

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1315

To amend title II of the Department of Energy Organization Act to reauthorize an office within the Department of Energy, to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish and carry out a comprehensive, nationwide energy-related industries jobs program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 22, 2019

Mr. RUSH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend title II of the Department of Energy Organization Act to reauthorize an office within the Department of Energy, to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish and carry out a comprehensive, nationwide energy-related industries jobs program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Blue Collar to Green Collar Jobs Development Act of  
6 2019”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—OFFICE OF ECONOMIC IMPACT, DIVERSITY, AND  
 EMPLOYMENT

Sec. 101. Name of office.

Sec. 102. Energy workforce development programs.

Sec. 103. Authorization.

TITLE II—ENERGY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Sec. 201. Energy workforce development.

Sec. 202. Energy workforce grant program.

Sec. 203. Definitions.

3 **TITLE I—OFFICE OF ECONOMIC**  
 4 **IMPACT, DIVERSITY, AND EM-**  
 5 **PLOYMENT**

6 **SEC. 101. NAME OF OFFICE.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 211 of the Department of  
 8 Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7141) is amended—

9 (1) in the section heading, by striking “MINOR-  
 10 ITY ECONOMIC IMPACT” and inserting “ECONOMIC  
 11 IMPACT, DIVERSITY, AND EMPLOYMENT”; and

12 (2) in subsection (a), by striking “Office of Mi-  
 13 nority Economic Impact” and inserting “Office of  
 14 Economic Impact, Diversity, and Employment”.

15 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
 16 tents for the Department of Energy Organization Act is  
 17 amended by amending the item relating to section 211 to  
 18 read as follows:

“Sec. 211. Office of Economic Impact, Diversity, and Employment.”.

1 **SEC. 102. ENERGY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PRO-**  
2 **GRAMS.**

3 Section 211 of the Department of Energy Organiza-  
4 tion Act (42 U.S.C. 7141) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as  
6 subsections (g) and (h), respectively; and

7 (2) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-  
8 lowing:

9 “(f) The Secretary, acting through the Director, shall  
10 establish and carry out the programs described in sections  
11 201 and 202 of the Blue Collar to Green Collar Jobs De-  
12 velopment Act of 2019.”.

13 **SEC. 103. AUTHORIZATION.**

14 Subsection (h) of section 211 of the Department of  
15 Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7141), as redesign-  
16 nated by section 102 of this Act, is amended by striking  
17 “not to exceed \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 1979, not to ex-  
18 ceed \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 1980, and not to exceed  
19 \$6,000,000 for fiscal year 1981. Of the amounts so appro-  
20 priated each fiscal year, not less than 50 percent shall be  
21 available for purposes of financial assistance under sub-  
22 section (e).” and inserting “\$100,000,000 for each of fis-  
23 cal years 2020 through 2024.”.

1 **TITLE II—ENERGY WORKFORCE**  
2 **DEVELOPMENT**

3 **SEC. 201. ENERGY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-  
5 propriations, the Secretary, acting through the Director  
6 of the Office of Economic Impact, Diversity, and Employ-  
7 ment, shall establish and carry out a comprehensive, na-  
8 tionwide program to improve education and training for  
9 jobs in energy-related industries, including manufacturing,  
10 engineering, construction, and retrofitting jobs in such en-  
11 ergy-related industries, in order to increase the number  
12 of skilled workers trained to work in such energy-related  
13 industries, including by—

14 (1) encouraging underrepresented groups, in-  
15 cluding religious and ethnic minorities, women, vet-  
16 erans, individuals with disabilities, unemployed en-  
17 ergy workers, and socioeconomically disadvantaged  
18 individuals to enter into the science, technology, en-  
19 gineering, and mathematics (in this section referred  
20 to as “STEM”) fields;

21 (2) encouraging the Nation’s educational insti-  
22 tutions to equip students with the skills,  
23 mentorships, training, and technical expertise nec-  
24 essary to fill the employment opportunities vital to

1 managing and operating the Nation's energy-related  
2 industries;

3 (3) providing students and other candidates for  
4 employment with the necessary skills and certifi-  
5 cations for skilled, semiskilled, and highly skilled  
6 jobs in such energy-related industries;

7 (4) strengthening and more fully engaging De-  
8 partment of Energy programs and laboratories in  
9 carrying out the Department's Minorities in Energy  
10 Initiative; and

11 (5) to the greatest extent possible, collaborating  
12 with and supporting existing State workforce devel-  
13 opment programs to maximize program efficiency.

