in
5 an identified program, including conducting
6 outreach to individuals with a barrier to em-
7 ployment and individuals preparing for non-
8 traditional employment (when the identified
9 program is in such field);

10 “(B) conduct participant assessments to
11 determine skill levels;

12 “(C) support the provision of on-the-job
13 training for participants in accordance with
14 subsection (c)(3)(C), including by developing or
15 modifying training activities to meet the needs
16 of participants, as applicable;

17 “(D) support the provision of related class-
18 room instruction by education and training pro-
19 viders for participants in accordance with sub-
20 section (c)(3)(D), including—

21 “(i) the development of courses at the
22 secondary level—

23 “(I) that are aligned with re-
24 quirements to obtain a regular high

1 school diploma and integrated into the
2 identified program; and

3 “(II) that may be aligned with
4 the requirements of early college high
5 schools or dual or concurrent enroll-
6 ment programs to support youth pre-
7 apprentices or youth apprentices in-
8 volved in earning postsecondary cred-
9 it;

10 “(ii) if the identified program is de-
11 signed to serve in-school youth, the align-
12 ment of challenging State academic stand-
13 ards and occupational skill standards in
14 secondary education;

15 “(iii) payment of participant tuition
16 or other educational fees for projects; and

17 “(iv) the provision of instructional
18 materials, equipment, and educational
19 technology for such instruction;

20 “(E) provide supportive services such as
21 transportation, child care, dependent care,
22 housing, and needs-related payments to enable
23 youth to participate in and complete the edu-
24 cation and training activities of the identified
25 program;

1 “(F) provide professional development op-
2 portunities for secondary and postsecondary
3 educators, and employers and mentors in the
4 project, to prepare the educators, employers,
5 and mentors to effectively support youth par-
6 ticipating in the identified program;

7 “(G) increase awareness among parents,
8 educators, students (especially individuals with
9 a barrier to employment, individuals from un-
10 derserved populations, and individuals from
11 nontraditional apprenticeship populations), and
12 employers or apprenticeship sponsors in the tar-
13 geted service area about the benefits of youth
14 participating in a pre-apprenticeship program
15 or an apprenticeship program that serves youth;

16 “(H) promote innovation, inclusion in the
17 identified program, and alignment of the pro-
18 gram with programs authorized under the Carl
19 D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act
20 of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.); and

21 “(I) develop and integrate data collection
22 systems, including within a statewide longitu-
23 dinal data system, to track educational and em-
24 ployment outcomes of participants in the identi-
25 fied program.

1 “(3) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—An eligible entity
2 receiving a grant under this section may use, as pro-
3 vided in paragraph (2)(E), not more than 15 percent
4 of grant funds awarded under this section to provide
5 supportive services in accordance with that para-
6 graph.

7 “(e) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

8 “(1) TARGETED LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity re-
10 ceiving a grant under this section shall, in ac-
11 cordance with the indicators for participant out-
12 comes described in paragraph (2)(B) and for
13 program outputs described in paragraph (2)(C),
14 identify targeted levels of performance for such
15 indicators, which shall, at minimum, be equal to
16 or greater than the estimated levels of perform-
17 ance identified by the eligible entity in the enti-
18 ty’s application under subsection (c)(5).

19 “(B) AGREEMENT ON TARGETED LEVELS
20 OF PERFORMANCE.—Not later than 2 months
21 after the identification described in subpara-
22 graph (A), the eligible entity shall reach an
23 agreement with the Secretary on levels of per-
24 formance for each indicator described in sub-
25 paragraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (2).

1 “(2) ANNUAL RECIPIENT REPORT.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years
3 after receipt of a grant under this section and
4 annually thereafter, the eligible entity shall pre-
5 pare and submit to the Secretary a report eval-
6 uating the performance and impact of the
7 project funded through the grant with respect
8 to participant outcome and program output in-
9 dicators described in subparagraphs (B) and
10 (C), disaggregated by the subgroups of partici-
11 pants subject to paragraph (3).

12 “(B) PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES.—Con-
13 sistent with subparagraph (A), an eligible entity
14 receiving a grant under this section shall report
15 to the Secretary data, for each identified pro-
16 gram carried out by the eligible entity, on par-
17 ticipant outcome indicators for each such pro-
18 gram consisting of the—

19 “(i) total participants served and en-
20 rolled in any identified program,
21 disaggregated by youth pre-apprentices
22 and apprentices;

23 “(ii) retention rate during each fiscal
24 year of participants enrolled in any identi-
25 fied program in the project that have not

1 completed such program, compared to that
2 retention rate for the previous fiscal year,
3 disaggregated by youth pre-apprentices
4 and apprentices;

5 “(iii) total participants who attain a
6 regular high school diploma or recognized
7 equivalent, disaggregated by youth pre-ap-
8 prentices and apprentices;

9 “(iv) total participants who complete
10 such an identified program;

11 “(v) total participants who receive an
12 associate or baccalaureate degree or other
13 type of recognized postsecondary credential
14 during or upon completion of the identified
15 program;

16 “(vi) median hourly wage of youth
17 pre-apprentices (as applicable) or youth
18 apprentices on the date of exit from the
19 identified program and during the second
20 and fourth quarters after exit from the
21 program, and a comparison of such wage
22 to the local median hourly wage for the in-
23 dustry sector or occupation for which the
24 identified program is targeted;

1 “(vii) total participants in employ-
2 ment during the second and fourth quarter
3 after exit from the program; and

4 “(viii) total participants who complete
5 a pre-apprenticeship program,
6 disaggregated by the type of education,
7 skills development, and apprenticeship op-
8 portunities or employment pursued by such
9 youth pre-apprentices after such comple-
10 tion.

11 “(C) PROGRAM OUTPUTS.—Consistent
12 with subparagraph (A), an eligible entity receiv-
13 ing a grant under this section shall report to
14 the Secretary data on program output indica-
15 tors consisting of the—

16 “(i) total number of all identified pro-
17 grams developed or expanded during the
18 period covered by the report, disaggregated
19 by pre-apprenticeship programs and ap-
20 prenticeship programs that serve youth;

21 “(ii) total number of apprenticeships
22 that serve youth, if applicable, that were
23 developed or expanded during that period,
24 including an apprenticeship program ex-
25 panded as described in subsection (d)(1) to

1 new industry sectors, occupations, or serv-
2 ice areas;

3 “(iii) total number of employers who
4 became engaged in an identified program
5 during that period, as a direct result of a
6 grant under this section; and

7 “(iv) for each year of the period cov-
8 ered by the report, the total share of the
9 grant received under this section spent by
10 the eligible entity on the uses of funds de-
11 scribed under subparagraphs (C) and (D)
12 of subsection (d)(2).

13 “(3) DISAGGREGATION.—The disaggregation of
14 data under paragraph (2) shall not be required in a
15 case where the number of participants in the sub-
16 group of participants is insufficient to yield statis-
17 tically reliable information or the results would re-
18 veal personally identifiable information about an in-
19 dividual participant.

20 “(4) USE OF RESULTS.—

21 “(A) EVALUATION.—

22 “(i) ANNUAL EVALUATION.—Not later
23 than 2 years after the date of enactment
24 of the A Stronger Workforce for America
25 Act of 2026 and annually thereafter, the

1 Secretary shall evaluate whether each eligi-
2 ble entity involved met the agreed levels of
3 performance described in paragraph (1)(B)
4 for each of the eligible entity's identified
5 programs.

6 “(ii) END OF PROGRAM EVALUA-
7 TION.—Not later than 30 days after each
8 cohort of participants completes an eligible
9 entity's identified program, the Secretary
10 shall evaluate whether the eligible entity
11 met the agreed levels of performance for
12 that identified program.

13 “(B) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—If the
14 Secretary determines under subparagraph (A)
15 that an eligible entity fails to meet 1 or more
16 of the agreed levels of performance for an iden-
17 tified program, the Secretary shall provide tech-
18 nical assistance, including assistance in the de-
19 velopment of a performance improvement plan.

20 “(C) NONRENEWAL OF GRANT.—If the
21 Secretary determines, 1 year after the eligible
22 entity receives that technical assistance and im-
23 plements that plan, that the eligible entity fails
24 to meet the agreed levels of performance de-
25 scribed in paragraph (1)(B) for an identified

1 program, the Secretary shall not extend a grant
2 for that eligible entity for that program under
3 subsection (b).

4 “(f) EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS.—

5 “(1) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
6 24 months after the date of enactment of the A
7 Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026 and
8 annually thereafter, the Secretary, in coordination
9 with the Secretary of Education, using data reported
10 by eligible entities pursuant to the requirements
11 under subsection (e)—

12 “(A) shall publish the data;

13 “(B) shall prepare and make publicly avail-
14 able a report containing the data on the indica-
15 tors described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of
16 subsection (e)(2); and

17 “(C) shall submit the report to the Com-
18 mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
19 sions of the Senate and the Committee on Edu-
20 cation and Workforce of the House of Rep-
21 resentatives.

22 “(2) SHARING OF BEST PRACTICES.—Not later
23 than 2 years after the date of enactment of the A
24 Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026, the
25 Secretary shall use funds reserved under subsection

1 (b)(2)(C) to identify and disseminate, through a
2 website developed by the Department of Labor, best
3 practices in developing and expanding pre-appren-
4 ticeship opportunities or apprenticeship opportuni-
5 ties for youth used by—

6 “(A) eligible entities receiving a grant
7 under this section; and

8 “(B) States and local areas adopting inno-
9 vative and effective practices to develop and ex-
10 pand such opportunities.

11 “(g) COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS AND AGREE-
12 MENTS.—

13 “(1) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.—Nothing in a
14 youth apprenticeship agreement under this section
15 shall be construed to invalidate an applicable provi-
16 sion in a collective bargaining agreement, between
17 employers and employees, that establishes higher
18 standards for programs in the national apprentice-
19 ship system.

20 “(2) CHILD LABOR.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity car-
22 rying out a project under this section shall en-
23 sure compliance with the provisions on child
24 labor under the Fair Labor Standards Act of
25 1938 (29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) and State law (in-

1 including Federal and State regulations under
2 those laws), and with State workers' compensa-
3 tion laws.

4 “(B) MINIMUM LEGAL AGE.—The eligible
5 entity shall only serve in-school youth, and out-
6 of-school youth, who are not younger than the
7 minimum legal age to be employed as appren-
8 tices under the Fair Labor Standards Act of
9 1938 (29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) and any applica-
10 ble State laws.

11 “(C) PRE-APPRENTICESHIP EXCEPTION.—
12 An eligible entity that prepares or intends to
13 prepare individuals for a covered occupation
14 may submit an application under subsection (c)
15 to develop or expand a pre-apprenticeship pro-
16 gram that serves a youth who is younger than
17 the age of 18 only if the program is limited to
18 classroom instruction in the covered occupation.

19 “(h) SPECIAL RULES REGARDING PROTECTIONS FOR
20 YOUTH IN PROGRAMS THAT PREPARE YOUTH FOR COV-
21 ERED OCCUPATIONS.—

22 “(1) PRE-APPRENTICESHIPS IN COVERED OCCU-
23 PATIONS FOR YOUTH UNDER THE AGE OF 18.—A
24 pre-apprenticeship program supported using funds
25 awarded under this section that serves or intends to

1 serve a youth who is younger than the age of 18 and
2 prepares such youth for a covered occupation may
3 only provide classroom instruction to such youth in
4 such program and may not provide on-the-job train-
5 ing in a covered occupation to such youth in such
6 program.

7 “(2) PROHIBITION ON YOUTH APPRENTICE-
8 SHIPS IN COVERED OCCUPATIONS FOR YOUTH
9 UNDER THE AGE OF 18.—An apprenticeship pro-
10 gram that serves youth that is supported using
11 funds awarded under this section and that prepares
12 a youth apprentice for a covered occupation may not
13 enroll in such program a youth who is younger than
14 the age of 18.

15 “(3) APPRENTICESHIPS FOR YOUTH UNDER
16 THE AGE OF 18.—An apprenticeship program sup-
17 ported using funds awarded under this section may
18 serve youth who are not younger than age 16 or
19 older than age 17, provided that such program is
20 not preparing such youth for a covered occupation.

21 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 “(1) APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM THAT SERVES
23 YOUTH.—The term ‘apprenticeship program that
24 serves youth’ means a registered apprenticeship pro-
25 gram registered by the Office of Apprenticeship or

1 a State apprenticeship agency under the Act of Au-
2 gust 16, 1937 (commonly known as the ‘National
3 Apprenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29
4 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), that is designed for youth not
5 younger than age 16 or older than age 24.

6 “(2) COVERED OCCUPATION.—The term ‘cov-
7 ered occupation’ means an occupation in—

8 “(A) manufacturing;

9 “(B) construction;

10 “(C) mining;

11 “(D) trenching or excavation;

12 “(E) logging or an occupation related to
13 timber;

14 “(F) work involving a saw mill;

15 “(G) work involving the operation of heavy
16 machinery;

17 “(H) work involving exposure to radio-
18 active substances or to ionizing radiations;

19 “(I) meat processing;

20 “(J) demolition;

21 “(K) explosives; or

22 “(L) work in any industry sector or occu-
23 pation that is prohibited to a youth who is
24 younger than the age of 18 under the laws or
25 policies of the State where the work occurs.

1 “(3) CTE TERMS.—The terms ‘Tribally con-
2 trolled college or university’ and ‘Tribally controlled
3 postsecondary career and technical institution’ have
4 the meanings given the terms ‘tribally controlled col-
5 lege or university’ and ‘tribally controlled postsec-
6 ondary career and technical institution’, respectively,
7 in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
8 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

9 “(4) EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROVIDER.—
10 The term ‘education and training provider’ means—

11 “(A) an area career and technical edu-
12 cation school;

13 “(B) an early college high school;

14 “(C) a provider of a dual or concurrent en-
15 rollment program;

16 “(D) a community-based organization that
17 offers job training;

18 “(E) a high school operated by a local edu-
19 cational agency;

20 “(F) a local educational agency, edu-
21 cational service agency, or State educational
22 agency;

23 “(G) a Tribal education agency (meaning
24 such an agency within the meaning of section
25 3(20)(E) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and

1 Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C.
2 2302(20)(E))), Tribally controlled college or
3 university, or Tribally controlled postsecondary
4 career and technical institution;

5 “(H) the Bureau of Indian Education;

6 “(I) an institution of higher education;

7 “(J) a State entity that coordinates higher
8 education, such as a community college system
9 office, a single State educational board, or
10 State higher education agency (as defined in
11 section 103 of the Higher Education Act of
12 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003));

13 “(K) a historically Black college or univer-
14 sity, meaning a part B institution as defined in
15 section 322 of the Higher Education Act of
16 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061);

17 “(L) a minority-serving institution;

18 “(M) a local agency administering plans
19 under title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
20 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.), other than section 112
21 or part C of that title (29 U.S.C. 732, 741);

22 “(N) a related integrated instruction pro-
23 vider, including a qualified intermediary acting
24 as a related integrated instruction provider as
25 approved by the Office of Apprenticeship or a

1 State apprenticeship agency recognized by the
2 Secretary;

3 “(O) a consortium of entities described in
4 any of subparagraphs (A) through (N); or

5 “(P) as used with respect to an eligible en-
6 tity described in paragraph (5)(A)(i), the joint
7 labor-management organization that is such eli-
8 gible entity.

9 “(5) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible en-
11 tity’ means—

12 “(i) a joint labor-management organi-
13 zation; or

14 “(ii) a partnership that—

15 “(I) shall include as the lead ap-
16 plicant 1 entity that is—

17 “(aa) an education and
18 training provider;

19 “(bb) a workforce develop-
20 ment system entity;

21 “(cc) a qualified inter-
22 mediary;

23 “(dd) a State agency of the
24 State in which the partnership is
25 located; or

1 “(ee) a joint labor-manage-
2 ment organization;

3 “(II) shall include as a partner—

4 “(aa) at least 1 employer or
5 an industry or trade association
6 that represents at least 2 employ-
7 ers;

8 “(bb) an education and
9 training provider;

10 “(cc) the State apprentice-
11 ship agency;

12 “(dd) a local board or the
13 State board;

14 “(ee) a local educational
15 agency, if the partnership is serv-
16 ing in-school youth; or

17 “(ff) a qualified inter-
18 mediary; and

19 “(III) may include as an addi-
20 tional partner—

21 “(aa) the State educational
22 agency;

23 “(bb) an institution of high-
24 er education;

25 “(cc) an Indian Tribe;

1 “(dd) the State entity that
2 coordinates higher education,
3 such as a community college sys-
4 tem office, a single State edu-
5 cational board, or State higher
6 education agency (as defined in
7 section 103 of the Higher Edu-
8 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
9 1003));

10 “(ee) a community-based or-
11 ganization that offers job train-
12 ing; or

13 “(ff) a joint labor-manage-
14 ment organization.

15 “(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—For pur-
16 poses of this section, a reference to a lead appli-
17 cant, partner, or partnership between a lead ap-
18 plicant and partners, with respect to an eligible
19 entity described in subparagraph (A)(i), shall be
20 deemed to be a reference to the eligible entity.

21 “(6) ESEA TERMS.—The terms ‘dual or con-
22 current enrollment program’, ‘early college high
23 school’, ‘educational service agency’, and ‘high
24 school’ have the meanings given the terms in section

1 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education
2 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

3 “(7) GRANT.—The term ‘grant’ means a con-
4 tract, cooperative agreement, or award.

5 “(8) HIGH-NEED EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGEN-
6 CY.—The term ‘high-need educational service agen-
7 cy’ means an educational service agency that serves
8 a significant number or percentage of high-need
9 local educational agencies.

