

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1400

To amend the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to strengthen adult education.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 9, 2025

Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To amend the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to strengthen adult education.

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

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Adult Education Work-  
5       force Opportunity and Reskilling for Knowledge and Suc-  
6       cess Act” or the “Adult Education WORKS Act”.

# **TITLE I—WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

## **SEC. 101. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.**

(a) AMENDMENT TO WIOA.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this section an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.).

### **(b) DEFINITIONS.—**

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 (29 U.S.C. 3102) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (5);

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through (9) as paragraphs (5) through (8), respectively;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (8), as redesignated by subparagraph (B), the following:

“(9) COLLEGE AND CAREER NAVIGATOR.—The term ‘college and career navigator’ means an individual who—

“(A) has extensive knowledge of workforce development programs and services, postsecondary programs and services, Federal and

1 other student financial aid for postsecondary  
2 education, and case management techniques;

3 “(B) supports persons who are accessing  
4 services under this Act, by gathering work his-  
5 tory and skills information, providing tailored  
6 college and career guidance and labor market  
7 information, helping jobseekers identify training  
8 and educational options to best fit their needs,  
9 including Federal student aid and other assist-  
10 ance available to pay the costs of attendance at  
11 an institution of higher education or for partici-  
12 pation in training, facilitating access to serv-  
13 ices, and facilitating co-enrollment of individ-  
14 uals in programs carried out under title I and  
15 title II;

16 “(C) provides or organizes provision of  
17 services to promote job readiness, digital lit-  
18 eracy skills, information literacy skills, and the  
19 skills needed for success in postsecondary edu-  
20 cation, facilitates the successful transition of in-  
21 dividuals to postsecondary education, coordi-  
22 nates activities with employers and with entities  
23 and individuals involved in the one-stop delivery  
24 system in the local area, and conducts commu-  
25 nity outreach; and

1           “(D) as determined appropriate by the  
 2           one-stop operator or eligible provider of adult  
 3           education and literacy activities involved, is re-  
 4           sponsible for recruitment of students in adult  
 5           education and literacy activities and partici-  
 6           pants in workforce investment activities, provi-  
 7           sion of intensive case management, provision of  
 8           career exploration services, and data collection  
 9           associated with an activity specified in this sub-  
 10          paragraph.”;

11           (D) by redesignating paragraphs (12)  
 12          through (14), (15) through (21), (22) through  
 13          (26), and (27) through (71), as paragraphs  
 14          (13) through (15), (17) through (23), (25)  
 15          through (29), and (31) through (75), respec-  
 16          tively;

17           (E) by inserting after paragraph (11) the  
 18          following:

19           “(12) CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT.—The term  
 20          ‘concurrent enrollment’ has the meaning given the  
 21          term in section 203.”;

22           (F) by inserting after paragraph (15), as  
 23          redesignated by subparagraph (D), the fol-  
 24          lowing:

1           “(16) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.—The term  
2           ‘digital literacy skills’ has the meaning given the  
3           term in section 203.”;

4           (G) by inserting after paragraph (23), as  
5           redesignated by subparagraph (D), the fol-  
6           lowing:

7           “(24) FOUNDATIONAL SKILL NEEDS.—The  
8           term ‘foundational skill needs’, used with respect to  
9           an individual, means—

10           “(A) in the case of an individual who is a  
11           youth, an individual who has English reading,  
12           writing, or computing skills at or below the 8th  
13           grade level on a generally accepted standardized  
14           test; or

15           “(B) in the case of an individual who is a  
16           youth or adult, an individual who is unable to  
17           compute or solve problems, or read, write, or  
18           speak English, at a level necessary to function  
19           on the job, in the individual’s family, or in soci-  
20           ety.”; and

21           (H) by inserting after paragraph (29), as  
22           redesignated by subparagraph (D), the fol-  
23           lowing:

1 “(30) INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS.—The  
 2 term ‘information literacy skills’ has the meaning  
 3 given the term in section 203.”.

4 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

5 (A) Section 121(h)(2)(C)(ii) (29 U.S.C.  
 6 3151(h)(2)(C)(ii)) is amended by striking “sec-  
 7 tion 3(13)(D)” and inserting “section  
 8 3(14)(D)”.