14 (b) PRIORITY.—In carrying out the program estab-  
15 lished under subsection (a), the Secretary shall prioritize  
16 the education and training of underrepresented groups for  
17 jobs in energy-related industries.

18 (c) DIRECT ASSISTANCE.—In carrying out the pro-  
19 gram established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall  
20 provide direct assistance (including financial assistance  
21 awards, technical expertise, and internships) to edu-  
22 cational institutions, local workforce development boards,  
23 State workforce development boards, nonprofit organiza-  
24 tions, labor organizations, and apprenticeship programs.  
25 The Secretary shall distribute such direct assistance in a

1 manner proportional to the needs of, and demand for jobs  
2 in, energy-related industries, consistent with information  
3 obtained under subsections (e)(3) and (i).

4 (d) CLEARINGHOUSE.—In carrying out the program  
5 established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall estab-  
6 lish a clearinghouse to—

7 (1) maintain and update information and re-  
8 sources on training programs for jobs in energy-re-  
9 lated industries, including manufacturing, engineer-  
10 ing, construction, and retrofitting jobs in such en-  
11 ergy-related industries; and

12 (2) act as a resource for educational institu-  
13 tions, local workforce development boards, State  
14 workforce development boards, nonprofit organiza-  
15 tions, labor organizations, and apprenticeship pro-  
16 grams that would like to develop and implement  
17 training programs for such jobs.

18 (e) COLLABORATION AND REPORT.—In carrying out  
19 the program established under subsection (a), the Sec-  
20 retary—

21 (1) shall collaborate with educational institu-  
22 tions, local workforce development boards, State  
23 workforce development boards, nonprofit organiza-  
24 tions, labor organizations, apprenticeship programs,  
25 and energy-related industries;

1           (2) shall encourage and foster collaboration,  
2           mentorships, and partnerships among industry, local  
3           workforce development boards, State workforce de-  
4           velopment boards, nonprofit organizations, labor or-  
5           ganizations, and apprenticeship programs that cur-  
6           rently provide effective training programs for jobs in  
7           energy-related industries and educational institutions  
8           that seek to establish these types of programs in  
9           order to share best practices and approaches that  
10          best suit local, State, and national needs; and

11          (3) shall collaborate with the Bureau of Labor  
12          Statistics, the Department of Commerce, the Bureau  
13          of the Census, and energy-related industries to—

14                (A) develop a comprehensive and detailed  
15                understanding of the workforce needs of such  
16                energy-related industries, and job opportunities  
17                in such energy-related industries, by State and  
18                by region; and

19                (B) publish an annual report on job cre-  
20                ation in the energy-related industries described  
21                in subsection (i)(2).

22          (f) GUIDELINES FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITU-  
23          TIONS.—

24                (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program  
25                established under subsection (a), the Secretary, in

1 collaboration with the Secretary of Education, the  
2 Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Labor, and  
3 the National Science Foundation, shall develop vol-  
4 untary guidelines or best practices for educational  
5 institutions to help provide graduates with the skills  
6 necessary for jobs in energy-related industries, in-  
7 cluding manufacturing, engineering, construction,  
8 and retrofitting jobs in such energy-related indus-  
9 tries.

10 (2) INPUT.—The Secretary shall solicit input  
11 from energy-related industries in developing guide-  
12 lines or best practices under paragraph (1).