10 “(9) HIGH-NEED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-
11 CY.—The term ‘high-need local educational agency’
12 has the meaning given the term in section 200 of the
13 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1021).

14 “(10) IDENTIFIED PROGRAM.—The term ‘iden-
15 tified program’ means a pre-apprenticeship program,
16 or youth program that serves youth, that is proposed
17 to be carried out by an eligible entity in an applica-
18 tion approved under subsection (c) for a project.

19 “(11) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The
20 term ‘minority-serving institution’ means an institu-
21 tion defined in any of paragraphs (1) through (7) of
22 section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
23 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

24 “(12) NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM.—
25 The term ‘national apprenticeship system’ means the

1 apprenticeship programs, apprenticeship programs
2 that serve youth, and pre-apprenticeship programs
3 that are approved by the Office of Apprenticeship or
4 State apprenticeship agencies.

5 “(13) PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—The
6 term ‘pre-apprenticeship program’ means a program
7 that—

8 “(A) prepares youth to enroll in and com-
9 plete an apprenticeship program;

10 “(B) maintains a written partnership with
11 an apprenticeship program; and

12 “(C) in the case of a program with respect
13 to a covered occupation, is provided only
14 through classroom instruction for any youth
15 pre-apprentice who is younger than the age of
16 18.

17 “(14) QUALIFIED INTERMEDIARY.—The term
18 ‘qualified intermediary’—

19 “(A) means a nonprofit entity operating in
20 a State or local area that demonstrates exper-
21 tise and experience in serving participants, em-
22 ployers, and schools by—

23 “(i) building, sustaining, measuring,
24 and improving the quality and performance

1 of apprenticeship programs that serve
2 youth;

3 “(ii) assisting in the design, approval,
4 registration, and implementation of ap-
5 prenticeship programs that serve youth, in-
6 cluding program development and meeting
7 program requirements, including registra-
8 tion and reporting requirements;

9 “(iii) in collaboration with 1 or more
10 State educational agencies, local edu-
11 cational agencies, or institutions of higher
12 education included in the eligible entity in-
13 volved, providing collaborative professional
14 development activities such as training for
15 workplace supervisors, mentors, counselors,
16 and teachers, instructors, and other edu-
17 cators;

18 “(iv) supporting the recruitment for,
19 retention in, and completion of apprentice-
20 ship programs that serve youth with re-
21 spect to potential or enrolled youth appren-
22 tices, including youth apprentices who are
23 from low-income backgrounds or members
24 of nontraditional apprenticeship popu-
25 lations;

1 “(v) developing and providing sup-
2 portive services including by partnering
3 with organizations to provide access to or
4 referrals for supportive services, financial
5 literacy services, and other support based
6 upon needs of potential or enrolled youth
7 apprentices; or

8 “(vi) serving as a program sponsor;
9 and

10 “(B) may consist of—

11 “(i) a joint labor-management organi-
12 zation;

13 “(ii) a community-based organization;
14 or

15 “(iii) an industry association.

16 “(15) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of
17 the several States of the United States, the District
18 of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and
19 an outlying area.

20 “(16) STATE AGENCY.—The term ‘State agen-
21 cy’ means a State educational agency, State work-
22 force agency, or State apprenticeship agency.

23 “(17) STATE APPRENTICESHIP AGENCY.—The
24 term ‘State apprenticeship agency’ means an agency
25 of a State government that has been authorized by

1 the Office of Apprenticeship to register and oversee
2 apprenticeship programs and has the responsibility
3 and accountability for apprenticeship programs with-
4 in the State.

5 “(18) SUBGROUP OF PARTICIPANTS.—The term
6 ‘subgroup of participants’ means—

7 “(A) in-school youth;

8 “(B) out-of-school youth; and

9 “(C) each of the special populations, as de-
10 fined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career
11 and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20
12 U.S.C. 2302).

13 “(19) WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM EN-
14 TITY.—The term ‘workforce development system en-
15 tity’ means an entity that is involved in admin-
16 istering a workforce development system established
17 under this Act, which shall be a State board, a local
18 board, or an Indian Tribe, Tribal organization, or
19 Native Hawaiian organization, as defined in section
20 166(b).

21 “(20) YOUTH.—The term ‘youth’ means an in-
22 dividual who is not younger than age 16 or older
23 than age 24.

24 “(21) YOUTH APPRENTICE.—The term ‘youth’,
25 used with respect to an apprentice, means a youth

1 who is participating in an apprenticeship program
2 that serves youth.

3 “(22) YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP AGREEMENT.—

4 The term ‘youth apprenticeship agreement’ means a
5 written agreement under subsection (c)(3)(F) that is
6 agreed to by each of the following:

7 “(A) A youth.

8 “(B) The youth’s parent or legal guardian,
9 as applicable.

10 “(C) One or more local educational agen-
11 cies, if the eligible entity involved is serving in-
12 school youth.

13 “(D) The youth apprenticeship sponsor,
14 which may be an employer.

15 “(E) As applicable, a qualified inter-
16 mediary for an apprenticeship program that
17 serves youth.

18 “(F) As applicable, one or more institu-
19 tions of higher education.

20 “(G) As applicable, one or more employers.

21 “(23) YOUTH PRE-APPRENTICE.—The term
22 ‘youth’, used with respect to a pre-apprentice, means
23 a youth who is participating in a pre-apprenticeship
24 program.”.

1 **SEC. 179. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COLLEGES GRANT**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 Subtitle D of title I of the Workforce Innovation and
4 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3221 et seq.) is further
5 amended by inserting after section 173, as added by the
6 preceding section, the following:

7 **“SEC. 174. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COLLEGES WORK-**
8 **FORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM.**

9 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

10 “(1) to establish, improve, or expand high-qual-
11 ity workforce development programs at community
12 colleges; and

13 “(2) to expand opportunities for individuals to
14 obtain recognized postsecondary credentials that are
15 nationally or regionally portable and stackable for
16 high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors
17 or occupations.

18 “(b) STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COLLEGES
19 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appro-
21 priated to carry out this section under section 175(f)
22 and not reserved under paragraph (2), the Secretary
23 shall, on a competitive basis, make grants to eligible
24 institutions to carry out the activities described in
25 subsection (e).

1 “(2) RESERVATION.—Of the amounts appro-
2 priated to carry out this section under section
3 175(f), the Secretary may reserve not more than 2
4 percent for the administration of grants awarded
5 under this section, including—

6 “(A) providing technical assistance and
7 targeted outreach to support eligible institu-
8 tions serving a high number or high percentage
9 of low-income individuals or individuals with
10 barriers to employment, and rural-serving eligi-
11 ble institutions, to provide guidance and assist-
12 ance in the process of applying for grants under
13 this section; and

14 “(B) evaluating and reporting on the per-
15 formance and impact of programs funded under
16 this section in accordance with subsections (f)
17 through (h).

18 “(c) AWARD PERIOD.—

19 “(1) INITIAL GRANT PERIOD.—Each grant
20 under this section shall be awarded for an initial pe-
21 riod of not more than 4 years.

22 “(2) SUBSEQUENT GRANTS.—An eligible insti-
23 tution that receives an initial grant under this sec-
24 tion may receive one or more additional grants
25 under this section for additional periods of not more

1 than 4 years each if the eligible institution dem-
2 onstrates that, during the most recently completed
3 grant period for a grant received under this section,
4 such eligible institution achieved the levels of per-
5 formance agreed to by the eligible institution with
6 respect to the performance indicators specified in
7 subsection (f).

8 “(d) APPLICATION.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a
10 grant under this section, an eligible institution shall
11 submit an application to the Secretary at such time
12 and in such manner as the Secretary may require.

13 “(2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted by
14 an eligible institution under paragraph (1) shall in-
15 clude a description of each the following:

16 “(A) The extent to which the eligible insti-
17 tution has demonstrated success building part-
18 nerships with employers in in-demand industry
19 sectors or occupations to provide students with
20 the skills needed for occupations in such indus-
21 tries and an explanation of the results of any
22 such partnerships.

23 “(B) The methods and strategies the eligi-
24 ble institution will use to engage with employers
25 in in-demand industry sectors or occupations,

1 including any arrangements to place individuals
2 who complete the workforce development pro-
3 grams supported by the grant into employment
4 with such employers.

5 “(C) The proposed eligible institution and
6 industry partnership that the eligible institution
7 will establish or maintain to comply with sub-
8 section (e)(1), including—

9 “(i) the roles and responsibilities of
10 each employer, organization, agency, or in-
11 stitution of higher education that the eligi-
12 ble institution will partner with to carry
13 out the activities under this section; and

14 “(ii) the needs that will be addressed
15 by such eligible institution and industry
16 partnership.

17 “(D) One or more industries that such
18 partnership will target and real-time labor mar-
19 ket data demonstrating that those industries
20 are aligned with employer demand in the geo-
21 graphic area to be served by the eligible institu-
22 tion.

23 “(E) The extent to which the eligible insti-
24 tution can—

1 “(i) leverage additional resources to
2 support the programs to be funded with
3 the grant, which shall include written com-
4 mitments of any leveraged or matching
5 funds for the proposed programs; and

6 “(ii) demonstrate the future sustain-
7 ability of each such program.

8 “(F) The steps the institution will take to
9 ensure the high quality of each program to be
10 funded with the grant, including the career
11 pathways within such programs.

12 “(G) The population and geographic area
13 to be served by the eligible institution, including
14 the number of individuals the eligible institution
15 intends to serve during the grant period.

16 “(H) The workforce development programs
17 to be supported by the grant.

18 “(I) The recognized postsecondary creden-
19 tials that are expected to be earned by partici-
20 pants in such workforce development programs
21 and the related high-skill, high-wage, or in-de-
22 mand industry sectors or occupations for which
23 such programs will prepare participants.

24 “(J) The evidence upon which the edu-
25 cation and skills development strategies to be

1 used in such workforce development programs
2 are based and an explanation of how such evi-
3 dence influenced the design of the programs to
4 improve education and employment outcomes.

5 “(K) How activities of the eligible institu-
6 tion are expected to align with the workforce
7 strategies identified in—

8 “(i) any State plan or local plan sub-
9 mitted under this Act by the State, out-
10 lying area, or locality in which the eligible
11 institution is expected to operate;

12 “(ii) any State plan submitted under
13 section 122 of the Carl D. Perkins Career
14 and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20
15 U.S.C. 2342) by such State or outlying
16 area; and

17 “(iii) any economic development plan
18 of the chief executive of such State or out-
19 lying area.

20 “(L) The goals of the eligible institution
21 with respect to—

22 “(i) capacity building (as described in
23 subsection (f)(1)(B)); and

24 “(ii) the expected performance of indi-
25 viduals participating in the programs to be

1 offered by the eligible institution, including
2 with respect to any performance indicators
3 applicable under section 116 or subsection
4 (f) of this section.

5 “(3) CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUS EXPERI-
6 ENCE.—The Secretary may not disqualify an eligible
7 institution from receiving a grant under this section
8 solely because such institution lacks previous experi-
9 ence in building partnerships, as described in para-
10 graph (2)(A).

11 “(4) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this
12 section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible
13 institutions that—

14 “(A) will use the grant to serve—

15 “(i) individuals with barriers to em-
16 ployment; or

17 “(ii) incumbent workers who need to
18 gain or improve foundational skills to en-
19 hance their employability;

20 “(B) use competency-based assessments,
21 such as the competency-based assessment iden-
22 tified by the State in which the eligible institu-
23 tion is located under section 134(a)(2)(B)(vii),
24 to award academic credit for prior learning for
25 programs supported by the grant; or

1 “(C) have, or will seek to have, the career
2 education programs supported by the grant in-
3 cluded on the list of eligible providers of train-
4 ing services under section 122 for the State in
5 which the eligible institution is located.

6 “(e) USES OF FUNDS.—

7 “(1) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION AND INDUSTRY
8 PARTNERSHIP.—For the purpose of carrying out the
9 activities specified in paragraphs (2) and (3), an eli-
10 gible institution that receives a grant under this sec-
11 tion shall establish a partnership (or continue an ex-
12 isting partnership) with one or more employers in an
13 in-demand industry sector or occupation (in this sec-
14 tion referred to as an ‘eligible institution and indus-
15 try partnership’) and shall maintain such partner-
16 ship for the duration of the grant period. The eligi-
17 ble institution shall ensure that the partnership—

18 “(A) targets one or more specific high-
19 skill, high-wage, or in-demand industries;

20 “(B) includes collaboration with the work-
21 force development system;

22 “(C) serves adult and dislocated workers,
23 incumbent workers, and new entrants to the
24 workforce;

1 “(D) uses an evidence-based program de-
2 sign that is appropriate for the activities carried
3 out by the partnership;

4 “(E) incorporates work-based learning op-
5 portunities; and

6 “(F) incorporates, to the extent appro-
7 priate, virtual service delivery to facilitate tech-
8 nology-enabled learning.

9 “(2) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—An eligible insti-
10 tution that receives a grant under this section shall,
11 in consultation with the employers in the eligible in-
12 stitution and industry partnership described in para-
13 graph (1)—

14 “(A) establish, improve, or expand high-
15 quality, evidence-based workforce development
16 programs, career pathway programs, or work-
17 based learning programs (including apprentice-
18 ship programs or preapprenticeships);

19 “(B) provide career services to individuals
20 participating in the programs funded with the
21 grant to facilitate retention and program com-
22 pletion, which may include—

23 “(i) career navigation, coaching,
24 mentorship, and case management serv-
25 ices, including providing information and

1 outreach to individuals with barriers to
2 employment to encourage such individuals
3 to participate in programs funded with the
4 grant; and

5 “(ii) providing access to course mate-
6 rials, technological devices, required equip-
7 ment, and other supports necessary for
8 participation in and successful completion
9 of such programs; and

10 “(C) make available, in a format that is
11 open, searchable, and easily comparable, infor-
12 mation on—

13 “(i) curricula and recognized postsec-
14 ondary credentials offered through pro-
15 grams funded with the grant, including
16 any curricula or credentials created or fur-
17 ther developed using such grant, which for
18 each recognized postsecondary credential,
19 shall include—

20 “(I) the issuing entity of such
21 credential;

22 “(II) any third-party endorse-
23 ments of such credential;

24 “(III) the occupations for which
25 the credential prepares individuals;

1 “(IV) the skills and competencies
2 necessary to achieve to earn such cre-
3 dential;

4 “(V) the level of mastery of such
5 skills and competencies (including how
6 mastery is assessed); and

7 “(VI) any transfer value or
8 stackability of the credential;

9 “(ii) any skills or competencies devel-
10 oped by individuals who participate in such
11 programs beyond the skills and com-
12 petencies identified as part of the recog-
13 nized postsecondary credential awarded;
14 and

15 “(iii) related employment and earn-
16 ings outcomes on the primary indicators of
17 performance described in subclauses (I)
18 through (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i).

19 “(3) ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES.—In addition to
20 the activities required under paragraph (2), an eligi-
21 ble institution that receives a grant under this sec-
22 tion shall, in consultation with the employers in the
23 eligible institution and industry partnership de-
24 scribed in paragraph (1), carry out one or more of
25 the following activities:

- 1 “(A) Establish, improve, or expand—
- 2 “(i) articulation agreements (as de-
- 3 fined in section 486A(a) of the Higher
- 4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
- 5 1093a(a));
- 6 “(ii) credit transfer agreements;
- 7 “(iii) corequisite remediation pro-
- 8 grams that enable a student to receive re-
- 9 medial education services while enrolled in
- 10 a postsecondary course rather than requir-
- 11 ing the student to receive remedial edu-
- 12 cation before enrolling in such a course;
- 13 “(iv) dual or concurrent enrollment
- 14 programs;
- 15 “(v) competency-based education and
- 16 assessment; or
- 17 “(vi) policies and processes to award
- 18 academic credit for prior learning or for
- 19 the programs described in paragraph
- 20 (2)(A).
- 21 “(B) Establish or implement plans for pro-
- 22 viders of the programs described in paragraph
- 23 (2)(A) to meet the criteria and carry out the
- 24 procedures necessary to be included on the list

1 of eligible providers of training services de-
2 scribed in section 122(d).

3 “(C) Purchase, lease, or refurbish special-
4 ized equipment as necessary to carry out such
5 programs, provided that not more than 15 per-
6 cent of the funds awarded to the eligible insti-
7 tution under this section may be used for activi-
8 ties described in this subparagraph.

9 “(D) Reduce or eliminate unmet financial
10 need relating to the cost of attendance (as de-
11 fined under section 472 of the Higher Edu-
12 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll)) of par-
13 ticipants in such programs.

14 “(4) ADMINISTRATIVE COST LIMIT.—An eligible
15 institution may use not more than 7 percent of the
16 funds awarded under this section for administrative
17 costs, including costs related to collecting informa-
18 tion, analysis, and coordination for purposes of sub-
19 section (f).

20 “(f) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE AND PERFORMANCE
21 REVIEWS.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop
23 and implement guidance that establishes the levels
24 of performance that are expected to be achieved by
25 each eligible institution receiving a grant under this

1 section. Such levels of performance shall be estab-
2 lished on the following indicators:

3 “(A) Each of the primary indicators of
4 performance for adults described in section
5 116(b)(2)(A)(i), which shall be applied for all
6 individuals who participated in a program that
7 received funding from a grant under this sec-
8 tion.

9 “(B) The extent to which the eligible insti-
10 tution built capacity by—

11 “(i) increasing the breadth and depth
12 of employer engagement and investment in
13 workforce development programs in the in-
14 demand industry sectors and occupations
15 targeted by the eligible institution and in-
16 dustry partnership established or main-
17 tained by the eligible institution under sub-
18 section (e)(1);

19 “(ii) designing or implementing new
20 and accelerated instructional techniques or
21 technologies, including the use of advanced
22 online and technology-enabled learning
23 (such as immersive technology); and

1 “(iii) increasing program and policy
2 alignment across systems and decreasing
3 duplicative services or service gaps.