9 (B) Section 134(c)(3)(H)(i) (29 U.S.C.  
 10 3174(c)(3)(H)(i)) is amended by striking “sec-  
 11 tion 3(44)” and inserting “section 3(48)”.

12 (C) Section 170(b)(1)(D)(i) (29 U.S.C.  
 13 3225(b)(1)(D)(i)) is amended by striking “sec-  
 14 tion 3(15)(E)” and inserting “section  
 15 3(17)(E)”.

16 (D) Section 211(e)(3) (29 U.S.C.  
 17 3291(e)(3)) is amended by striking “section  
 18 3(45)” and inserting “section 3(49)”.

19 (c) STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS.—  
 20 Section 101 (29 U.S.C. 3111) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(C)(ii)(IV), by inserting  
 22 “, and representatives of organizations that provide  
 23 adult education” after “out-of-school youth”; and

24 (2) in subsection (d)—

1 (A) in paragraph (7)(A), by striking “(as  
2 defined in section 202 of the Museum and Li-  
3 brary Services Act (20 U.S.C. 9101); referred  
4 to in this Act as ‘digital literacy skills’)”;

5 (B) in paragraph (11), by striking “and”  
6 at the end;

7 (C) by redesignating paragraph (12) as  
8 paragraph (13); and

9 (D) by inserting after paragraph (11) the  
10 following:

11 “(12) in collaboration with providers of adult  
12 education and literacy activities, the promotion of  
13 the employment of college and career navigators by  
14 the one-stop centers in the State; and”.

15 (d) PROGRAM SPECIFICS FOR STATE PLANS.—Sec-  
16 tion 102(b)(2) (29 U.S.C. 3112(b)(2)) is amended—

17 (1) in subparagraph (D)(ii)—

18 (A) in subclause (II), by striking item (dd)  
19 and inserting the following:

20 “(dd) integrated education  
21 and training, including how costs  
22 for such activities will be shared  
23 among relevant core programs;”;

24 (B) in subclause (V), by adding “and” at  
25 the end; and

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

2 “(VI) how the eligible agency will  
3 promote, through funding priority or  
4 other means, professionalization of  
5 adult education and literacy activities  
6 through the adoption of staffing mod-  
7 els that include requirements and sup-  
8 port for teacher credentialing, stand-  
9 ards, and support for ongoing in-serv-  
10 ice professional development, and ca-  
11 reer ladders for professional growth,  
12 which may include more opportunities  
13 for full-time teaching positions;” and

14 (2) in subparagraph (E)(iii)(II), by inserting  
15 “providers of adult education and literacy activities,”  
16 after “institutions of higher education,”.

17 (e) LOCAL BOARDS.—Section 107 (29 U.S.C. 3122)  
18 is amended—

19 (1) in subsection (c)(1), by adding at the end  
20 the following:

21 “(D) INFORMATION ON MEMBERSHIP.—

22 The chief elected officials appointing the local  
23 board for a local area shall make publicly avail-  
24 able information on the membership of the  
25 board (including information identifying how



the membership composition requirements of subsection (b) have been met), including by posting that information on the website of each unit of general local government included in the local area.”; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking “secondary and postsecondary education” and inserting “secondary, postsecondary, and adult education”;

(B) in paragraph (7)(C)—

(i) by inserting “, in consultation with providers of public access to technology,” after “identifying strategies”;

(ii) by inserting “, including deliveries through public libraries,” after “traditional service delivery”; and

(iii) by inserting “and information literacy skills” after “digital literacy skills”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(14) COLLEGE AND CAREER NAVIGATORS.—

The local board, in collaboration with providers of adult education and literacy activities in the local area, shall promote the employment of college and

1 career navigators by the one-stop centers and eligible  
 2 providers (as defined in section 203) in the local  
 3 area.”.