13 (3) ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION  
14 INITIATIVES.—The guidelines or best practices devel-  
15 oped under paragraph (1) shall include grade-spe-  
16 cific guidelines for teaching energy efficiency tech-  
17 nology, manufacturing efficiency technology, commu-  
18 nity energy resiliency, and conservation initiatives to  
19 educate students and families.

20 (4) STEM EDUCATION.—The guidelines or best  
21 practices developed under paragraph (1) shall pro-  
22 mote STEM education in educational institutions as  
23 it relates to job opportunities in energy-related in-  
24 dustries.



1 (g) OUTREACH TO MINORITY-SERVING INSTITU-  
2 TIONS.—In carrying out the program established under  
3 subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

4 (1) give special consideration to increasing out-  
5 reach to minority-serving institutions;

6 (2) make resources available to minority-serving  
7 institutions with the objective of increasing the num-  
8 ber of skilled minorities and women trained for jobs  
9 in energy-related industries, including manufac-  
10 turing, engineering, construction, and retrofitting  
11 jobs in such energy-related industries;

12 (3) encourage energy-related industries to im-  
13 prove the opportunities for students of minority-  
14 serving institutions to participate in industry intern-  
15 ships and cooperative work-study programs; and

16 (4) partner with the Department of Energy lab-  
17 oratories to increase underrepresented groups' par-  
18 ticipation in internships, fellowships, traineeships,  
19 and employment at all Department of Energy lab-  
20 oratories.

21 (h) OUTREACH TO DISPLACED AND UNEMPLOYED  
22 ENERGY WORKERS.—In carrying out the program estab-  
23 lished under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

24 (1) give special consideration to increasing out-  
25 reach to employers and job trainers preparing dis-

1 placed and unemployed energy workers for emerging  
2 jobs in energy-related industries, including manufac-  
3 turing, engineering, construction, and retrofitting  
4 jobs in such energy-related industries;

5 (2) make resources available to institutions  
6 serving displaced and unemployed energy workers  
7 with the objective of increasing the number of indi-  
8 viduals trained for jobs in energy-related industries,  
9 including manufacturing, engineering, construction,  
10 and retrofitting jobs in such energy-related indus-  
11 tries; and

12 (3) encourage energy-related industries to im-  
13 prove opportunities for displaced and unemployed  
14 energy workers to participate in industry internships  
15 and cooperative work-study programs.

16 (i) GUIDELINES TO DEVELOP SKILLS FOR AN EN-  
17 ERGY INDUSTRY WORKFORCE.—In carrying out the pro-  
18 gram established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall,  
19 in collaboration with energy-related industries—

20 (1) identify the areas with the greatest demand  
21 for workers in each such industry; and

22 (2) develop guidelines for the skills necessary  
23 for work in the following energy-related industries:

24 (A) Energy efficiency industry, including  
25 work in energy efficiency, conservation, weath-

1 erization, retrofitting, or as inspectors or audi-  
2 tors.

3 (B) Renewable energy industry, including  
4 work in the development, engineering, manufac-  
5 turing, and production of renewable energy  
6 from renewable energy sources (such as solar,  
7 hydropower, wind, or geothermal energy).

8 (C) Community energy resiliency industry,  
9 including work in the installation of rooftop  
10 solar, in battery storage, and in microgrid tech-  
11 nologies.

12 (D) Fuel cell and hydrogen energy indus-  
13 try.

14 (E) Manufacturing industry, including  
15 work as operations technicians, in operations  
16 and design in additive manufacturing, 3-D  
17 printing, and advanced composites and ad-  
18 vanced aluminum and other metal alloys, indus-  
19 trial energy efficiency management systems, in-  
20 cluding power electronics, and other innovative  
21 technologies.

22 (F) Chemical manufacturing industry, in-  
23 cluding work in construction (such as welders,  
24 pipefitters, and tool and die makers) or as in-  
25 strument and electrical technicians, machinists,

1 chemical process operators, engineers, quality  
2 and safety professionals, and reliability engi-  
3 neers.