4 “(C) With respect to individuals who par-
5 ticipated in a workforce development program
6 funded with the grant—

7 “(i) the percentage of participants
8 who successfully completed the program;
9 and

10 “(ii) of the participants who were in-
11 cumbent workers at the time of enrollment
12 in the program, the percentage who ad-
13 vanced into higher level positions during or
14 after completing the program.

15 “(2) CONSULTATION AND DETERMINATION OF
16 LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

17 “(A) CONSIDERATION.—In developing lev-
18 els of performance in accordance with para-
19 graph (1), the Secretary shall take into consid-
20 eration the goals of the eligible institution pur-
21 suant to subsection (d)(2)(L).

22 “(B) DETERMINATION.—After completing
23 the consideration required under subparagraph
24 (A), the Secretary shall separately determine

1 the levels of performance that will apply to each
2 eligible institution, taking into account—

3 “(i) the expected levels of performance
4 of each eligible institution with respect to
5 the goals described by the eligible institu-
6 tion pursuant to subsection (d)(2)(L); and

7 “(ii) local economic conditions in the
8 geographic area to be served by the eligible
9 institution, including differences in unem-
10 ployment rates and job losses or gains in
11 particular industries.

12 “(C) NOTICE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—

13 “(i) NOTICE.—The Secretary shall
14 provide each eligible institution with a
15 written notification that sets forth the lev-
16 els of performance that will apply to the el-
17 igible institution, as determined under sub-
18 paragraph (B).

19 “(ii) ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—After re-
20 ceiving the notification described in clause
21 (i), each eligible institution shall submit to
22 the Secretary written confirmation that the
23 eligible institution—

24 “(I) received the notification; and

1 “(II) agrees to be evaluated in
2 accordance with the levels of perform-
3 ance determined by the Secretary.

4 “(3) PERFORMANCE REVIEWS.—On an annual
5 basis during each year of the grant period, the Sec-
6 retary shall evaluate the performance during such
7 year of each eligible institution receiving a grant
8 under this section in a manner consistent with the
9 levels of performance determined for such institution
10 pursuant to paragraph (2).

11 “(4) FAILURE TO MEET LEVELS OF PERFORM-
12 ANCE.—After conducting an evaluation under para-
13 graph (3), if the Secretary determines that an eligi-
14 ble institution did not achieve the levels of perform-
15 ance applicable to the eligible institution under para-
16 graph (2), the Secretary shall—

17 “(A) provide technical assistance to the eli-
18 gible institution; and

19 “(B) develop a performance improvement
20 plan for the eligible institution.

21 “(g) EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years
23 after the date on which the first grant is made
24 under this section, the Secretary shall design and
25 conduct an evaluation to determine the overall effec-

1 tiveness of the eligible institutions receiving a grant
2 under this section.

3 “(2) ELEMENTS.—The evaluation of the effec-
4 tiveness of eligible institutions conducted under
5 paragraph (1) shall include an assessment of the
6 general effectiveness of programs and activities sup-
7 ported by the grants awarded to such eligible insti-
8 tutions under this section, including the extent to
9 which the programs and activities—

10 “(A) developed new, or expanded existing,
11 successful industry sector strategies, including
12 the extent to which such eligible institutions
13 deepened employer engagement and developed
14 workforce development programs that met in-
15 dustry skill needs;

16 “(B) created, expanded, or enhanced ca-
17 reer pathways, including the extent to which the
18 eligible institutions developed or improved com-
19 petency-based education and assessment, credit
20 for prior learning, modularized and self-paced
21 curricula, integrated education and workforce
22 development, dual enrollment in secondary and
23 postsecondary career pathways, stacked and
24 latticed credentials, and online and distance
25 learning;

1 “(C) created alignment between eligible in-
2 stitutions and the workforce development sys-
3 tem;

4 “(D) assisted individuals with finding, re-
5 taining, or advancing in employment;

6 “(E) assisted individuals with earning rec-
7 ognized postsecondary credentials; and

8 “(F) provided equal access to various de-
9 mographic groups, including people of different
10 geographic locations, ages, races, national ori-
11 gins, and sexes.

12 “(3) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—The evaluation
13 under this subsection shall—

14 “(A) be designed by the Secretary (acting
15 through the Chief Evaluation Officer) in con-
16 junction with the eligible institutions being eval-
17 uated;

18 “(B) include analysis of program partici-
19 pant feedback and outcome and process meas-
20 ures; and

21 “(C) use designs that employ the most rig-
22 orous analytical and statistical methods that
23 are reasonably feasible, such as the use of con-
24 trol groups.

1 “(4) DATA ACCESSIBILITY.—The Secretary
2 shall make available on a publicly accessible website
3 of the Department of Labor any data collected as
4 part of the evaluation under this subsection. Such
5 data shall be made available in an aggregated for-
6 mat that does not reveal personally identifiable in-
7 formation and that ensures compliance with relevant
8 Federal laws, including section 444 of the General
9 Education Provisions Act (commonly known as the
10 ‘Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of
11 1974’) (20 U.S.C. 1232g).

12 “(5) PUBLICATION AND REPORTING OF EVAL-
13 UATION FINDINGS.—The Secretary (acting through
14 the Chief Evaluation Officer) shall—

15 “(A) in accordance with the timeline deter-
16 mined to be appropriate by the Chief Evalua-
17 tion Officer, publish an interim report on the
18 preliminary results of the evaluation conducted
19 under this subsection;

20 “(B) not later than 60 days after the date
21 on which the evaluation is completed under this
22 subsection, submit to the Committee on Edu-
23 cation and Workforce of the House of Rep-
24 resentatives and the Committee on Health,

1 Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate
2 a report on such evaluation; and

3 “(C) not later than 90 days after such
4 completion date, publish and make the results
5 of such evaluation available on a publicly acces-
6 sible website of the Department of Labor.

7 “(h) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall make
8 available on a publicly accessible website of the Depart-
9 ment of Labor, in transparent, linked, open, and inter-
10 operable data formats, the following information:

11 “(1) The performance of eligible institutions on
12 the capacity-building performance indicator set forth
13 under subsection (f)(1)(B).

14 “(2) The performance of eligible institutions on
15 the workforce development participant outcome per-
16 formance indicators set forth under subsection
17 (f)(1)(C).

18 “(3) The number of individuals enrolled in
19 workforce development programs funded with a
20 grant under this section.

21 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 “(1) CHIEF EVALUATION OFFICER.—The term
23 ‘Chief Evaluation Officer’ means the head of the
24 independent evaluation office located in the Office of

1 the Assistant Secretary for Policy of the Department
2 of Labor.

3 “(2) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term ‘com-
4 munity college’ means—

5 “(A) a public institution of higher edu-
6 cation (as defined in section 101(a) of the
7 Higher Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)), at
8 which—

9 “(i) the highest degree awarded is an
10 associate degree; or

11 “(ii) an associate degree is the most
12 frequently awarded degree;

13 “(B) a branch campus of a 4-year public
14 institution of higher education (as defined in
15 section 101 of the Higher Education Act of
16 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)), if, at such branch
17 campus—

18 “(i) the highest degree awarded is an
19 associate degree; or

20 “(ii) an associate degree is the most
21 frequently awarded degree;

22 “(C) a 2-year Tribal College or University
23 (as defined in section 316(b)(3) of the Higher
24 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
25 1059c(b)(3))); or

1 “(D) a degree-granting Tribal College or
2 University (as defined in section 316(b)(3) of
3 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
4 1059c(b)(3))) at which—

5 “(i) the highest degree awarded is an
6 associate degree; or

7 “(ii) an associate degree is the most
8 frequently awarded degree.

9 “(3) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term ‘eligi-
10 ble institution’ means—

11 “(A) a community college;

12 “(B) a postsecondary vocational institution
13 (as defined in section 102(c) of the Higher
14 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(c))); or

15 “(C) a consortium of such colleges or insti-
16 tutions.

17 “(j) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made
18 available under this section shall be used to supplement,
19 and not supplant, other Federal, State, and local public
20 funds made available for carrying out the activities de-
21 scribed in this section.”.

22 **SEC. 180. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

23 Section 175 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
24 tunity Act, as so redesignated, is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as
2 subsections (g) and (h), respectively; and

3 (2) by striking subsections (a) through (d) and
4 inserting the following:

5 “(a) NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS.—There are au-
6 thorized to be appropriated to carry out section 166 (not
7 including subsection (k) of such section) \$62,500,000 for
8 each of the fiscal years 2027 through 2032.

9 “(b) MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKER PRO-
10 GRAMS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry
11 out section 167 \$97,396,000 for each of the fiscal years
12 2027 through 2032.

13 “(c) EVALUATIONS AND RESEARCH.—There are au-
14 thorized to be appropriated to carry out section 169
15 \$6,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027 through
16 2032.

17 “(d) REENTRY PROGRAM.—There are authorized to
18 be appropriated to carry out section 172 \$110,000,000 for
19 each of the fiscal years 2027 through 2032.

20 “(e) STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COLLEGES PRO-
21 GRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry
22 out section 173 \$65,000,000 for each of the fiscal years
23 2027 through 2032.”.

1 **Subtitle F—Administration**

2 **SEC. 191. REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS.**

3 (a) LABOR STANDARDS.—Section 181(b) of the
4 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
5 3241(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

6 “(8) CHILD LABOR.—Individuals in on-the-job
7 training or individuals employed in programs and
8 activities under this title shall be employed in ac-
9 cordance with the provisions on child labor under
10 the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C.
11 201 et seq.) and applicable State law.

12 “(9) CONSULTATION.—If an employer provides
13 on-the-job training, incumbent worker training, or
14 employer-directed skills development with funds
15 made available under this title directly to employees
16 of such employer that are subject to a collective bar-
17 gaining agreement with the employer, the employer
18 shall consult with the labor organization that rep-
19 resents such employees on the planning and design
20 of such training or development.”.

21 (b) REMEDIES.—Section 181(c)(3)(B) of the Work-
22 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
23 3241(c)(3)(B)) is amended by inserting “for a period of
24 not less than 2 years” before the semicolon at the end.

1 (c) RELOCATION.—Section 181(d)(2) of the Work-
2 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
3 3241(d)(2)) is amended by striking “incumbent worker
4 training,” and inserting “incumbent worker training, em-
5 ployer-directed skills development,”.

6 (d) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Section 181 of the
7 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
8 3241) is amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “(h) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Except as provided in
10 section 134(d)(2), funds provided under this title may only
11 be used to provide supportive services to individuals who—

12 “(1) are participating in activities under pro-
13 grams authorized under this title;

14 “(2) are unable to obtain the supportive serv-
15 ices through programs listed in section 121(b)(2);

16 and

17 “(3) require supportive services to enable par-
18 ticipation in activities under programs authorized
19 under this title.”.

20 **SEC. 192. MONITORING.**

21 Section 183 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
22 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3243) is amended by striking “re-
23 cipients” each place it appears and inserting “recipients
24 and subrecipients”.

1 **SEC. 193. FISCAL CONTROLS; SANCTIONS.**

2 Section 184(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
3 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3244(b)) is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and
5 (3) as paragraphs (3), (5), and (6), respectively;

6 (2) by inserting before paragraph (3), as so re-
7 designated, the following:

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of this
9 title, a substantial violation shall—

10 “(A) be determined in accordance with the
11 procedures established by the Governor as de-
12 scribed in paragraph (2); and

13 “(B) include any willful violation of the re-
14 quirements under subsections (a) or (b) of sec-
15 tion 181 for which there has been a final deter-
16 mination of the violation without any remaining
17 right to appeal.

18 “(2) PROCEDURES.—The Governor shall estab-
19 lish procedures to be used by local areas and, in the
20 case of funds described in section 128(a) or per-
21 taining to the enforcement provisions under section
22 122(g), by any other individual or entity specified by
23 the Governor to determine if a substantial violation
24 of this title has occurred.”;

25 (3) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “;
2 or” and inserting a semicolon;

3 (B) in subparagraph (B)(v), by striking
4 the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

5 (C) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(C) reduce any local allotment under sec-
7 tion 128(b) or 133(b) to the local area involved
8 by not more than 5 percent for the fiscal year
9 after the fiscal year in which the substantial
10 violation, for which corrective action was not
11 taken, occurred.”;

12 (4) by inserting after paragraph (3), as so re-
13 designated, the following:

14 “(4) REALLOCATION OF REDUCTIONS.—Any
15 amount that was reduced from an allotment to a
16 local area in accordance with paragraph (3)(C) shall
17 be reallocated by the Governor to the other local
18 areas within the State that are not subject to an ac-
19 tion described in paragraph (3) in a manner deter-
20 mined by the Governor, which may take into consid-
21 eration whether such other local area is serving a
22 significant number of individuals with barriers to
23 employment.”;

1 (5) in paragraph (5), as so redesignated, by
2 striking “(A) and (B)” and inserting “(A), (B), and
3 (C)”;

4 (6) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated, by
5 striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting “paragraph
6 (2)”.

7 **SEC. 194. ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION.**

8 Section 186(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
9 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3246(a)) is amended by striking
10 “184” and inserting “181 or 184”.

11 **SEC. 195. JUDICIAL REVIEW.**

12 Section 187(a)(1) of the Workforce Innovation and
13 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3247(a)(1)) is amended by
14 striking “184” and inserting “181 or 184”.

15 **SEC. 196. GENERAL WAIVERS OF STATUTORY OR REGU-
16 LATORY REQUIREMENTS.**

17 Section 189(i)(3) of the Workforce Innovation and
18 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3249(i)(3)) is amended—

19 (1) in subparagraph (A)(i) by striking “proce-
20 dures for review and approval of plans” and insert-
21 ing “the procedures for review and approval of
22 plans, the performance reports described in section
23 116(d), and the requirement described in section
24 134(c)(1)(B)”;

25 (2) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(E) MODEL TEMPLATE.—Not later than
2 one year after the date of enactment of the A
3 Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026,
4 the Secretary shall issue guidance and provide
5 model templates to States to assist States in re-
6 questing common waivers of statutory or regu-
7 latory requirements under this subsection.”.

8 **SEC. 197. MAKE AMERICA SKILLED AGAIN GRANTS.**

9 Section 190 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
10 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3250) is amended to read as follows:

11 **“SEC. 190. MAKE AMERICA SKILLED AGAIN GRANTS.**

12 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to—

13 “(1) authorize States to apply under this sec-
14 tion on behalf of the State as a whole, or on behalf
15 of a local area or a consortium of local areas in the
16 State, to receive the allotments or allocations of the
17 State or the local areas, respectively, for youth work-
18 force investment activities under chapter 2 of sub-
19 title B and adult and dislocated worker employment
20 and training activities under chapter 3 of subtitle B
21 as a consolidated grant for 5 years for the purpose
22 of carrying out a pilot project to pursue innovative
23 reforms to achieve better outcomes for jobseekers,
24 workers, employers, and taxpayers; and

1 “(2) require that rigorous evaluations be con-
2 ducted to demonstrate if better outcomes and oppor-
3 tunities to achieve economic self-sufficiency for par-
4 ticipants, including participants receiving a priority
5 for services under this section, and associated inno-
6 vative reforms to improve service delivery were
7 achieved as a result of such pilot projects.

8 “(b) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—

9 “(1) WAIVERS, PILOT PROJECT GRANT
10 AMOUNTS, AND RESERVATIONS.—Notwithstanding
11 any other provision of subtitle A or B, except as oth-
12 erwise provided in this section, during the pilot
13 project period applicable to a pilot project approved
14 for a State pursuant to subsection (d)(3), the Sec-
15 retary, the Governor of a State participating in such
16 pilot project on behalf of the State as a whole, local
17 area, or consortium of local areas, and a local area
18 or consortium of local areas on whose behalf a Gov-
19 ernor is participating in such a pilot project, shall,
20 as applicable, comply with each of the following:

21 “(A) WAIVERS.—Subject to paragraph (2),
22 the Secretary shall waive for the State as a
23 whole, or for the local area or the consortium
24 of local areas selected by the State to carry out

1 such pilot project, all the statutory and regu-
2 latory requirements of subtitles A and B.

3 “(B) PILOT PROJECT GRANT AMOUNTS.—
4 For each fiscal year applicable to a pilot period,
5 the Secretary shall carry out the following:

6 “(i) STATE AS A WHOLE.—In a case
7 of a State approved to carry out a pilot
8 project under this section on behalf of the
9 State as a whole, distribute as a consoli-
10 dated sum to the State, for purposes of
11 carrying out the project, the State’s total
12 allotment for such fiscal year under—

13 “(I) subsections (b)(1)(C) and
14 (c) of section 127;

15 “(II) paragraphs (1)(B) and
16 (2)(B) of section 132(b); and

17 “(III) section 132(c).

18 “(ii) LOCAL AREA.—In a case of a
19 local area selected by a State and approved
20 to carry out a pilot project under this sec-
21 tion, require the State to—

22 “(I) distribute as a consolidated
23 sum to the local board for such local
24 area, for purposes of carrying out the

1 project, the local area's allocation for
2 such fiscal year under—

3 “(aa) subsections (b) and (c)
4 of section 128; and

5 “(bb) subsections (b) and
6 (c) of section 133; or

7 “(II) if the local board of the
8 local area enters into a written agree-
9 ment with the State for the State to
10 serve as the fiscal agent for the local
11 board during the pilot project, use the
12 funds described in subclause (I) for
13 purposes of carrying out the project
14 on behalf of the local board.