4 (f) LOCAL PLANS.—Section 108 (29 U.S.C. 3123) is  
 5 amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)(13), by inserting “, includ-  
 7 ing, in all local plans after the first such plan, a de-  
 8 scription of how the local board carried out such co-  
 9 ordination and completed such review during the  
 10 previous 4-year period” after “submitted under title  
 11 II”; and

12 (2) in subsection (d)(3), by inserting “, along  
 13 with a description of the actions the local board took  
 14 in response to such comments” after “disagreement  
 15 with the plan”.

16 (g) INDICATORS OF PERFORMANCE.—Section  
 17 116(b)(2)(A) (29 U.S.C. 3141(b)(2)(A)) is amended—

18 (1) in clause (i), by striking subclauses (IV)  
 19 and (V) and inserting the following:

20 “(IV) the percentages of program  
 21 participants who, during participation  
 22 in the program—

23 “(aa) obtain a recognized  
 24 postsecondary credential or a sec-

1                   ondary school diploma or its rec-  
2                   ognized equivalent; and

3                   “(bb) are in an education or  
4                   training program that leads to a  
5                   recognized postsecondary creden-  
6                   tial or employment and who are  
7                   achieving measurable skill gains  
8                   toward such a credential or em-  
9                   ployment;

10                  “(V) the percentages of program  
11                  participants who, within 1 year after  
12                  exit from the program—

13                   “(aa) obtain a secondary  
14                   school diploma or its recognized  
15                   equivalent;

16                   “(bb) have obtained or re-  
17                   tained employment; and

18                   “(cc) are in an education or  
19                   training program leading to a  
20                   recognized postsecondary creden-  
21                   tial; and”;

22                  (2) by striking clause (iii) and inserting the fol-  
23                  lowing:

24                   “(iii) INTERIM INDICATORS FOR  
25                   ADULT EDUCATION.—A State may develop

1 interim indicators for measuring the per-  
 2 centage of program participants on track  
 3 to meet the indicators described in sub-  
 4 clauses (IV) and (V) of clause (i) for adult  
 5 education and literacy activities authorized  
 6 under title II.”; and

7 (3) in clause (iv), by striking “clauses (i)(VI)”  
 8 and inserting “clause (i)(VI)”.

9 (h) COMMON PARTICIPANT INDIVIDUAL RECORD  
 10 LAYOUT.—Section 116 (29 U.S.C. 3141) is amended by  
 11 adding at the end the following:

12 “(j) COMMON PARTICIPANT INDIVIDUAL RECORD  
 13 LAYOUT.—The Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of  
 14 Education shall establish a common reporting system that  
 15 covers, and that accommodates, the core programs, relat-  
 16 ing to participant records and the performance account-  
 17 ability measures described in subsection (b).”.

18 (i) ONE-STOP DELIVERY SYSTEMS.—Section 121 (29  
 19 U.S.C. 3151) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (d)(2)(B)—

21 (A) by redesignating clauses (ii) through  
 22 (vi) as clauses (iii) through (vii), respectively;  
 23 and

24 (B) by inserting after clause (i) the fol-  
 25 lowing:

1 “(ii) a public library;”; and

2 (2) in subsection (e)—

3 (A) in paragraph (2)(B)—

4 (i) in clause (i), by striking “and” at  
5 the end;

6 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking the semi-  
7 colon and inserting “; and”; and

8 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
9 lowing:

10 “(iii) through one or more public li-  
11 braries in accordance with paragraph  
12 (5);”; and

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

14 “(5) INFORMATION AND SERVICES PROVIDED  
15 THROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—A local board may  
16 use funds made available under subsection (h) to  
17 make programs, activities, and services available  
18 through a public library to the extent such library  
19 demonstrates to the local board—

20 “(A) that the library provides or will pro-  
21 vide career services or other workforce develop-  
22 ment activities to address unmet need for such  
23 services or activities, such as by providing ca-  
24 reer services and other workforce development  
25 activities to individuals at days or times, and lo-

1 cations, at which the services or activities are  
 2 not otherwise made available through the cor-  
 3 responding one-stop partners;

4 “(B) that the library will provide a phys-  
 5 ical location within the library, which may in-  
 6 clude a mobile library site, in which to serve in-  
 7 dividuals seeking services provided by a college  
 8 and career navigator; and

9 “(C) the library’s ability to leverage addi-  
 10 tional resources, such as staff, facilities, com-  
 11 puter access, or learning materials, in order to  
 12 extend the level of services otherwise provided  
 13 through the local one-stop delivery system, par-  
 14 ticularly to geographically distant communities,  
 15 communities for which physical one-stop centers  
 16 are not easily accessible through public trans-  
 17 portation, or communities in which there is in-  
 18 adequate access for the level of services need-  
 19 ed.”.