4 (G) Utility industry, including work in the  
5 generation, transmission, and distribution of  
6 electricity and natural gas, such as utility tech-  
7 nicians, operators, lineworkers, engineers, sci-  
8 entists, and information technology specialists.

9 (H) Alternative fuels industry, including  
10 work in biofuel development and production.

11 (I) Pipeline industry, including work in  
12 pipeline construction and maintenance or work  
13 as engineers or technical advisors.

14 (J) Nuclear industry, including work as  
15 scientists, engineers, technicians, mathemati-  
16 cians, or security personnel.

17 (K) Oil and gas industry, including work  
18 as scientists, engineers, technicians, mathemati-  
19 cians, petrochemical engineers, or geologists.

20 (L) Coal industry, including work as coal  
21 miners, engineers, developers and manufactur-  
22 ers of state-of-the-art coal facilities, technology  
23 vendors, coal transportation workers and opera-  
24 tors, or mining equipment vendors.

1 (j) ENROLLMENT IN TRAINING AND APPRENTICE-  
2 SHIP PROGRAMS.—In carrying out the program estab-  
3 lished under subsection (a), the Secretary shall work with  
4 industry, local workforce development boards, State work-  
5 force development boards, nonprofit organizations, labor  
6 organizations, and apprenticeship programs to help iden-  
7 tify students and other candidates, including from under-  
8 represented communities such as minorities, women, and  
9 veterans, to enroll into training and apprenticeship pro-  
10 grams for jobs in energy-related industries.

11 (k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
12 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
13 \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.

14 **SEC. 202. ENERGY WORKFORCE GRANT PROGRAM.**

15 (a) PROGRAM.—

16 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the avail-  
17 ability of appropriations, the Secretary, acting  
18 through the Director of the Office of Economic Im-  
19 pact, Diversity, and Employment, shall establish and  
20 carry out a program to provide grants to eligible  
21 businesses to pay the wages of new and existing em-  
22 ployees during the time period that such employees  
23 are receiving training to work in the renewable en-  
24 ergy sector, energy efficiency sector, or grid mod-  
25 ernization sector.

1           (2) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 60 days after  
2           the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in  
3           consultation with stakeholders, contractors, and or-  
4           ganizations that work to advance existing residential  
5           energy efficiency, shall establish guidelines to iden-  
6           tify training that is eligible for purposes of the pro-  
7           gram established pursuant to paragraph (1).

8           (b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant  
9           under the program established under subsection (a) or a  
10          business or labor management organization that is directly  
11          involved with energy efficiency or renewable energy tech-  
12          nology, or working on behalf of any such business, shall  
13          provide services related to—

14                (1) renewable electric energy generation, includ-  
15                ing solar, wind, geothermal, hydropower, and other  
16                renewable electric energy generation technologies;

17                (2) energy efficiency, including energy-efficient  
18                lighting, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning,  
19                air source heat pumps, advanced building materials,  
20                insulation and air sealing, and other high-efficiency  
21                products and services, including auditing and inspec-  
22                tion;

23                (3) grid modernization or energy storage, in-  
24                cluding smart grid, microgrid and other distributed

1 energy solutions, demand response management, and  
2 home energy management technology; or

3 (4) fuel cell and hybrid fuel cell generation.

4 (c) USE OF GRANTS.—An eligible business with—

5 (1) 20 or fewer employees may use a grant pro-  
6 vided under the program established under sub-  
7 section (a) to pay up to—

8 (A) 45 percent of an employee’s wages for  
9 the duration of the training, if the training is  
10 provided by the eligible business; and

11 (B) 90 percent of an employee’s wages for  
12 the duration of the training, if the training is  
13 provided by an entity other than the eligible  
14 business;

15 (2) 21 to 99 employees may use a grant pro-  
16 vided under the program established under sub-  
17 section (a) to pay up to—