15 “(iii) CONSORTIUM OF LOCAL
16 AREAS.—In a case of a consortium of local
17 areas selected by a State and approved to
18 carry out a pilot project under this section,
19 require the State to—

20 “(I) distribute as a consolidated
21 sum to the consortium, for purposes
22 of carrying out the project, the total
23 amount of the allocations for the local
24 areas in such consortium for such fis-
25 cal year under—

1 “(aa) subsections (b) and (c)
2 of section 128; and

3 “(bb) subsections (b) and
4 (c) of section 133; or

5 “(II) if the consortium enters
6 into a written agreement with the
7 State for the State to serve as the fis-
8 cal agent for the consortium during
9 the pilot project, use the funds de-
10 scribed in subclause (I) for purposes
11 of carrying out the project on behalf
12 of such consortium.

13 “(C) STATE RESERVATION.—The Governor
14 of a State participating in a pilot project on be-
15 half of the State as a whole shall reserve not
16 less than 25 percent of the consolidated sum al-
17 lotted to the State, as described in subpara-
18 graph (B)(i), for the purpose of developing and
19 implementing evidence-based workforce develop-
20 ment activities in the State. Such activities—

21 “(i) shall comply with the priority of
22 service requirement described in subsection
23 (e)(3); and

24 “(ii) may include strategies such as—

1 “(I) innovative skills development
2 programs to improve employment out-
3 comes for jobseekers, incumbent work-
4 ers, and dislocated workers;

5 “(II) job training programs and
6 assistance with removing barriers to
7 employment for offenders;

8 “(III) pre-apprenticeships, ap-
9 prenticeships, and evidence-based
10 workforce development and employ-
11 ment opportunities, including for
12 youth (particularly out-of-school
13 youth);

14 “(IV) the development and
15 strengthening of industry or sector
16 partnerships and training programs
17 offered under such partnerships;

18 “(V) the optimization of sup-
19 portive service delivery and the inte-
20 gration of such services within the
21 workforce system to promote retention
22 in and completion of training pro-
23 grams for participants served under
24 the pilot project; and

1 “(VI) other strategies as may be
2 appropriate and necessary to achieve
3 better outcomes for jobseekers, work-
4 ers, employers, and taxpayers, as de-
5 termined by the Governor.

6 “(D) LOCAL AREA AND CONSORTIUM RES-
7 ERVATION.—A local area or a consortium of
8 local areas for which a pilot project is author-
9 ized under this section shall reserve not less
10 than 25 percent of the consolidated sum allot-
11 ted, as described in clause (ii) or (iii), respec-
12 tively, of subparagraph (B), to the local area or
13 consortium of local areas, respectively, for the
14 purpose of developing and implementing evi-
15 dence-based workforce development activities
16 described in subparagraph (C) in the local area
17 or local areas served by the consortium, respec-
18 tively.

19 “(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State, local area, or
21 consortium of local areas carrying out a pilot
22 project under this section shall comply with
23 statutory or regulatory requirements of this Act
24 relating to—

1 “(i) performance accountability and
2 reporting, except as otherwise provided in
3 this section;

4 “(ii) the membership of local boards
5 or State boards in instances where a State
6 carrying out a pilot project will maintain
7 the use of such local boards or State
8 boards, respectively, during the pilot
9 project period;

10 “(iii) the requirement to set minimum
11 levels of performance on the criteria de-
12 scribed in section 122(b)(2)(B) for any
13 providers of training services that will re-
14 ceive funding under the pilot project;

15 “(iv) the establishment of the one-stop
16 delivery system to make the services and
17 activities carried out under the pilot
18 project available to individuals in the
19 State, local area, or consortium of local
20 areas carrying out the pilot project, except
21 that, of the requirements in section 121(e),
22 such one-stop delivery system shall only be
23 required to meet the requirements of para-
24 graph (2) of that section and only with re-

1 spect to the services and activities of the
2 pilot project;

3 “(v) the fiscal and management ac-
4 countability information systems described
5 in section 116(j) and, in the case of a pilot
6 project carried out by a local area or con-
7 sortium of local areas, the provisions on
8 fiscal integrity described in section 106;
9 and

10 “(vi) the priority of service described
11 in section 134(e)(3)(E).

12 “(B) APPLICABILITY OF DEFINED
13 TERMS.—In carrying out a pilot project under
14 this section, a State, local area, or consortium
15 of local areas may only use a term defined in
16 section 3 to describe an activity carried out
17 under such pilot project if the State, local area,
18 or consortium of local areas gives such term the
19 same meaning as such term is given under such
20 section.

21 “(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
22 in subparagraph (A)(iv) shall be construed to
23 prevent a State, local area, or consortium of
24 local areas carrying out a pilot project under
25 this section from deciding to maintain the one-

1 stop delivery system in effect for the State,
2 local area, or consortium, respectively, prior to
3 the start of the pilot project.

4 “(3) AUTHORITY FOR THIRD-PARTY EVALUA-
5 TION.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
7 days after the first pilot project is approved
8 under this section, the Secretary shall contract
9 with a third-party evaluator to conduct a rig-
10 orous evaluation of each pilot project approved
11 under this section. The evaluation shall—

12 “(i) cover the entire period of each
13 pilot project;

14 “(ii) include a description of—

15 “(I) the populations served under
16 the pilot project, including with re-
17 spect to individuals with barriers to
18 employment served under the pilot
19 project, disaggregated by each sub-
20 population of such individuals, and by
21 race, ethnicity, sex, and age;

22 “(II) the services provided
23 through the pilot project, the pro-
24 viders of such services, and the cost of

1 such services, disaggregated by the
2 type of service provided;

3 “(III) if the pilot project is car-
4 ried out by a State, the geographic
5 distribution within the State of the
6 services provided under the pilot
7 project; and

8 “(IV) the workforce development
9 systems in the State, local area, or
10 consortium of local areas that were af-
11 fected, and the nature of such effects,
12 as a result of the pilot project;

13 “(iii) compare the employment and
14 earnings outcomes of participants in activi-
15 ties carried out under the pilot project
16 to—

17 “(I) the outcomes of similarly sit-
18 uated individuals who do not partici-
19 pate in such activities and who are lo-
20 cated in such State, such local area,
21 or a local area in such consortium, as
22 applicable;

23 “(II) the outcomes of similarly
24 situated participants in similarly situ-
25 ated States or local areas within such

1 States, as applicable, that do not re-
2 ceive authority to carry out a pilot
3 project under this section; and

4 “(III) the outcomes of partici-
5 pants in activities under chapter 2 or
6 3 of subtitle B in the State, local
7 area, or a local area in the consortium
8 that was awarded a waiver prior to
9 the award of such waiver;

10 “(iv) conduct a qualitative analysis
11 that identifies any practices or strategies
12 (including promising, evidence-based, or in-
13 novative practices and strategies) that—

14 “(I) would not have been con-
15 ducted without the waiving of statu-
16 tory or regulatory provisions through
17 the pilot project; and

18 “(II) led to changes in employ-
19 ment and earnings outcomes for the
20 participants, including employment
21 and earnings outcomes for partici-
22 pants who are out-of-school youth and
23 individuals with barriers to employ-
24 ment; and

1 “(v) compare the outcomes for sub-
2 clauses (I), (II), and (III) of clause (iii)
3 with respect to the subpopulations de-
4 scribed in section 116(d)(2)(B).

5 “(B) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years
6 after the final year of a pilot project approved
7 under this section, the Secretary shall submit to
8 the Committee on Education and Workforce of
9 the House of Representatives and the Com-
10 mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
11 sions of the Senate the results of the evaluation
12 conducted under this paragraph.

13 “(c) PILOT PERIOD; LIMITATIONS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A pilot project approved
15 under this section for a State, local area, or consor-
16 tium—

17 “(A) shall be carried out for a 5-year pilot
18 project period; and

19 “(B) may be renewed for an additional 4-
20 year pilot project period, if the State, local
21 area, or consortium—

22 “(i) for each of the final 3 years of
23 the preceding 5-year pilot project period,
24 meets its expected levels of performance
25 established under subsection (f)(1)(C); and

1 “(ii) for the final year of the pre-
2 ceding 5-year pilot project period, achieves
3 a performance improvement of not less
4 than an average of a 5-percent increase
5 across all of the indicators of performance
6 described in clauses (i) and (ii) of sub-
7 section (f)(1)(A), compared with—

8 “(I) the highest level of perform-
9 ance for the corresponding indicators
10 of performance, as described in sub-
11 section (f)(1)(B)(i) with respect to
12 such State, for the most recent pro-
13 gram year that ended prior to the be-
14 ginning of the first year of the pre-
15 ceding 5-year pilot project period; or

16 “(II) the alternate baseline level
17 of performance for the corresponding
18 indicators of performance that is
19 agreed upon between the State and
20 the Secretary under subsection
21 (f)(1)(B)(ii).

22 “(2) LIMITATIONS.—

23 “(A) PILOT PERIOD LIMITATIONS.—For
24 each pilot period (including renewals of such
25 period) the Secretary may not approve—

1 “(i) more than 10 pilot projects for
2 States to carry out a pilot project de-
3 scribed in subsection (b)(1)(B)(i), except
4 as provided in subparagraph (C); and

5 “(ii) more than 8 pilot projects for
6 local areas (or consortia of local areas) to
7 carry out a pilot project described in clause
8 (ii) or (iii) of subsection (b)(1)(B).

9 “(B) STATE LIMITATIONS.—Not more
10 than 1 pilot project may be approved under this
11 section per State. For purposes of this subpara-
12 graph, a pilot project described in clause (ii) or
13 (iii) of subsection (b)(1)(B) approved for a local
14 area or a consortium of local areas, respectively,
15 in a State shall be considered a pilot project ap-
16 proved under this section for the State.

17 “(C) SUBSEQUENT APPROVAL.—Notwith-
18 standing subparagraph (A)(i), the Secretary
19 may award authority to carry out a pilot project
20 for a State as a whole under this section to 2
21 additional States if, at the beginning of the
22 third year of the pilot projects awarded to the
23 10 States under subparagraph (A)(i), each of
24 such States—

1 “(i) has met or exceeded expected lev-
2 els of performance under the primary indi-
3 cators of performance described in section
4 116(b)(2)(A); and

5 “(ii) meets the requirement described
6 in subsection (e)(4).

7 “(d) APPLICATION.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to carry out
9 a pilot project under this section, a State shall sub-
10 mit to the Secretary an application at such time and
11 in such manner as the Secretary may reasonably re-
12 quire, and containing the information described in
13 paragraph (2).

14 “(2) CONTENT.—Each application submitted by
15 a State under this subsection shall include the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(A) A description of the pilot project to
18 be carried out under this section, including—

19 “(i) whether the project will be car-
20 ried out—

21 “(I) by the State as a whole;

22 “(II) by a local area, and if so—

23 “(aa) an identification of—

24 “(AA) such local area;

25 and

1 “(BB) whether the
2 local area will be the fiscal
3 agent for the project, or
4 whether the local board has
5 entered into a written agree-
6 ment with the State for the
7 State to serve as the fiscal
8 agent during the project;
9 and
10 “(bb) written verification
11 from the local board for such
12 local area that such local board
13 agrees—
14 “(AA) to carry out such
15 project; and
16 “(BB) to the fiscal
17 agent identified in item
18 (aa)(BB); or
19 “(III) by a consortium of local
20 areas in the State, and if so—
21 “(aa) an identification of—
22 “(AA) each local area
23 that comprises the consor-
24 tium; and

1 “(BB) the local area
2 that will serve as the fiscal
3 agent for the consortium
4 during the project, or wheth-
5 er the consortium has en-
6 tered into a written agree-
7 ment with the State for the
8 State to serve as the fiscal
9 agent; and

10 “(bb) written verification
11 from each local board of each
12 local area identified in item
13 (aa)(AA) that such local board
14 agrees—

15 “(AA) to carry out such
16 project as a consortium; and

17 “(BB) to the fiscal
18 agent for the consortium
19 identified in item (aa)(BB);

20 “(ii) a description of the activities to
21 be carried out under the project, includ-
22 ing—

23 “(I) the activities to be carried
24 out under the reservation required

1 under subparagraph (C) or (D) of
2 subsection (b)(1), as applicable;

3 “(II) how the activities will com-
4 ply with the priority of service de-
5 scribed in subsection (e)(3); and

6 “(III) how the activities will be
7 made available through the one-stop
8 delivery system described in sub-
9 section (b)(2)(A)(iv);

10 “(iii) the goals the State, local area,
11 or consortium intends to achieve through
12 such activities, which shall be aligned with
13 the purpose described in subsection (a);
14 and

15 “(iv) a description of any reforms or
16 improvements, including any reforms or
17 improvements that may be evidence-based,
18 to service delivery to be carried out under
19 the project.

20 “(B) A description of the performance out-
21 comes the State, the local area, or consortium
22 expects to achieve for such activities for each
23 year of the pilot project period as described in
24 subsection (f)(1).

1 “(C) A description of how the State, local
2 area, or consortium consulted with employers,
3 the State board, and the local boards in the
4 State in determining the activities to carry out
5 under the pilot project.

6 “(D) A description of how the State will
7 make such activities available to jobseekers and
8 employers in each of the local areas in the State
9 or, in a case of a project that will be carried out
10 by a local area or a consortium, a description
11 of how such services will be made available to
12 jobseekers and employers in such local area or
13 each of the local areas in the consortium.

14 “(E) A description, if appropriate, of how
15 the State, local area, or consortium will inte-
16 grate the funds received, and the activities car-
17 ried out, under the pilot project under this sec-
18 tion with funds and activities for State work-
19 force development programs and other Federal,
20 State, or local workforce, education, or social
21 service programs (including the programs and
22 activities listed in section 103(a)(2), the pro-
23 gram of adult education and literacy activities
24 authorized under title II, and the program au-

1 thorized under title I of the Rehabilitation Act
2 of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.)).

3 “(F) An explanation of—

4 “(i) how the State, local area, or con-
5 sortium will ensure that jobseekers and
6 employers in urban, rural, and suburban
7 areas are able to participate in the pilot
8 project; or

9 “(ii) the factors preventing jobseekers
10 and employers in such areas from partici-
11 pating.

12 “(G) An assurance that the State, local
13 area, or consortium will meet the requirements
14 of this section.

15 “(3) SECRETARIAL APPROVAL.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

17 “(i) approve an application submitted
18 under this subsection, and the pilot project
19 described in such application, not later
20 than 90 days after the date on which such
21 application is submitted, unless the Sec-
22 retary meets the requirements of clause
23 (ii); and

24 “(ii) have the authority to disapprove
25 such application only if, by not later than

1 90 days after the date on which such appli-
2 cation is submitted, the Secretary—

3 “(I) determines—

4 “(aa) that such application
5 is subject to the limitations de-
6 scribed in subsection (c)(2); or

7 “(bb) that such application
8 fails to meet the requirements of
9 this section; and

10 “(II) in a case which the Sec-
11 retary makes the determination de-
12 scribed in subclause (I)(bb), provides
13 to the State a written explanation of
14 initial disapproval that meets the re-
15 quirements of subparagraph (B).

16 “(B) INITIAL DISAPPROVAL.—An expla-
17 nation of initial disapproval provided by the
18 Secretary to a State under subparagraph
19 (A)(ii)(II) shall provide the State with—

20 “(i) a detailed explanation of why the
21 application does not meet the requirements
22 of this section; and

23 “(ii) if the State is not subject to the
24 limitations described in subsection (c), an

1 opportunity to revise and resubmit the
2 State’s application under this section.

3 “(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
4 in this paragraph shall be construed to require
5 the Secretary to approve more pilot projects
6 than allowed under the limitations described in
7 subsection (c)(2).

8 “(4) PRIORITY.—In approving pilot projects
9 under this section in the case that more States, on
10 behalf of the State as a whole or on behalf of local
11 areas and consortia of local areas, have submitted
12 applications that meet the requirements of this sec-
13 tion than the Secretary is allowed to approve pursu-
14 ant to the limitations described in subsection (c)(2),
15 the Secretary shall give priority consideration as fol-
16 lows:

17 “(A) For applications seeking a pilot
18 project for the State as a whole—

19 “(i) first, to applications submitted by
20 States with a population of not more than
21 5,000,000 and not less than 15 workforce
22 boards, as of the date of enactment of the
23 A Stronger Workforce for America Act of
24 2026; and

1 “(ii) second, to applications submitted
2 by States that have achieved the State ad-
3 justed levels of performance for the youth
4 program authorized under chapter 2 of
5 subtitle B and the adult and dislocated
6 worker programs authorized under chapter
7 3 of subtitle B in the most recent program
8 year for which performance information is
9 available.

10 “(B) For applications seeking a pilot
11 project for a local area or consortium of local
12 areas, to applications submitted by local areas
13 or consortia of local areas that have achieved
14 the negotiated local levels of performance for
15 such youth program and such adult and dis-
16 located worker programs in the most recent
17 program year for which performance informa-
18 tion is available.

19 “(e) STATE PILOT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.—A
20 State, local area, or consortium that has been approved
21 to carry out a pilot project under this section shall meet
22 each of the following requirements:

23 “(1) USE OF FUNDS.—Use the funds received
24 pursuant to subsection (b)(1)(B) solely to carry out
25 the activities of the pilot project to achieve the goals

1 of the pilot project, as described in subsection
2 (d)(2)(A).

3 “(2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS LIMITATION.—
4 Use not more than 10 percent of the funds received
5 pursuant to subsection (b)(1)(B) for a fiscal year for
6 the administrative costs of carrying out the pilot
7 project.