20 (j) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS; INFORMATION LIT-  
 21 ERACY SKILLS.—Section 134(c) (29 U.S.C. 3174(c)) is  
 22 amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (2)(A)—

1 (A) in clause (iii), by inserting “digital lit-  
 2 eracy, information literacy,” after “(including  
 3 literacy,”; and

4 (B) in clause (xii)(VI), by inserting “dig-  
 5 ital literacy skills, information literacy skills,”  
 6 after “learning skills,”; and

7 (2) in paragraph (3)(D)—

8 (A) by redesignating clauses (x) and (xi)  
 9 as clauses (xii) and (xiii), respectively; and

10 (B) by inserting after clause (ix) the fol-  
 11 lowing:

12 “(x) digital literacy skills training;

13 and

14 “(xi) information literacy skills train-  
 15 ing;”.

16 (k) LIBRARY-BASED AND COMMUNITY-BASED COL-  
 17 LEGE AND CAREER NAVIGATORS.—Subtitle D of title I  
 18 is amended by inserting after section 171 (29 U.S.C.  
 19 3226) the following:

20 **“SEC. 171A. LIBRARY-BASED AND COMMUNITY-BASED COL-**  
 21 **LEGE AND CAREER NAVIGATORS.**

22 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to ex-  
 23 pand the capacity of State and local workforce develop-  
 24 ment systems by leveraging the facilities and staff of li-  
 25 braries and community-based organizations to provide ca-

1 reer navigation services to individuals through library-  
 2 based and community-based college and career navigators.

3 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this section, the term  
 4 ‘eligible entity’ means a partnership between a State board  
 5 or local board and 1 or more of the following:

6 “(1) A community-based organization.

7 “(2) A library (as defined in section 213 of the  
 8 Library Services and Technology Act (20 U.S.C.  
 9 9122)) that offers workforce development activities  
 10 at no cost to individuals.

11 “(c) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—From funds made  
 12 available under section 172(g), the Secretary is authorized  
 13 to make grants to eligible entities to carry out the purpose  
 14 of this section.

15 “(d) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant  
 16 under this section, an eligible entity shall submit an appli-  
 17 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and  
 18 containing such information as the Secretary may require.

19 “(e) USES OF FUNDS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that re-  
 21 ceives a grant under this section shall use funds  
 22 made available through the grant to establish a col-  
 23 lege and career navigator program within the li-  
 24 brary, community-based organization, or agency that  
 25 is a partner of such eligible entity.



1           “(2) ACTIVITIES OF PROGRAM.—A college and  
 2           career navigator program established under para-  
 3           graph (1) may hire, train, support, or retain 1 or  
 4           more college and career navigators to provide career  
 5           navigation services in coordination with a State or  
 6           local workforce development system.”.

7           (1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section  
 8   172 (20 U.S.C. 3227) is amended by adding at the end  
 9   the following:

10          “(g) LIBRARY-BASED AND COMMUNITY-BASED  
 11   NAVIGATORS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to  
 12   carry out section 171A, \$135,000,000 for fiscal year 2026  
 13   and each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.”.

## 14           **TITLE II—ADULT EDUCATION** 15                   **AND LITERACY**

### 16   **SEC. 201. PURPOSE.**

17           Section 202(1) of the Adult Education and Family  
 18   Literacy Act (29 U.S.C. 3271(1)) is amended—

19           (1) by inserting “(including digital literacy  
 20           skills and information literacy skills)” after “skills”;  
 21           and

22           (2) by striking “and economic self-sufficiency”  
 23           and inserting “, economic self-sufficiency, and full  
 24           participation in all aspects of adult life”.