18 (A) 37.5 percent of an employee’s wages  
19 for the duration of the training, if the training  
20 is provided by the eligible business; and

21 (B) 75 percent of an employee’s wages for  
22 the duration of the training, if the training is  
23 provided by an entity other than the eligible  
24 business; and

1           (3) 100 employees or more may use a grant  
2           provided under the program established under sub-  
3           section (a) to pay up to—

4                   (A) 25 percent of an employee’s wages for  
5           the duration of the training, if the training is  
6           provided by the eligible business; and

7                   (B) 50 percent of an employee’s wages for  
8           the duration of the training, if the training is  
9           provided by an entity other than the eligible  
10          business.

11          (d) PRIORITY FOR TARGETED COMMUNITIES.—In  
12          providing grants under the program established under  
13          subsection (a), the Secretary shall give priority to eligible  
14          businesses that—

15                 (1) recruit employees—

16                   (A) from the communities that the busi-  
17           nesses serve; and

18                   (B) that are minorities, women, persons  
19           who are or were foster children, persons who  
20           are transitioning from fossil energy sector jobs,  
21           or veterans; and

22                 (2) provide trainees with the opportunity to ob-  
23          tain real-world experience.



1 (e) LIMIT.—An eligible business may not receive  
2 more than \$100,000 under the program established under  
3 subsection (a) per fiscal year.

4 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
5 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
6 \$70,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.

7 **SEC. 203. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) APPRENTICESHIP.—The term “apprentice-  
10 ship” means an apprenticeship registered under the  
11 Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the  
12 “National Apprenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664, chap-  
13 ter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.).

14 (2) EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—The term  
15 “educational institution” means an elementary  
16 school, secondary school, or institution of higher  
17 education.

18 (3) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND SECONDARY  
19 SCHOOL.—The terms “elementary school” and “sec-  
20 ondary school” have the meanings given such terms  
21 in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary  
22 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

23 (4) ENERGY-RELATED INDUSTRY.—The term  
24 “energy-related industry” includes each of the en-  
25 ergy efficiency, renewable energy, chemical manufac-

1 turing, utility, alternative fuels, pipeline, nuclear en-  
2 ergy, oil, gas, and coal industries.

3 (5) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
4 term “institution of higher education” has the  
5 meaning given such term in section 102 of the High-  
6 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

7 (6) LABOR ORGANIZATION.—The term “labor  
8 organization” has the meaning given such term in  
9 section 2 of the National Labor Relations Act (29  
10 U.S.C. 152).

11 (7) LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
12 BOARD.—The term “local workforce development  
13 board” means a local board, as defined in section 3  
14 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
15 (29 U.S.C. 3102).

16 (8) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The  
17 term “minority-serving institution” means an insti-  
18 tution of higher education that is of one of the fol-  
19 lowing:

20 (A) Hispanic-serving institution (as de-  
21 fined in section 502(a)(5) of the Higher Edu-  
22 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a(a)(5))).

23 (B) Tribal College or University (as de-  
24 fined in section 316(b) of the Higher Education  
25 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b))).

1 (C) Alaska Native-serving institution (as  
2 defined in section 317(b) of the Higher Edu-  
3 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059d(b))).

4 (D) Native Hawaiian-serving institution  
5 (as defined in section 317(b) of the Higher  
6 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059d(b))).

7 (E) Predominantly Black Institution (as  
8 defined in section 318(b) of the Higher Edu-  
9 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059e(b))).

10 (F) Native American-serving nontribal in-  
11 stitution (as defined in section 319(b) of the  
12 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
13 1059f(b))).

14 (G) Asian American and Native American  
15 Pacific Islander-serving institution (as defined  
16 in section 320(b) of the Higher Education Act  
17 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059g(b))).

18 (9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
19 the Secretary of Energy.

20 (10) STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
21 BOARD.—The term “State workforce development  
22 board” means a State board, as defined in section  
23 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
24 (29 U.S.C. 3102).

○