8 “(3) PRIORITY FOR SERVICES.—Give priority
9 for services under the project to veterans and their
10 eligible spouses in accordance with the requirements
11 of section 4215 of title 38, United States Code, re-
12 cipients of public assistance, low-income individuals,
13 individuals who have foundational skill needs, out-of-
14 school youth, and dislocated workers.

15 “(4) NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS.—Serve a
16 number of participants under the activities of the
17 pilot project for each year of the pilot project period
18 that—

19 “(A) is greater than the number of partici-
20 pants served by such State, local area, or con-
21 sortium, as applicable, under the programs de-
22 scribed in subparagraph (A) of section 3(13)
23 for the most recent program year that ended
24 prior to the beginning of the first year of the
25 pilot project period; or

1 “(B) is not less than the number of par-
2 ticipants to be served under the activities of the
3 pilot project that is agreed upon between the
4 State, local area, or consortium, as applicable,
5 and the Secretary—

6 “(i) prior to the Secretary’s approval
7 of the application submitted under sub-
8 section (d); and

9 “(ii) after the Secretary takes into ac-
10 count—

11 “(I) the goals the State, local
12 area, or consortium intends to achieve
13 through the pilot project; and

14 “(II) the participants the State,
15 local area, or consortium intends to
16 serve under such project.

17 “(5) REPORTING OUTCOMES.—Submit, on an
18 annual basis, to the Secretary a report, with respect
19 to such State, local area, or consortium—

20 “(A) on participant outcomes for each in-
21 dicator of performance described in subsection
22 (f)(1)(A) for the activities carried out under the
23 project;

24 “(B) on the applicable requirements of sec-
25 tion 116(d)(2), including—

1 “(i) subparagraph (B) of such section;

2 and

3 “(ii) subparagraphs (C), (D), (E),
4 (F), (G), and (J) of such section, as such
5 subparagraphs are applicable to activities
6 under the pilot project; and

7 “(C) containing a description of how the
8 State spent the amounts reserved under sub-
9 section (b)(1)(C) or the local area or consor-
10 tium spent the amounts reserved under sub-
11 section (b)(1)(D), as applicable, and any evi-
12 dence-based practices developed with such
13 amounts.

14 “(6) COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN EXISTING RE-
15 QUIREMENTS.—Comply with the statutory or regu-
16 latory requirements listed in subparagraphs (A) and
17 (B) of subsection (b)(2).

18 “(f) PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY.—

19 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF BASELINE LEVELS
20 FOR PERFORMANCE.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall de-
22 scribe in the application submitted under sub-
23 section (d), for each year of the pilot project pe-
24 riod—

1 “(i) with respect to participants who
2 are at least 25 years old, the expected
3 State levels of performance or expected
4 local levels of performance, as the case
5 may be, for each of the indicators of per-
6 formance under section 116(b)(2)(A)(i) for
7 the activities carried out under the project
8 under this section, which shall meet the re-
9 quirements of subparagraph (B); and

10 “(ii) with respect to participants who
11 are at least 16 years old and not older
12 than 24 years old, the expected State levels
13 of performance or expected local levels of
14 performance, as the case may be, for each
15 of the indicators of performance under sec-
16 tion 116(b)(2)(A)(ii) for the activities car-
17 ried out under the project under this sec-
18 tion, which shall meet the requirements of
19 subparagraph (B).

20 “(B) FIFTH YEAR.—Each of the expected
21 levels of performance established pursuant to
22 subparagraph (A) for each of the indicators of
23 performance for the fifth year of the pilot
24 project period shall be higher than—

1 “(i) the highest State adjusted or ne-
2 gotiated local level of performance, as ap-
3 plicable, for the corresponding indicator of
4 performance for the programs described in
5 subparagraph (A) of section 3(13), for the
6 most recent program year for such State
7 that ended prior to the beginning of the
8 first year of the pilot project period; or

9 “(ii) an alternate baseline level of per-
10 formance that—

11 “(I) shall not be lower than the
12 most recent State adjusted or nego-
13 tiated local level of performance (in-
14 cluding any revisions) for the cor-
15 responding indicator of performance
16 for the youth program under chapter
17 2 of subtitle B or the adult or dis-
18 located worker program under chapter
19 3 of such subtitle (using the program
20 determined most applicable by the
21 Governor of the State submitting the
22 application), taking into account the
23 goals the State intends to achieve
24 through the pilot project and the par-

1 participants the State intends to serve
2 through such project; and

3 “(II) is agreed upon between the
4 State and the Secretary—

5 “(aa) prior to the Sec-
6 retary’s approval of the applica-
7 tion submitted under subsection
8 (d); and

9 “(bb) after the Secretary
10 takes into account—

11 “(AA) the goals the
12 State intends to achieve
13 through the pilot project;
14 and

15 “(BB) the participants
16 the State intends to serve
17 under such project.

18 “(C) AGREED LEVEL FOR PERFORMANCE
19 ON EXPECTED LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

20 Prior to approving an application for a pilot
21 project submitted by a State, and using the ex-
22 pected levels of performance described in such
23 application, the Secretary shall reach an agree-
24 ment with such State on the expected levels of
25 performance for each of the indicators of per-

1 formance. In reaching an agreement on such
2 expected levels of performance, the Secretary
3 and the State may consider the factors de-
4 scribed in section 116(b)(3)(A)(v).

5 “(2) SANCTIONS.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The sanctions de-
7 scribed in section 116(f)(1)(B) shall apply to a
8 State, local area, or consortium of local areas
9 beginning on the third year of the pilot project
10 period (and, for failures described in clause
11 (ii)(II) of that section, shall first apply for con-
12 secutive failures in that third year and the fol-
13 lowing year) for such State, local area, or con-
14 sortium, except that the expected levels of per-
15 formance established under paragraph (1) shall
16 be—

17 “(i) deemed to be levels of perform-
18 ance agreed to under section
19 116(b)(3)(A)(iv), for purposes of this para-
20 graph; and

21 “(ii) adjusted at the end of each pro-
22 gram year to reflect the actual characteris-
23 ties of participants served and the actual
24 economic conditions experienced using a
25 statistical adjustment model similar to the

1 model described in section
2 116(b)(3)(A)(viii).

3 “(B) INELIGIBILITY FOR RENEWAL.—A
4 State, local area, or consortium that is subject
5 to such sanctions shall be ineligible to renew its
6 pilot project period under subsection (c).

7 “(3) IMPACT OF LOCAL OR CONSORTIUM PILOT
8 PROJECTS ON STATEWIDE ACCOUNTABILITY.—With
9 respect to a State with an approved pilot project for
10 a local area or consortium of local areas in the
11 State—

12 “(A) the performance of such local area or
13 consortium for the programs described in sub-
14 paragraph (A) of section 3(13) shall not be in-
15 cluded in the levels of performance for such
16 State for any of such programs for purposes of
17 section 116 for any program year that is appli-
18 cable to any year of the pilot project period;
19 and

20 “(B) with respect to any local areas of the
21 State that are not part of the pilot project, the
22 State shall reach a new agreement with the
23 Secretary, for purposes of section 116(b)(3)(A),
24 on levels of performance for such programs for
25 such program years.

1 “(g) TERMINATION.—Except as provided under sub-
2 section (e)(1)(B), the Secretary may not approve a pilot
3 project after December 31, 2031.”

4 **SEC. 198. GENERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**

5 Section 194 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
6 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3254) is amended by adding at
7 the end the following:

8 “(16)(A) IN GENERAL.—Each recipient of
9 funds described in section 128(a), section 128(b), or
10 section 133(b) or under subtitle C or D (including
11 a provider described in section 122(i) that is award-
12 ed such funds by a State or local area) shall provide
13 to the appropriate entity an assurance that the re-
14 cipient will adhere to the requirements under sub-
15 sections (a) and (b) of section 181.

16 “(B) APPROPRIATE ENTITY.—For the purposes of
17 this paragraph, the term ‘appropriate entity’ means—

18 “(i) in the case of any funds described in sec-
19 tion 128(a), the Governor of the State providing
20 such funds;

21 “(ii) in the case of any funds described in sec-
22 tion 128(b) or section 133(b), the local board pro-
23 viding such funds; and

24 “(iii) in the case of any funds under subtitle C
25 or D, the Secretary.

1 “(17) REGARDING STATES WITH LOW POPU-
2 LATION DENSITY.—

3 “(A) LOW-DENSITY WORKFORCE AREA
4 CONSIDERATIONS.—In the case of a local area
5 located in a ‘low-density workforce area’, sec-
6 tion 129(c)(4) shall be applied—

7 “(i) by substituting ‘25 percent’ for
8 ‘40 percent’; and

9 “(ii) by substituting ‘7 and 1/2 per-
10 cent’ for ‘12 and 1/2 percent’.

11 “(B) LOW-DENSITY WORKFORCE AREA
12 DEFINITION.—In this title, the term ‘low-den-
13 sity workforce area’ means a State with a popu-
14 lation density of less than 1.5 persons per
15 square mile, as determined by the most recent
16 decennial census of the Bureau of the Census.”.

17 **TITLE II—ADULT EDUCATION**
18 **AND LITERACY**

19 **Subtitle A—Transferring All Func-**
20 **tions of the Adult Education**
21 **and Family Literacy Act to the**
22 **Department of Labor**

23 **SEC. 201. TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS.**

24 There are transferred to the Secretary of Labor all
25 functions which the Secretary of Education and the De-

1 partment of Education exercised before the effective date
2 of this subtitle (including all related functions of any offi-
3 cer or employee of that Department) under title II of the
4 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
5 3271 et seq.).

6 **SEC. 202. PERSONNEL DETERMINATIONS BY THE OFFICE**
7 **OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.**

8 The Office of Management and Budget shall—

9 (1) ensure that this subtitle does not result in
10 any net increase in full-time equivalent employees
11 across all Federal agencies impacted by this subtitle;
12 and

13 (2) not later than 1 year after the effective date
14 of this subtitle, certify compliance with this subtitle
15 to the Committee on Education and Workforce of
16 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
17 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Sen-
18 ate.

19 **SEC. 203. DELEGATION AND ASSIGNMENT.**

20 Except where otherwise expressly prohibited by law
21 or otherwise provided by this subtitle, the Secretary of
22 Labor may delegate any of the functions transferred to
23 the Secretary of Labor by section 201 and any function
24 described in section 201 that was transferred or granted
25 to such Secretary after the effective date of this subtitle

1 to such officers and employees of such Secretary as the
2 Secretary may designate, and may authorize successive re-
3 delegations of such functions described in section 201 as
4 may be necessary or appropriate. No delegation of such
5 functions by the Secretary of Labor under this section or
6 under any other provision of this subtitle shall relieve such
7 Secretary of responsibility for the administration of such
8 functions.

9 **SEC. 204. REORGANIZATION; RULES.**

10 (a) REORGANIZATION.—Except where otherwise ex-
11 pressly prohibited by law or otherwise provided by this Act
12 (or the amendments made by this Act), the Secretary of
13 Labor is authorized to allocate or reallocate any function
14 transferred under section 201 among the officers of the
15 Department of Labor, and to consolidate, alter, or dis-
16 continue such organizational entities in such Department
17 as may be necessary or appropriate.

18 (b) RULES.—The Secretary of Labor is authorized to
19 prescribe, in accordance with the provisions of chapters
20 5 and 6 of title 5, United States Code, such rules and
21 regulations as that the Secretary determines necessary or
22 appropriate to administer and manage the functions de-
23 scribed in section 201 of the Department of Labor.

1 **SEC. 205. TRANSFER AND ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIA-**
2 **TIONS AND PERSONNEL.**

3 Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, the per-
4 sonnel employed in connection with, and the assets, liabil-
5 ities, contracts, property, records, and unexpended balance
6 of appropriations, authorizations, allocations, and other
7 funds employed, held, used, arising from, available to, or
8 to be made available in connection with the functions and
9 offices, or portions thereof transferred by section 201,
10 subject to section 1531 of title 31, United States Code,
11 shall be transferred to the Secretary of Labor. Unex-
12 pended funds transferred pursuant to this section shall be
13 used only for the purposes for which the funds were origi-
14 nally authorized and appropriated.

15 **SEC. 206. INCIDENTAL TRANSFERS.**

16 The Director of the Office of Management and Budg-
17 et, at such time or times as the Director shall provide,
18 is authorized to make such determinations as may be nec-
19 essary with regard to the functions transferred by section
20 201, and to make such additional incidental dispositions
21 of personnel, assets, liabilities, grants, contracts, property,
22 records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, au-
23 thorizations, allocations, and other funds held, used, aris-
24 ing from, available to, or to be made available in connec-
25 tion with such functions, as may be necessary to carry out
26 the provisions of this subtitle. The Director of the Office

1 of Management and Budget shall provide for the termi-
2 nation of the affairs of all entities terminated by this sub-
3 title and for such further measures and dispositions as
4 may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this sub-
5 title, with respect to such functions.

6 **SEC. 207. SAVINGS PROVISIONS.**

7 (a) CONTINUING EFFECT OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS.—
8 All orders, determinations, rules, regulations, permits,
9 grants, contracts, certificates, licenses, registrations, privi-
10 leges, and other administrative actions—

11 (1) which have been issued, made, granted, or
12 allowed to become effective by the President, any
13 Federal department or agency or official thereof, or
14 by a court of competent jurisdiction, in the perform-
15 ance of functions which are transferred under this
16 Act to the Secretary or the Department, and

17 (2) which are in effect at the time this Act
18 takes effect,

19 shall continue in effect according to their terms until
20 modified, terminated, superseded, set aside, or revoked in
21 accordance with the law by the President, the Secretary
22 of Labor, or other authorized official, a court of competent
23 jurisdiction, or by operation of law.

24 (b) PROCEEDINGS NOT AFFECTED.—The provisions
25 of this subtitle shall not affect any proceedings, including

1 notices of proposed rulemaking, or any application for any
2 license, permit, certificate, or financial assistance pending
3 on the effective date of this subtitle before the Department
4 of Education with respect to functions of which are trans-
5 ferred by section 201 but such proceedings and applica-
6 tions shall be continued. Orders shall be issued in such
7 proceedings, appeals shall be taken therefrom, and pay-
8 ments shall be made pursuant to such orders, as if this
9 subtitle had not been enacted, and orders issued in any
10 such proceedings shall continue in effect until modified,
11 terminated, superseded, or revoked by a duly authorized
12 individual, by a court of competent jurisdiction, or by op-
13 eration of law. Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed
14 to prohibit the discontinuance or modification of any such
15 proceeding under the same terms and conditions and to
16 the same extent that such proceeding could have been dis-
17 continued or modified if this subtitle had not been enacted.

18 (c) SUITS NOT AFFECTED.—Except as provided in
19 subsection (e) the provisions of this subtitle shall not af-
20 fect suits commenced (with respect to the functions trans-
21 ferred under section 201) prior to the effective date of this
22 subtitle, and in all such suits, proceedings shall be had,
23 appeals taken, and judgments rendered in the same man-
24 ner and effect as if this subtitle had not been enacted.

1 (d) NONABATEMENT OF ACTIONS.—No suit, action,
2 or other proceeding commenced by or against the Depart-
3 ment of Education (with regard to functions transferred
4 under section 201), or by or against any officer in the
5 official capacity of such individual as an officer of the De-
6 partment of Education (with regard to functions trans-
7 ferred under section 201), shall abate by reason of the
8 enactment of this subtitle.

9 (e) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS RELATING TO PRO-
10 MULGATION OF REGULATIONS.—Any administrative ac-
11 tion relating to the preparation or promulgation of a regu-
12 lation by the Secretary of Education (with regard to func-
13 tions transferred under section 201) may be continued by
14 the Secretary of Labor with the same effect as if this sub-
15 title had not been enacted.

16 **SEC. 208. REFERENCES.**

17 A reference in any other Federal law, Executive
18 order, rule, regulation, or delegation of authority, or any
19 document of or relating to—

20 (1) the Secretary of Education (with regard to
21 functions transferred under section 201), shall be
22 deemed to refer to the Secretary of Labor; and

23 (2) the Department of Education or Office
24 within the Department (with regard to functions

1 transferred under section 201), shall be deemed to
2 refer to the Department of Labor.

3 **SEC. 209. TRANSITION.**

4 The Secretary of Labor is authorized to utilize—

5 (1) the services of such officers, employees, and
6 other personnel of the Department of Education
7 with regard to functions transferred under section
8 201; and

9 (2) funds appropriated to such functions,
10 for such period of time as may reasonably be needed to
11 facilitate the orderly implementation of this subtitle.

12 **SEC. 210. UPDATING REFERENCES.**

13 (a) WIOA.—Section 203(15) of the Workforce Inno-
14 vation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3272(15)) is
15 amended by striking “Education” and inserting “Labor”.

16 (b) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION
17 ACT.—

18 (1) PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.—Section 202 of the
19 Department of Education Organization Act (20
20 U.S.C. 3412) is amended—

21 (A) in subsection (b)(1)(C), by striking
22 “Career, Technical, and Adult Education” and
23 inserting “Career and Technical Education”;
24 and

1 (B) in subsection (h), by striking “Career,
2 Technical, and Adult Education” each place it
3 appears and inserting “Career and Technical
4 Education”.

5 (2) OFFICE OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDU-
6 CATION.—Section 206 of the Department of Edu-
7 cation Organization Act (20 U.S.C. 3416) is amend-
8 ed—

9 (A) in the section header, by striking “**CA-**
10 **REER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDU-**
11 **CATION**” and inserting “**CAREER AND TECH-**
12 **NICAL EDUCATION**”;

13 (B) in the first sentence, by striking “Ca-
14 reer, Technical, and Adult Education” and in-
15 serting “Career and Technical Education”; and

16 (C) in the second sentence, by striking
17 “career, technical, and adult education” and in-
18 serting “career and technical education”.