1 **SEC. 202. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 203 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-  
 3 eracy Act (29 U.S.C. 3272) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (1)—

5 (A) by striking “postsecondary level” and  
 6 inserting “college placement level”;

7 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
 8 “and” after the semicolon;

9 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as  
 10 subparagraph (E); and

11 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (B)  
 12 the following:

13 “(C) develop and use digital literacy skills;

14 “(D) develop and use information literacy  
 15 skills; and”;

16 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through  
 17 (9) and (10) through (17) as paragraphs (6)  
 18 through (12) and (14) through (21), respectively;

19 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
 20 lowing:

21 “(3) COLLEGE PLACEMENT LEVEL.—The term  
 22 ‘college placement level’ means the level required for  
 23 placement in college-level course work, rather than  
 24 placement in developmental education, as dem-  
 25 onstrated by achievement of a designated score on a  
 26 placement test or other college-identified measure.

1           “(4) CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT.—The term  
 2           ‘concurrent enrollment’ means intentional, simulta-  
 3           neous enrollment in more than 1 one-stop partner  
 4           program, as a strategy for leveraging resources and  
 5           eliminating duplication of services while achieving  
 6           the best possible outcomes.

7           “(5) DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS.—The term  
 8           ‘digital literacy skills’ means the skills associated  
 9           with—

10                   “(A) using technology to enable users to  
 11                   find, evaluate, organize, create, and commu-  
 12                   nicate information; and

13                   “(B) developing digital citizenship and the  
 14                   responsible use of technology.”;

15           (4) in paragraph (7), as redesignated by para-  
 16           graph (2), in subparagraph (C)(i), by striking “is  
 17           basic skills deficient” and inserting “has  
 18           foundational skills needs”;

19           (5) in paragraph (9), as redesignated by para-  
 20           graph (2), in subparagraph (B)(i)—

21                   (A) in subclause (I), by striking “and”  
 22                   after the semicolon;

23                   (B) in subclause (II), by striking “or” and  
 24                   inserting “and”; and

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

1 “(III) development of digital lit-  
 2 eracy skills and information literacy  
 3 skills; or”;

4 (6) in paragraph (12), as redesignated by para-  
 5 graph (2), in the matter preceding subparagraph  
 6 (A), by inserting “and educational” after “in the  
 7 economic”;

8 (7) by inserting after paragraph (12), as redes-  
 9 ignated by paragraph (2), the following:

10 “(13) INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS.—The  
 11 term ‘information literacy skills’ means the set of  
 12 skills needed to find, retrieve, understand, evaluate,  
 13 analyze, discern the reliability and accuracy of, and  
 14 effectively use information (which encompasses spo-  
 15 ken and broadcast words and videos, printed mate-  
 16 rials, and digital content, data, and images).”;

17 (8) in paragraph (15), as redesignated by para-  
 18 graph (2), by inserting “(and may be provided con-  
 19 currently with other activities and services, such as  
 20 adult basic education)” after “workforce training”;

21 (9) in paragraph (17), as redesignated by para-  
 22 graph (2), by striking “and solve problems, at levels  
 23 of proficiency necessary to function on the job, in  
 24 the family of the individual, and in society” and in-  
 25 serting “solve problems, and use digital literacy

1 skills and information literacy skills at levels of pro-  
 2 ficiency necessary to function effectively as an em-  
 3 ployee, a parent or family member, and a member  
 4 of society”; and

5 (10) in paragraph (21), as redesignated by  
 6 paragraph (2)—

7 (A) by inserting “information literacy  
 8 skills,” after “digital literacy skills,”; and

9 (B) by striking “and completion of”.

#### 10 **SEC. 203. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 Section 206 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-  
 12 eracy Act (29 U.S.C. 3275) is amended by striking “this  
 13 title” and all that follows through the period at the end  
 14 and inserting “this title \$810,000,000 for fiscal year  
 15 2026, \$945,000,000 for fiscal year 2027, \$1,080,000,000  
 16 for fiscal year 2028, \$1,215,000,000 for fiscal year 2029,  
 17 and \$1,350,000,000 for fiscal year 2030.”.