19 **SEC. 211. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

20 This subtitle shall take effect on the date that is 1
21 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

1 **Subtitle B—Adult Education and**
2 **Family Literacy Act**

3 **SEC. 221. PURPOSES.**

4 Section 202 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
5 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3271) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “(including
7 digital literacy skills and AI literacy skills)” before
8 “necessary”;

9 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “secondary
10 school diploma” and inserting “regular high school
11 diploma or its recognized equivalent”; and

12 (3) in paragraph (4), by striking “English lan-
13 guage learners” and inserting “English learners”.

14 **SEC. 222. DEFINITIONS.**

15 Section 203 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
16 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3272) is amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (1)—

18 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

19 (i) by striking “and speak” and in-
20 serting “listen, speak, and comprehend”;
21 and

22 (ii) by striking “secondary” and in-
23 serting “regular high”;

24 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking
25 “and” at the end;

1 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as
2 subparagraph (D); and

3 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
4 the following:

5 “(C) develop and use digital literacy skills;
6 and”;

7 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
8 (14), (15) (as amended by section 210(a)), (16), and
9 (17), as paragraphs (5) through (16), (18), (19),
10 and (20), respectively;

11 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(3) AI LITERACY SKILLS.—The term ‘AI lit-
14 eracy skills’ means a foundational set of com-
15 petencies, outlined by the AI literacy framework of
16 the Department of Labor, that enable individuals to
17 use and evaluate artificial intelligence technologies
18 responsibly, with a primary focus on generative arti-
19 ficial intelligence.

20 “(4) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.—The term
21 ‘digital literacy skills’—

22 “(A) means the skills associated with using
23 existing and emerging technologies to find,
24 evaluate, organize, create, communicate infor-
25 mation, and to complete tasks; and

- 1 “(B) includes AI literacy skills.”;
- 2 (4) in paragraph (6)(C) (as so redesignated)—
- 3 (A) by striking clause (i) and inserting the
- 4 following:
- 5 “(i) has foundational skill needs;”;
- 6 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “secondary”
- 7 and inserting “regular high”; and
- 8 (C) in clause (iii), by striking “English
- 9 language learner” and inserting “English learn-
- 10 er”;
- 11 (5) in paragraph (8) (as so redesignated)—
- 12 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
- 13 “English language learners” and inserting
- 14 “English learners”; and
- 15 (B) in subparagraph (B)(i)(I), by striking
- 16 “secondary” and inserting “regular high”;
- 17 (6) in paragraph (9) (as so redesignated)—
- 18 (A) in the paragraph heading, by striking
- 19 “LANGUAGE”; and
- 20 (B) in the matter preceding subparagraph
- 21 (A), by striking “English language learner” and
- 22 inserting “English learner”;
- 23 (7) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)
- 24 in paragraph (11) (as so redesignated), by inserting
- 25 “and educational” after “the economic”;

1 (8) in paragraph (14) (as so redesignated)—

2 (A) by striking “English language learn-
3 ers” and inserting “English learners”; and

4 (B) by striking “and may include work-
5 force training.” and inserting the following:
6 “and may—

7 “(A) include skills development, postsec-
8 ondary preparation activities, digital literacy
9 skills instruction, financial literacy instruction,
10 and workforce training; and

11 “(B) be provided concurrently with other
12 activities and services, such as adult edu-
13 cation.”;

14 (9) in paragraph (15) (as so redesignated), by
15 striking “and speak in English, compute, and solve
16 problems,” and inserting “speak, and comprehend in
17 English, compute, solve problems, and have digital
18 literacy skills,”; and

19 (10) by inserting after paragraph (16) (as so
20 redesignated) the following:

21 “(17) POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION ACTIVI-
22 TIES.—The term ‘postsecondary preparation activi-
23 ties’ means academic counseling (which may be pro-
24 vided by a college and career navigator) and services
25 designed to support enrollment and success in post-

1 secondary education that include assisting individ-
2 uals to—

3 “(A) identify postsecondary educational op-
4 tions that prepare individuals for unsubsidized
5 employment;

6 “(B) navigate the transition from adult
7 education to postsecondary education;

8 “(C) navigate the transition from adult
9 education to workforce development programs
10 and services;

11 “(D) coenroll in adult education and work-
12 force development programs, if applicable;

13 “(E) improve academic skills so that indi-
14 viduals are prepared to participate in postsec-
15 ondary education without need for remediation;

16 or

17 “(F) learn notetaking, study skills, and
18 other skills that promote student success in
19 postsecondary education.”.

20 **SEC. 223. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 Section 206 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
22 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3275) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 206. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
3 this title \$729,167,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027
4 through 2032.”.

5 **SEC. 224. SPECIAL RULE.**

6 Section 211 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
7 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3291) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (d)(3), by striking “sec-
9 ondary” and inserting “regular high”; and

10 (2) in subsection (e)(3), by striking “period de-
11 scribed in section 3(45)” and inserting “period de-
12 scribed in subparagraph (B) of the definition of ‘out-
13 lying area’ in section 3”.

14 **SEC. 225. PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.**

15 Section 212 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
16 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3292) is amended to read as follows:

17 **“SEC. 212. PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.**

18 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Programs and activities author-
19 ized in this title are subject to the performance account-
20 ability provisions described in section 116, except that the
21 indicator described in subsection (b)(2)(A)(i)(VI) of such
22 section shall be applied as if it were the percentage of pro-
23 gram participants who exited the program during the pro-
24 gram year and completed an integrated education and
25 training program.

1 “(b) DATA COLLECTION.—Notwithstanding section
2 134(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
3 1015c(a)), the Secretary is authorized to collect
4 deidentified participant-level data for participants in pro-
5 grams and activities funded under this title on the infor-
6 mation required for State performance reports as de-
7 scribed in section 116(d) for the sole purpose of admin-
8 istering the performance accountability system under sec-
9 tion 116.”.

10 **SEC. 226. MATCHING REQUIREMENT.**

11 Section 222(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
12 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3302(b)) is amended by adding
13 at the end the following:

14 “(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION
15 ON MATCHING FUNDS.—Each eligible agency shall
16 maintain, on a publicly accessible website of such
17 agency and in an easily accessible format, informa-
18 tion documenting the non-Federal contributions
19 made available to programs that offer adult edu-
20 cation and literacy activities or family literacy activi-
21 ties pursuant to this subsection, including—

22 “(A) the sources of such contributions, ex-
23 cept that in the case of private contributions,
24 names of the individuals or entities providing
25 such contributions may not be disclosed; and

1 “(B) in the case of funds made available
2 by a State or outlying area, an explanation of
3 how such funds are distributed to eligible pro-
4 viders.”.

5 **SEC. 227. STATE LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.**

6 Section 223(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
7 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3303(a)) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (1)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “ac-
10 tivities.” and inserting “activities and the iden-
11 tification of opportunities to coordinate with ac-
12 tivities supported under the Carl D. Perkins
13 Career and Technical Education Act of 2006
14 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) to expand integrated
15 education and training programs.”;

16 (B) in subparagraph (C)—

17 (i) in clause (i), by striking “based on
18 the most rigorous or scientifically valid re-
19 search available and appropriate, in read-
20 ing, writing, speaking, mathematics,” and
21 inserting “based on evidence-based prac-
22 tices, in reading, writing, speaking,
23 English comprehension, mathematics,”;

24 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “and” at
25 the end;

1 (iii) in clause (iii), by striking the pe-
2 riod at the end and inserting “; and”;

3 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(iv) assistance in reporting partici-
6 pant outcomes for the performance ac-
7 countability system described in section
8 212, including facilitating partnerships
9 with the appropriate State entities to con-
10 duct matches with State administrative
11 data (such as wage records) to determine
12 program performance on the indicators of
13 performance described in subclauses (I)
14 through (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i)
15 and which may include assistance in inte-
16 grating with statewide longitudinal data
17 systems, and making data available in
18 structured, open, linked, and interoperable
19 formats, as appropriate.”;

20 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as
21 subparagraph (E); and

22 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (C)
23 the following:

24 “(D) The development, identification, ac-
25 quisition, and dissemination (which may be

1 done in coordination with other States) of evi-
2 dence-based instructional materials (to the ex-
3 tent available) that lead to literacy, English lan-
4 guage acquisition, a recognized postsecondary
5 credential, or any combination of such results;
6 and—

7 “(i) are designed to meet the needs of
8 adult learners, including English learners,
9 and may be developed for integrated edu-
10 cation and training in an in-demand indus-
11 try sector or occupation within the State;
12 and

13 “(ii) will improve the instruction pro-
14 vided pursuant to the local activities re-
15 quired under section 231(b).”; and

16 (2) in paragraph (2)—

17 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (E),
18 (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), (K), (L), and (M), as
19 subparagraphs (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), (K), (L),
20 (M), and (R), respectively;

21 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (D)
22 the following:

23 “(E) Developing content and models for
24 programs that support family literacy activi-
25 ties.”;

1 (C) in subparagraph (G) (as so redesignig-
2 nated), by inserting before the period the fol-
3 lowing: “, including such institutions that offer
4 an eligible program for purposes of the Work-
5 force Pell Grant program under section 401(k)
6 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
7 U.S.C. 1070a(k)), as added by section 83002(a)
8 of Public Law 119–21”;

9 (D) in subparagraph (J)(i) (as so redesignig-
10 nated)—

11 (i) by striking “mathematics, and
12 English” and inserting “mathematics,
13 English”; and

14 (ii) by striking “acquisition;” and in-
15 serting “acquisition, and digital literacy
16 skills;”;

17 (E) by striking subparagraph (K) (as so
18 redesignated) and inserting the following:

19 “(K) Developing and piloting of strategies
20 for improving adult educator recruitment, qual-
21 ity, and retention, such as—

22 “(i) the provision of professional de-
23 velopment;

24 “(ii) the development and mainte-
25 nance of policies for awarding recognized

1 postsecondary credentials to adult edu-
2 cators who demonstrate effectiveness at
3 improving the achievement of adult stu-
4 dents; and

5 “(iii) the development and piloting of
6 work-based learning programs (including
7 apprenticeship programs) for adult edu-
8 cators.”;

9 (F) in subparagraph (L) (as so redesign-
10 nated), by striking “English language learners”
11 and inserting “English learners”;

12 (G) in subparagraph (M) (as so redesign-
13 nated), by inserting “, which may include
14 through partnerships with local educational
15 agencies or public agencies to recruit eligible in-
16 dividuals” after “employers”; and

17 (H) by inserting after subparagraph (M)
18 (as so redesignated) the following:

19 “(N) Performance incentive payments to
20 eligible providers, including incentive payments
21 linked to increased use of integrated education
22 and training or other forms of instruction link-
23 ing adult education with the development of oc-
24 cupational skills for an in-demand industry sec-
25 tor or occupation in the State.

1 “(O) Strengthening the quality and effec-
2 tiveness of adult education and programs that
3 support family literacy activities in the State
4 through support for program quality standards
5 and accreditation requirements.

6 “(P) Raising public awareness (including
7 through public service announcements, such as
8 social media campaigns) about career and tech-
9 nical education programs and community-based
10 organizations, and other endeavors focused on
11 programs that prepare individuals for in-de-
12 mand industry sectors or occupations.

13 “(Q) Postsecondary preparation activi-
14 ties.”.

15 **SEC. 228. PROGRAMS FOR CORRECTIONS EDUCATION AND**
16 **OTHER INSTITUTIONALIZED INDIVIDUALS.**

17 Section 225 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
18 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3305) is amended—

19 (1) in subsection (a)—

20 (A) by striking “From funds” and insert-
21 ing the following:

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From funds”; and

23 (B) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(2) PRIORITY.—An eligible agency granting
25 awards from funds authorized under paragraph (1)

1 shall give priority to an eligible entity that proposes
2 to operate an educational program in a correctional
3 institution that is also served by a program author-
4 ized under section 172.”;

5 (2) in subsection (b)(3), by striking “secondary
6 school credit” and inserting “attainment of a regular
7 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent”;

8 (3) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as
9 subsections (e) and (f), respectively;

10 (4) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(d) COORDINATION.—Each eligible agency that is
13 using assistance provided under this section to carry out
14 a program for criminal offenders within a correctional in-
15 stitution shall—

16 “(1) coordinate such educational programs with
17 career and technical education activities provided to
18 individuals in State institutions from funds reserved
19 under section 112(a)(2)(A) of the Carl D. Perkins
20 Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20
21 U.S.C. 2322(a)(2)(A));

22 “(2) identify opportunities to develop integrated
23 education and training opportunities for such indi-
24 viduals;

1 “(3) coordinate with institutions of higher edu-
2 cation operating a prison education program in the
3 State; and

4 “(4) if the correctional institution is also served
5 by a program authorized under section 172, provide
6 a description of how the award funds under this sec-
7 tion will be used to carry out the activities described
8 in section 172, in conjunction with the activities de-
9 scribed in subsection (b).”; and

10 (5) in subsection (f) (as so redesignated), by
11 adding at the end the following:

12 “(3) PRISON EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The term
13 ‘prison education program’ has the meaning given
14 the term in section 484 of the Higher Education Act
15 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1091).”.

16 **SEC. 229. GRANTS AND CONTRACTS FOR ELIGIBLE PRO-**
17 **VIDERS.**

18 Section 231 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
19 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3321) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a)—

21 (A) by striking “From grant funds” and
22 inserting the following:

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From grant funds”; and

24 (B) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(2) PROMPT AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Each
2 eligible agency shall ensure that funds are available
3 for reimbursement to an eligible provider that is
4 awarded a multiyear grant or contract under para-
5 graph (1) not later than 45 days after the date on
6 which the multiyear grant or contract is awarded.”;

7 (2) in subsection (d), by striking “section
8 203(4)” and inserting “section 203(6)”;

9 (3) in subsection (e)—

10 (A) in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), by striking
11 “English language learners” and inserting
12 “English learners”;

13 (B) in paragraph (5)—

14 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
15 “and” at the end;

16 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by adding
17 “and” at the end; and

18 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(C) uses instructional materials that are
21 designed to meet the needs of adult learners
22 and English learners and are evidence-based (to
23 the extent practicable), which may include, but
24 shall not be required to include, the instruc-

1 tional materials disseminated by the State
2 under section 223(a)(1)(D);”;

3 (C) in paragraph (6), by striking “speak-
4 ing, mathematics, and English” and inserting
5 “speaking and listening, mathematics, com-
6 prehension, and English”; and

7 (A) in paragraph (10), by inserting “local
8 educational agencies,” after “strong links
9 with”; and

10 (4) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(f) COST ANALYSIS.—In determining the amount of
12 funds to be awarded in grants or contracts under this sec-
13 tion, the eligible agency may consider the costs of pro-
14 viding learning in context, including integrated education
15 and training and workplace adult education and literacy
16 activities, and the extent to which the eligible provider in-
17 tends to serve individuals using such activities, in order
18 to align the amount of funds awarded with such costs.”.

19 **SEC. 230. LOCAL APPLICATION.**

20 Section 232 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
21 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3322) is amended—

22 (1) in paragraph (4), by inserting “and coordi-
23 nate with the appropriate State entity” after “data”;

24 (2) in paragraph (6), by striking “; and” and
25 inserting “, such as how the eligible provider may

1 provide adult education and literacy activities in a
2 manner that is integrated with postsecondary prepa-
3 ration activities to enable students to prepare for op-
4 portunities to attain a recognized postsecondary cre-
5 dential, including opportunities to earn recognized
6 postsecondary credentials that are stackable along a
7 career pathway within an in-demand industry sector
8 or occupation”;

9 (3) by redesignating paragraph (7) as para-
10 graph (8); and

11 (4) by inserting after paragraph (6) the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(7) a description of how the eligible provider
14 will provide learning in context, including through
15 partnerships with employers to offer workplace adult
16 education and literacy activities and integrated edu-
17 cation and training; and”.

18 **SEC. 231. LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE COST LIMITS.**

19 Section 233(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
20 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3323(a)) is amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “95” and in-
22 serting “85”; and

23 (2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the
24 following:

25 “(2) the remaining amount—

1 “(A) not to exceed 10 percent, may be
2 used for professional development for adult edu-
3 cators (which may include apprenticeship pro-
4 grams for adult educators); and

5 “(B) not to exceed 5 percent, shall be used
6 for planning, administration (including carrying
7 out the requirements of section 116), profes-
8 sional development of administrative staff, and
9 the activities described in paragraphs (3) and
10 (5) of section 232.”.

11 **SEC. 232. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.**

12 Section 242 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
13 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3332) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (b)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “116;”
16 and inserting “116, including the dissemination
17 of effective practices used by States to use
18 statewide longitudinal data systems or other
19 sources of administrative data to determine pro-
20 gram performance and reduce the data collec-
21 tion and reporting burden on eligible pro-
22 viders;”; and

23 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “, includ-
24 ing the Institute of Education Sciences”; and

25 (2) in subsection (c)—

- 1 (A) in paragraph (1)—
- 2 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking
- 3 “English language learners” and inserting
- 4 “English learners”; and
- 5 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by inserting
- 6 “skills” after “digital literacy”; and
- 7 (B) in paragraph (2)—
- 8 (i) in subparagraph (C)—
- 9 (I) in clause (i), by striking “rig-
- 10 orous research” and inserting “evi-
- 11 dence-based practices”; and
- 12 (II) in clause (vii)—
- 13 (aa) in subclause (I), by
- 14 striking “adults with” and all
- 15 that follows through the semi-
- 16 colon and inserting “adults with
- 17 disabilities, including adults with
- 18 learning disabilities, and with
- 19 adults who are English learn-
- 20 ers;”;
- 21 (bb) in subclause (III), by
- 22 striking “and” after the semi-
- 23 colon;

1 (cc) in subclause (IV), by in-
2 serting “and” after the semi-
3 colon; and

4 (dd) by adding at the end
5 the following:

6 “(V) programs that offer family
7 literacy activities;”;

8 (ii) in subparagraph (F), by striking
9 “and” after the semicolon;

10 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph
11 (G) as subparagraph (J); and

12 (iv) by inserting after subparagraph
13 (F) the following:

14 “(G) developing and rigorously evaluating
15 programs for the preparation of effective adult
16 educators and disseminating the results of such
17 evaluations;

18 “(H) carrying out initiatives to support the
19 effectiveness and impact of adult education,
20 that States may adopt on a voluntary basis,
21 through—

22 “(i) the development and dissemina-
23 tion of staffing models, which may include
24 full-time staffing models, that prioritize
25 demonstrated effectiveness and continuous

1 improvement in supporting the learning of
2 adult students; and

3 “(ii) the evaluation and improvement
4 of program quality standards and accredi-
5 tation requirements;

6 “(I) providing technical assistance to eligi-
7 ble agencies regarding effective professional de-
8 velopment for programs that offer adult edu-
9 cation and literacy activities or family literacy
10 activities; and”.

11 **SEC. 233. INTEGRATED ENGLISH LITERACY AND CIVICS**
12 **EDUCATION.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 243(a) of the Workforce
14 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3333(a)) is
15 amended—

16 (1) by striking “From funds” and inserting the
17 following:

18 “(1) EACH FISCAL YEAR.—Subject to para-
19 graph (2), from funds”; and

20 (2) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(2) CERTAIN FISCAL YEARS.—With respect to
22 fiscal year 2027 or a succeeding fiscal year, if
23 amounts made available under section 211(a)(2) for
24 such a fiscal year exceed, by at least 1 percent,
25 grant amounts awarded to States under this section

1 for fiscal year 2026, the Secretary shall, from
2 amounts made available under section 211(a)(2) for
3 such fiscal year after fiscal year 2026—

4 “(A) reserve 1 percent of the amounts to
5 award grants to outlying areas, in the manner
6 determined appropriate by the Secretary of
7 Labor for such outlying areas to carry out the
8 activities described in paragraph (1); and

9 “(B) use the amounts remaining after such
10 reservation to award grants to States under
11 this section.”.

12 (b) ALLOTMENT.—Section 243(b)(1) of the Work-
13 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
14 3333(b)(1) is amended by amending the matter preceding
15 subparagraph (A) as follows: “Subject to paragraph (2),
16 from amounts made available under section 211(a)(2) for
17 a fiscal year, and after reserving amounts in accordance
18 with subsection (a)(2), if appropriate for such fiscal year,
19 the Secretary shall allocate—”

20 (c) ENGLISH LEARNERS.—Section 243(c)(1) of the
21 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
22 3333(c)(1)) is amended by striking “English language
23 learners” and inserting “English learners”.

1 **TITLE III—AMENDMENTS TO**
2 **OTHER LAWS**

3 **SEC. 301. AMENDMENTS TO THE WAGNER-PEYSER ACT.**

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2(5) of the Wagner-
5 Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49a(5)) is amended by inserting
6 “the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,
7 American Samoa,” after “Guam,”.

8 (b) UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAW REQUIRE-
9 MENT.—Section 5(b)(1) of the Wagner-Peyser Act (29
10 U.S.C. 49d(b)(1)) is amended by inserting “the Common-
11 wealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or American
12 Samoa,” after “Guam,”.

13 (c) ALLOTMENTS.—Section 6 of the Wagner-Peyser
14 Act (29 U.S.C. 49e) is amended—

15 (1) in subsection (a)—

16 (A) by striking “except for Guam” and in-
17 serting “except for Guam, the Commonwealth
18 of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American
19 Samoa”;

20 (B) by striking “first allot to Guam and
21 the Virgin Islands” and inserting the following:
22 “first allot—

23 “(1) to Guam and the Virgin Islands”;

24 (C) by striking the period at the end and
25 inserting “; and”; and

1 (D) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(2) beginning with the first fiscal year for
3 which the total amount available for allotments
4 under this section is greater than the total amount
5 available for allotments under this section for fiscal
6 year 2024, and for each succeeding fiscal year, to
7 each of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
8 Islands and American Samoa, an amount which is
9 equal to one-half of the amount allotted to Guam
10 under paragraph (1) for the corresponding fiscal
11 year.”; and

12 (2) in subsection (b)(1), in the matter following
13 subparagraph (B), by inserting “, the Common-
14 wealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American
15 Samoa,” after “Guam”.

16 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—Section 7 of the Wagner-
17 Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49f) is amended—

18 (1) in subsection (a)—

19 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and re-
20 ferral to employers” and inserting “referral to
21 employers, and the services described in section
22 134(c)(2)(A)(ii) of the Workforce Innovation
23 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
24 3174(c)(2)(A)(ii)) when provided by the em-

1 ployment service office colocated with the one-
2 stop delivery system”;

3 (B) in paragraph (3)—

4 (i) in subparagraph (F), by striking
5 the “and” at the end;

6 (ii) by moving subparagraph (G) for
7 ems to the right;

8 (iii) in subparagraph (G), by striking
9 the period at the end and inserting “;
10 and”;

11 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(H) establishing a talent marketplace (as
14 defined in section 3 of the Workforce Innova-
15 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102)).”;
16 and

17 (2) in subsection (e), by inserting before the pe-
18 riod at the end the following: “and in accordance
19 with the requirements of section 134(c)(2)(A)(i)(I)
20 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
21 (29 U.S.C. 3174(c)(2)(A)(i)(I))”.

22 (e) WORKFORCE AND LABOR MARKET INFORMATION
23 SYSTEM.—Section 15 of the Wagner-Peyser Act (29
24 U.S.C. 491–2) is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),
3 by striking “timely manner” and inserting
4 “manner that is as close to real-time as
5 practicable”;

6 (ii) in clause (i), by striking “part-
7 time, and seasonal workers” and inserting
8 “part-time, contingent, and seasonal work-
9 ers, and workers engaged in alternative
10 employment arrangements”;

11 (iii) by redesignating clauses (iii) and
12 (iv) as clauses (iv) and (v), respectively;
13 and

14 (iv) by inserting after clause (ii), the
15 following:

16 “(iii) real-time trends in new and
17 emerging occupational roles, and in new
18 and emerging skills by occupation and in-
19 dustry, with particular attention paid to
20 State and local conditions;”;

21 (B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting
22 “(including, to the extent practicable, real-
23 time)” after “current”; and

24 (C) in subparagraph (G), by striking
25 “user-friendly manner and” and inserting

1 “manner that makes the data, information, and
2 analysis available on-demand and is user-friend-
3 ly,”;

4 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(F)—

5 (A) in clause (i), by striking “; and” and
6 inserting “(including, to the extent practicable,
7 provided in real-time);”;

8 (B) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause
9 (iii); and

10 (C) by inserting after clause (i), as so
11 amended, the following:

12 “(ii) the capabilities of digital tech-
13 nology and modern data collection ap-
14 proaches are effectively utilized; and”;

15 (3) in subsection (e)(2)(H), by striking “section
16 116(i)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
17 tunity Act” and inserting “section 116(j)(2) of the
18 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act”; and

19 (4) by amending subsection (g) to read as fol-
20 lows:

21 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
23 \$52,892,000 for each of the fiscal years 2027 through
24 2032.”.

1 **SEC. 302. JOB TRAINING GRANTS.**

2 Section 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and
3 Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 3224a)
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 “(c) **JOB TRAINING GRANTS.**—

6 “(1) **ALLOTMENT.**—

7 “(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Of the funds available
8 under section 286(s)(2) of the Immigration and
9 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(s)(2)), the Sec-
10 retary of Labor shall, for each fiscal year—

11 “(i) return permanently 12 percent of
12 such amounts in each fiscal year to the
13 general fund of the Treasury;

14 “(ii) use \$65,000,000 of such funds to
15 carry out the program established under
16 section 173 of the Workforce Innovation
17 and Opportunity Act; and

18 “(iii) using the funds remaining after
19 carrying out clauses (i) and (ii), make al-
20 lotments to each State that receives an al-
21 lotment under section 132(b) of the Work-
22 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
23 U.S.C. 3172(b)) for the purpose of pro-
24 viding training services through individual
25 training accounts for eligible dislocated
26 workers as described in paragraph (2)(A).

1 “(B) RESERVATION; ALLOTMENT AMONG
2 STATES.—

3 “(i) RESERVATION.—From the
4 amount made available under subpara-
5 graph (A)(iii) for a fiscal year, the Sec-
6 retary shall reserve not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1
7 percent of such amount to provide assist-
8 ance to the outlying areas for the purpose
9 described in paragraph (2)(A).

10 “(ii) ALLOTMENT AMONG STATES.—
11 Subject to clause (iii) of this subpara-
12 graph, the Secretary shall use the remain-
13 der of the amount made available under
14 subparagraph (A)(iii) (in this subpara-
15 graph referred to as the ‘remainder
16 amount’) for a fiscal year to make allot-
17 ments to States described in subparagraph
18 (A)(iii) on the following basis:

19 “(I) $\frac{33}{100}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ percent shall be
20 allotted on the basis of the relative
21 number of unemployed individuals in
22 each such State, compared to the total
23 number of unemployed individuals in
24 all such States.

1 “(II) 33 and $\frac{1}{3}$ percent shall be
2 allotted on the basis of the relative
3 number of disadvantaged adults in
4 each such State, compared to the total
5 number of disadvantaged adults in all
6 such States.

7 “(III) 33 and $\frac{1}{3}$ percent shall be
8 allotted on the basis of the relative
9 number of individuals in the civilian
10 labor force in each such State, com-
11 pared to the total number in the civil-
12 ian labor force in all such States.

13 “(iii) SMALL STATE MINIMUM.—The
14 Secretary shall ensure that no State shall
15 receive an allotment under this subpara-
16 graph for a fiscal year that is less than—

17 “(I) in the case of a fiscal year
18 for which the remainder amount is
19 not more than \$180,000,000, $\frac{3}{10}$ of 1
20 percent of such remainder amount;
21 and

22 “(II) in the case of a fiscal year
23 for which the remainder amount ex-
24 ceeds \$180,000,000, the total of—

1 “(aa) $\frac{3}{10}$ of 1 percent of
2 \$180,000,000; and

3 “(bb) $\frac{2}{5}$ of 1 percent of
4 such excess amount.

5 “(iv) DISADVANTAGED ADULT DE-
6 FINED.—For purposes of this subpara-
7 graph and subparagraph (C), the term
8 ‘disadvantaged adult’ has the meaning
9 given such term in section
10 132(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV) of the Workforce In-
11 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
12 3172(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV)).

13 “(v) REALLOTMENT.—

14 “(I) IN GENERAL.—The Sec-
15 retary of Labor shall, in accordance
16 with this clause, reallocate to eligible
17 States amounts that are made avail-
18 able to States from allotments made
19 under this subparagraph (referred to
20 individually in this subsection as a
21 ‘State allotment’) and that are avail-
22 able for reallocation.

23 “(II) AMOUNT.—The amount
24 available for reallocation for a pro-
25 gram year is equal to the amount by

1 which the unobligated balance of the
2 State allotment, at the end of the pro-
3 gram year prior to the program year
4 for which the determination under
5 this subclause is made, exceeds 20
6 percent of such allotment for the prior
7 program year.

8 “(III) REALLOTMENT.—In mak-
9 ing reallocations to eligible States of
10 amounts available pursuant to sub-
11 clause (II) for a program year, the
12 Secretary shall allot to each eligible
13 State an amount based on the relative
14 amount of the State allotment for the
15 program year for which the deter-
16 mination is made, as compared to the
17 total amount of the State allotments
18 for all eligible States for such pro-
19 gram year.

20 “(IV) ELIGIBILITY.—For pur-
21 poses of this subsection, an ‘eligible
22 State’ means a State that does not
23 have an amount available for reallocot-
24 ment under subclause (II) for the pro-

1 gram year for which the determina-
2 tion under subclause (II) is made.

3 “(C) WITHIN STATE ALLOCATIONS.—

4 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Governor
5 shall allocate the funds allotted to the
6 State under subparagraph (B) for a fiscal
7 year to the local areas in the State on the
8 following basis:

9 “(I) $33\frac{1}{3}$ percent of the
10 funds on the basis described in sub-
11 paragraph (B)(ii)(I).

12 “(II) $33\frac{1}{3}$ percent of the
13 funds on the basis described in sub-
14 paragraph (B)(ii)(II).

15 “(III) $33\frac{1}{3}$ percent of the
16 funds on the basis described in sub-
17 paragraph (B)(ii)(III).

18 “(ii) APPLICATION.—For purposes of
19 carrying out clause (i)—

20 “(I) references in subparagraph
21 (B)(ii) to a State shall be deemed to
22 be references to a local area; and

23 “(II) references in subparagraph
24 (B)(ii) to all States shall be deemed to

1 be references to all local areas in the
2 State involved.

3 “(iii) REALLOCATION AMONG LOCAL
4 AREAS.—

5 “(I) IN GENERAL.—The Gov-
6 ernor may, in accordance with this
7 clause and after consultation with the
8 State board, reallocate to eligible local
9 areas within the State amounts that
10 are made available to local areas from
11 allocations made under this subpara-
12 graph (referred to individually in this
13 subsection as a ‘local allocation’) and
14 that are available for reallocation.

15 “(II) AMOUNT.—The amount
16 available for reallocation for a pro-
17 gram year is equal to the amount by
18 which the unobligated balance of the
19 local allocation, at the end of the pro-
20 gram year prior to the program year
21 for which the determination under
22 this subclause is made, exceeds 20
23 percent of such allocation for the
24 prior program year.

1 “(III) REALLOCATION.—In mak-
2 ing reallocations to eligible local areas
3 of amounts available pursuant to sub-
4 clause (II) for a program year, the
5 Governor shall allocate to each eligible
6 local area within the State an amount
7 based on the relative amount of the
8 local allocation for the program year
9 for which the determination is made,
10 as compared to the total amount of
11 the local allocations for all eligible
12 local areas in the State for such pro-
13 gram year.

14 “(IV) ELIGIBILITY.—For pur-
15 poses of this subsection, an eligible
16 local area means a local area that
17 does not have an amount available for
18 reallotment under subclause (II) for
19 the program year for which the deter-
20 mination under subclause (II) is
21 made.

22 “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Funds allocated pur-
24 suant to paragraph (1) to a local area shall be
25 used to pay, through the use of an individual

1 training account in accordance with section
2 134(c)(3)(F)(iii) of the Workforce Innovation
3 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
4 3174(c)(3)(F)(iii)), an eligible provider of train-
5 ing services from the list of eligible providers of
6 training services described in section 122(d) of
7 such Act (29 U.S.C. 3152(d)) for training serv-
8 ices provided to eligible dislocated workers in
9 the local area.

10 “(B) REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL
11 AREAS.—As a condition of receipt of funds
12 under paragraph (1), a local area shall agree to
13 each of the following:

14 “(i) REQUIRED NOTICE TO WORK-
15 ERS.—Prior to an eligible dislocated work-
16 er selecting a program of training services
17 from the list of eligible providers of train-
18 ing services under section 122(d) of the
19 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
20 (29 U.S.C. 3152(d)), the local area shall
21 inform such dislocated worker of any op-
22 portunities the dislocated worker may have
23 to participate in on-the-job training or em-
24 ployer-directed skills development funded
25 through such local area.

1 “(ii) AMOUNTS AVAILABLE.—Except
2 as provided in clause (iv)(II), a local
3 area—

4 “(I) may not limit the maximum
5 amount available for an individual
6 training account for an eligible dis-
7 located worker under subparagraph
8 (A) to an amount that is less than
9 \$5,000; and

10 “(II) may not pay an amount,
11 through the use of an individual train-
12 ing account under subparagraph (A),
13 for training services provided to an el-
14 igible dislocated worker that exceeds
15 the costs of such services.

16 “(iii) WIOA FUNDS.—A local area
17 may not use funds made available to the
18 local area for a fiscal year pursuant to sec-
19 tion 134(c)(1)(B) of the Workforce Innova-
20 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
21 3174(c)(1)(B)) to make payments under
22 subparagraph (A) until the funds allocated
23 to the local area pursuant to paragraph (1)
24 of this subsection for such fiscal year have
25 been exhausted.

1 “(iv) EXHAUSTION OF ALLOCA-
2 TIONS.—Upon the exhaustion of the funds
3 allocated to the local area pursuant to
4 paragraph (1) of this subsection, for the
5 purpose of paying, through the use of indi-
6 vidual training accounts under subpara-
7 graph (A), the costs of training services for
8 eligible dislocated workers in the local area
9 seeking such services, the local area—

10 “(I) shall use any funds made
11 available to the local area pursuant to
12 section 134(c)(1)(B) of the Workforce
13 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
14 U.S.C. 3174(c)(1)(B)) to pay for such
15 costs under subparagraph (A) (other
16 than any costs that exceed the limit
17 set by the local area pursuant to
18 clause (ii) or subclause (II)); and

19 “(II) for any eligible dislocated
20 worker who is not a low-income indi-
21 vidual, may limit the maximum
22 amount available for the individual
23 training account under subparagraph
24 (A) for such worker to an amount
25 that is less than \$5,000.

1 “(3) **ELIGIBLE DISLOCATED WORKER.**—A dis-
2 located worker shall be an eligible dislocated worker
3 for purposes of this subsection if the dislocated
4 worker—

5 “(A) meets the requirements under section
6 134(c)(3)(A)(i) of the Workforce Innovation
7 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
8 3174(c)(3)(A)(i)) to be eligible for training
9 services; and

10 “(B) has not received training services
11 through an individual training account under
12 this subsection or under section
13 134(c)(3)(F)(iii) of the Workforce Innovation
14 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
15 3174(c)(3)(F)(iii)) during the preceding 5-year
16 period or, if such a worker has received such
17 training services during such period, the worker
18 has been granted an exception by the local area
19 due to an exceptional circumstance, as deter-
20 mined by the local area.

21 “(4) **EXCESS DEMAND.**—Upon the exhaustion
22 of the funds allocated to a local area pursuant to
23 paragraph (1) of this subsection and any funds that
24 may be available to such local area pursuant to sec-
25 tion 134(c)(1)(B) of the Workforce Innovation and

1 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3174(c)(1)(B)) for the
2 purpose described in paragraph (2)(A) of this sub-
3 section, the local area—

4 “(A) may request additional funds for such
5 purpose from the Governor under section
6 134(a)(2)(A)(i)(III) of the Workforce Innova-
7 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
8 3174(a)(2)(A)(i)(III)); and

9 “(B) shall not be required to pay for train-
10 ing services or establish an individual training
11 account for an eligible dislocated worker.

12 “(5) DEFINITIONS.—Except as otherwise speci-
13 fied, a term used in this subsection shall have the
14 meaning given such term in section 3 of the Work-
15 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
16 3102).

17 “(6) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
18 this subsection shall be construed to provide an indi-
19 vidual with an entitlement to a service under this
20 subsection or under title I of the Workforce Innova-
21 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.)
22 or to mandate a State or local area to provide a
23 service if Federal funds are not available for such
24 service.”.

1 **SEC. 303. ACCESS TO NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF NEW**
2 **HIRES.**

3 Section 453(j)(8) of the Social Security Act (42
4 U.S.C. 653(j)(8)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

6 (A) by inserting “or conducting the report-
7 ing and evaluation activities required under sec-
8 tion 116 of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
9 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141)” after “State
10 law”; and

11 (B) by striking “such program” and in-
12 serting “such programs”; and

13 (2) in subparagraph (C)(i), by striking “pur-
14 poses of administering a program referred to” and
15 inserting “the purposes specified”.

16 **SEC. 304. REFERENCES TO OTHER LAWS.**

17 (a) REFERENCES TO PROVISIONS OF THE WORK-
18 FORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT.—

19 (1) Section 8041(g)(2)(C) of the SUPPORT for
20 Patients and Communities Act (29 U.S.C.
21 3225a(g)(2)(C)) is amended by striking “section
22 172(f) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3227(f))” and insert-
23 ing “section 175(h) of such Act (29 U.S.C.
24 3227(h))”.

25 (2) Section 60302(23) of the Digital Equity Act
26 of 2021 (47 U.S.C. 1721(23)) is amended by strik-

1 ing “section 3(66) of the Workforce Innovation and
2 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102(66))” and insert-
3 ing “section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
4 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102)”.

5 (b) RELATED PROVISIONS.—

6 (1) Section 286(s)(2) of the Immigration and
7 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(s)(2)) is amended by
8 striking “demonstration programs and projects” and
9 inserting “the programs, activities, and uses”.

10 (2) Section 1154 of title 10, United States
11 Code, is amended—

12 (A) in paragraphs (2)(C) and (3)(D) of
13 subsection (a), by striking “Job Corps center as
14 defined” and inserting “Job Corps campus as
15 described”;

16 (B) in subsection (d)(4)(A)(ii), by striking
17 “Job Corps centers” and inserting “Job Corps
18 campuses”; and

19 (C) in subsection (e)(2)(E), by striking
20 “Job Corps center” and inserting “Job Corps
21 campus”.

1 **TITLE IV—DEPARTMENT OF**
2 **LABOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

3 **SEC. 401. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSFORMING TO**
4 **COMPETITIVE INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated
6 under subsection (c), the Secretary (acting through the
7 Office of Disability Employment Policy in partnership
8 with the Employment and Training Administration), in
9 partnership with the Administration for Community Liv-
10 ing of the Department of Health and Human Services and
11 the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Serv-
12 ices of the Department of Education, shall establish a
13 Center for Technical Assistance for Transforming to Com-
14 petitive Integrated Employment to—

15 (1) provide technical assistance to employers
16 who are transitioning from employing individuals
17 with disabilities using special certificates on such
18 transition, which shall include technical assistance
19 on providing services that result in competitive inte-
20 grated employment;

21 (2) provide technical assistance to State agen-
22 cies seeking to support such employers described in
23 paragraph (1) on such transition described in para-
24 graph (1) on coordination and alignment of services
25 and funding in support of such transition, including

1 technical assistance on how such services and fund-
2 ing can result in competitive integrated employment;

3 (3) in providing the technical assistance de-
4 scribing in paragraphs (1) and (2), coordinate such
5 technical assistance with education materials and op-
6 portunities made available through existing technical
7 assistance provided by—

8 (A) the Office of Disability Employment
9 Policy;

10 (B) the Employment and Training Admin-
11 istration;

12 (C) the Administration for Community
13 Living of the Department of Health and
14 Human Services; and

15 (D) the Office of Special Education and
16 Rehabilitative Services of the Department of
17 Education; and

18 (4) in providing the technical assistance de-
19 scribed in paragraphs (1) and (2), make use of tech-
20 nical assistance that is in existence on the date of
21 enactment of this Act, including the CIE Trans-
22 formation Hub, the Advancing State Policy Integra-
23 tion for Recovery and Employment Initiative, and
24 the National Expansion of Employment Opportuni-
25 ties Network.

1 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) COMPETITIVE INTEGRATED EMPLOY-
3 MENT.—The term “competitive integrated employ-
4 ment” has the meaning given the term in section
5 7(5) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C.
6 705(5)).

7 (2) DISABILITY.—The term “disability” in-
8 cludes any intellectual, developmental, mental health,
9 or other disability.

10 (3) INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.—The
11 term “individuals with disabilities” means individ-
12 uals described in section 14(c)(1) of the Fair Labor
13 Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 214(c)(1)).

14 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
15 the Secretary of Labor.

16 (5) SPECIAL CERTIFICATE.—The term “special
17 certificate” means a special certificate issued under
18 section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of
19 1938 (29 U.S.C. 214(c)).

20 (6) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
21 the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Com-
22 monwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territory of
23 Guam.

1 **TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

2 **SEC. 501. REPORT ON DATA CAPABILITY AND INTEROPER-**
3 **ABILITY OF FEDERAL AND STATE DATABASES**
4 **AND DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS.**

5 The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
6 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) is amended by striking section 505
7 and inserting the following:

8 **“SEC. 505. REPORT ON DATA CAPABILITY AND INTEROPER-**
9 **ABILITY OF FEDERAL AND STATE DATABASES**
10 **AND DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the
12 United States shall prepare and submit an interim report
13 and a final report to Congress regarding existing Federal
14 and State databases and data exchange agreements, as of
15 the date of the report, and the interoperability of data in
16 such databases and agreements, that contain job training
17 information relevant to the administration of programs
18 authorized under this Act (as amended by the A Stronger
19 Workforce for America Act of 2026) and the amendments
20 made by this Act (as so amended).

21 “(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The report required under
22 subsection (a) shall—

23 “(1) list existing Federal and State databases
24 and data exchange agreements described in sub-
25 section (a) and, for each, describe—

1 “(A) the purposes of the database or
2 agreement;

3 “(B) the data elements, such as wage and
4 employment outcomes, contained in the data-
5 base or accessible under the agreement;

6 “(C) the data elements described in sub-
7 paragraph (B) that are shared between States;

8 “(D) the Federal and State workforce
9 training programs from which each Federal and
10 State database derives the data elements de-
11 scribed in subparagraph (B);

12 “(E) the number and type of common data
13 elements across such databases and data ex-
14 change agreements;

15 “(F) the number and type of Federal and
16 State agencies having access to such data;

17 “(G) the number and type of private re-
18 search organizations having access to, through
19 grants, contracts, or other agreements, such
20 data;

21 “(H) whether the database or data ex-
22 change agreement provides for opt-out proce-
23 dures for individuals whose data is shared
24 through the database or data exchange agree-
25 ment; and

1 “(I) the volume of data being shared and
2 applied to improve performance accountability
3 and effectiveness of programs under this Act;

4 “(2) study the effects that access by State
5 workforce agencies and the Secretary of Labor to
6 the databases and data exchange agreements de-
7 scribed in subsection (a) would have on efforts to
8 carry out this Act and the amendments made by this
9 Act, and on individual privacy;

10 “(3) explore opportunities to enhance—

11 “(A) the quality, reliability, timeliness, and
12 reporting frequency of the data included in such
13 databases and data exchange agreements; and

14 “(B) the commonality and interoperability
15 of data elements included in such databases and
16 data exchange agreements;

17 “(4) describe, for each database or data ex-
18 change agreement considered by the study described
19 in subsection (a), the number of individuals whose
20 data is contained in each database or accessible
21 through the data agreement, and the specific data
22 elements contained in each that could be used to
23 personally identify an individual;

1 “(5) include the number of data breaches hav-
2 ing occurred since 2014 to data systems adminis-
3 tered by Federal and State agencies;

4 “(6) include the number of data breaches re-
5 garding any type of personal data having occurred
6 since 2014 to private research organizations with
7 whom Federal and State agencies contract for stud-
8 ies;

9 “(7) include a survey of the security protocols
10 used for protecting personal data, including best
11 practices shared amongst States for access to, and
12 administration of, data elements stored and rec-
13 ommendations for improving security protocols for
14 the safe warehousing of data elements;

15 “(8) include an evaluation of the State wage
16 interchange system developed by the Department of
17 Labor and report on the effectiveness of the system
18 in facilitating data exchange between State agencies
19 for the purpose of assessing and reporting on State
20 and local performance for the programs authorized
21 under this Act;

22 “(9) include an assessment of the feasibility,
23 costs, and potential impacts of establishing federally-
24 designated, transparent, interoperable, and non-
25 proprietary data exchange standards using human

1 readable and machine actionable data formats for
2 necessary categories of information that a State
3 agency operating a program under this Act may re-
4 ceive through each database or data exchange agree-
5 ment described in subsection (a);

6 “(10) include a survey of—

7 “(A) customer service and outcome man-
8 agement systems utilized by States for pro-
9 grams under each title of this Act;

10 “(B) the level of interoperability (if any) of
11 such systems;

12 “(C) whether any State has successfully
13 connected such a system serving a program
14 under a title of this Act with such a system
15 serving a program under another title of this
16 Act; and

17 “(D) the benefits achieved through any
18 such connection; and

19 “(11) describe the most significant develop-
20 ments and advancements pertaining to Federal and
21 State databases and data exchange agreements de-
22 scribed in subsection (a) since the final report was
23 submitted by the Comptroller General to Congress
24 under this section, as in effect on the day before the

1 date of enactment of the A Stronger Workforce for
2 America Act of 2026.

3 “(c) TIMING OF REPORTS.—

4 “(1) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 18
5 months after the date of enactment of the A Stronger
6 er Workforce for America Act of 2026, the Comp-
7 troller General shall prepare and submit to Congress
8 an interim report regarding the initial findings of
9 the report required under this section.

10 “(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years
11 after the date of enactment of the A Stronger Work-
12 force for America Act of 2026, the Comptroller Gen-
13 eral shall prepare and submit to Congress the final
14 report required under this section.”.

15 **SEC. 502. EFFECTIVE DATES; TRANSITION AUTHORITY.**

16 (a) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—This Act, and the amend-
18 ments made by this Act, shall take effect on the first
19 day of the first full program year after the date of
20 enactment of this Act, except as otherwise provided
21 in this Act.

22 (2) PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYS-
23 TEM.—The amendments made to section 116 of the
24 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
25 U.S.C. 3141) by this Act shall take effect on the

1 first day of the second full program year after the
2 date of enactment of this Act, except that—

3 (A) the amendments to clauses (iii)
4 through (v) of subsection (b)(3)(A) of that sec-
5 tion 116 shall take effect on January 1, 2027;
6 and

7 (B) the amendment to paragraph (1) of
8 subsection (d) of that section 116, the amend-
9 ments to subsections (i) and (j) of that section
10 116 that are made by section 119(g) of this
11 Act, and the amendment to subsection (k) of
12 that section 116, shall take effect on the day
13 that is 1 year after the date of enactment of
14 this Act.

15 (3) ONE-STOP DELIVERY SYSTEM.—The amend-
16 ments made to section 121 of the Workforce Innova-
17 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3151) by this
18 Act shall take effect on the first day of the second
19 full program year after the date of enactment of this
20 Act.

21 (4) YOUTH WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVI-
22 TIES.—The amendments made to section 129 of the
23 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
24 U.S.C. 3164) by this Act shall take effect on the

1 first day of the second full program year after the
2 date of enactment of this Act.

3 (5) ADULT AND DISLOCATED WORKER ACTIVI-
4 TIES.—The amendments made to section 134 of the
5 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
6 U.S.C. 3174) by this Act shall take effect on the
7 first day of the second full program year after the
8 date of enactment of this Act.

9 (6) JOB CORPS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
10 REQUIREMENTS.—The amendments made to section
11 159 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
12 Act (29 U.S.C. 3209) by this Act shall take effect
13 on the first day of the second full program year
14 after the date of enactment of this Act.

15 (b) TRANSITION AUTHORITY.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to section 503(a)
17 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
18 (29 U.S.C. 3343(a)), the Secretary of Labor shall,
19 effective on the date of enactment of this Act, have
20 the authority to take such steps as are necessary to
21 provide for the orderly implementation of the
22 amendments to the Workforce Innovation and Op-
23 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) by this Act,
24 including addressing cross references to provisions

1 specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection
2 (a)(2).

3 (2) TERMINATION.—The authority described in
4 paragraph (1) shall terminate on the first day of the
5 second full program year after the date of enactment
6 of this Act.

7 (c) TRANSITION PERIOD FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—

8 (1) ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS OF TRAINING SERV-
9 ICES.—Each Governor and local board shall imple-
10 ment the requirements of section 122 of the Work-
11 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
12 3152), as amended by this Act, not later than the
13 first day of the second full program year after the
14 date of enactment of this Act. In order to facilitate
15 early implementation of that section 122, the Gov-
16 ernor may establish transition procedures under
17 which eligible providers of training services under
18 chapter 1 of subtitle B of title I of the Workforce
19 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3151 et
20 seq.), as such chapter was in effect on the day be-
21 fore the date of enactment of this Act, may continue
22 to be eligible to provide such services until December
23 31, 2027, or until such earlier date as the Governor
24 determines to be appropriate.

25 (2) STATE PLANS AND LOCAL PLANS.—

1 (A) MODIFICATION OF PLANS.—Not later
2 than the first day of the second full program
3 year after the date of enactment of this Act—

4 (i) each Governor of a State shall sub-
5 mit to the Secretary of Labor any modi-
6 fications to the State plan in effect for
7 such State that are necessary for the State
8 plan to comply with the amendments made
9 by this Act to section 102 of the Workforce
10 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
11 U.S.C. 3112); and

12 (ii) each local board shall submit to
13 the Governor of a State any modifications
14 to the local plan in effect for the local area
15 served by the local board that are nec-
16 essary for the local plan to comply with the
17 amendments made by this Act to section
18 108 of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
19 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3123).

20 (B) NEW PLANS.—Not later than the first
21 day of the fourth full program year after the
22 date of enactment of this Act—

23 (i) each Governor of a State shall sub-
24 mit to the Secretary of Labor a new State
25 plan for such State that complies with the

1 requirements of section 102 of the Work-
2 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
3 U.S.C. 3112), as amended by this Act; and

4 (ii) each local board shall submit to
5 the Governor of a State a new local plan
6 for the local area served by the local board
7 that complies with the requirements of sec-
8 tion 108 of the Workforce Innovation and
9 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3123), as
10 amended by this Act.

11 (3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the
12 terms “local board”, “local plan”, “State”, “State
13 plan”, and “training services” have the meanings
14 given the terms in section 3 of the Workforce Inno-
15 vation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

16 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

17 (1) REPEAL.—Subsections (a) through (e) of
18 section 503 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
19 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3343) are repealed.

20 (2) REGULATIONS.—Section 503 of such Act is
21 amended—

22 (A) by redesignating subsections (f) and
23 (g) as subsections (a) and (b), respectively;

24 (B) by amending subsection (a), as so re-
25 designated, to read as follows:

1 “(a) REGULATIONS.—

2 “(1) PROPOSED REGULATIONS.—Not later than
3 180 days after the date of enactment of the A
4 Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026, the
5 Secretary shall develop and publish in the Federal
6 Register proposed regulations relating to the transi-
7 tion to, and implementation of, the A Stronger
8 Workforce for America Act of 2026, including the
9 amendments to this Act made by the A Stronger
10 Workforce for America Act of 2026.

11 “(2) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than 12
12 months after the date of enactment of the A Strong-
13 er Workforce for America Act of 2026, the Secretary
14 shall develop and publish in the Federal Register
15 final regulations relating to the transition to, and
16 implementation of, the A Stronger Workforce for
17 America Act of 2026, including the amendments to
18 this Act made by the A Stronger Workforce for
19 America Act of 2026.”; and

20 (C) in subsection (b), as so redesignated,
21 by striking “subsection (f)” and inserting “sub-
22 section (a)”.

1 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
2 by this subsection shall take effect on the date of en-
3 actment of this Act.