#### 18 **SEC. 204. RESERVATION OF FUNDS.**

19 Section 211 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-  
 20 eracy Act (29 U.S.C. 3291) is amended in subsection  
 21 (a)(1), by striking “\$15,000,000” and inserting  
 22 “\$25,000,000”.

#### 23 **SEC. 205. PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.**

24 Section 212 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-  
 25 eracy Act (29 U.S.C. 3292) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 212. PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in sub-  
4 section (b), programs and activities authorized under  
5 this title are subject to all of the performance ac-  
6 countability provisions described in section 116.

7 “(2) ADDITIONAL MEASURABLE SKILL GAINS.—

8 With respect to the application to programs and ac-  
9 tivities authorized under this title of the indicator of  
10 measurable skill gains under section  
11 116(b)(2)(A)(i)(IV), such measurable skill gains  
12 may include those relating to the purpose described  
13 in section 202.

14 “(b) PILOT FOR INNOVATIVE PERFORMANCE AC-  
15 COUNTABILITY SYSTEMS.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ap-  
17 prove an application from an eligible agency to pilot,  
18 for a subset of eligible providers within its State and  
19 as an alternative to the performance accountability  
20 system described in section 116, an innovative per-  
21 formance accountability system that uses alternative  
22 indicators of performance that have the potential to  
23 more accurately reflect the objectives and adult edu-  
24 cation and literacy activities of the eligible providers’  
25 programs if the Secretary determines that an appli-

1 cation from such an eligible agency meets the re-  
2 quirements of this subsection.

3 “(2) PILOT PERIOD.—An eligible agency apply-  
4 ing to pilot an innovative performance accountability  
5 system under this subsection shall propose in its ap-  
6 plication the period of time that the agency desires  
7 to implement such system, except that the period  
8 shall not exceed 5 years.

9 “(3) EXTENSION OF A PILOT PERIOD.—The  
10 Secretary shall approve an eligible agency’s request  
11 to extend the period of a pilot under this subsection  
12 if the Secretary determines that the innovative per-  
13 formance system is meeting the objectives of this  
14 subsection.

15 “(4) APPLICATION.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible agency de-  
17 siring to undertake a pilot under this subsection  
18 shall submit an application at such time and in  
19 such manner as the Secretary may require.

20 “(B) CONTENTS.—An application de-  
21 scribed in subparagraph (A) shall include—

22 “(i) a description of how the eligible  
23 agency engaged in an outreach process  
24 with eligible providers within its State to—

1                   “(I) inform the eligible providers  
2                   of the opportunity to implement a  
3                   pilot under this subsection; and

4                   “(II) engage with the eligible  
5                   providers in the development of alter-  
6                   native indicators of performance;

7                   “(ii) an explanation of whether and  
8                   how the eligible agency established any  
9                   standards or criteria for the alternative  
10                  measures of performance that participating  
11                  eligible providers could elect to use;

12                  “(iii) a listing of the eligible providers  
13                  that will participate in the proposed pilot  
14                  and a description of the indicators of per-  
15                  formance that each such provider will  
16                  make use of through the pilot;

17                  “(iv) a description of why the eligible  
18                  agency and the participating eligible pro-  
19                  viders believe the proposed indicators of  
20                  performance would more accurately meas-  
21                  ure the attainment of the objectives of  
22                  such providers’ adult education and lit-  
23                  eracy activities than would the indicators  
24                  of performance described in section  
25                  116(b)(2);



1 “(v) an explanation of how the pro-  
2 posed indicators of performance will be  
3 valid and reliable measures of education  
4 and employment consistent with purposes  
5 of this title;

6 “(vi) a description of how the eligible  
7 agency will collect, report to the Secretary,  
8 and make publicly available the proposed  
9 indicators of performance from each par-  
10 ticipating eligible provider on a timely  
11 basis; and

12 “(vii) an assurance that the eligible  
13 agency will, at the end of the pilot period,  
14 report to the Secretary on the outcomes of  
15 the pilot, including on whether the eligible  
16 agency met the objectives of the pilot.

17 “(C) SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND AP-  
18 PROVAL.—The Secretary shall determine wheth-  
19 er to approve an application under this sub-  
20 section by not later than 90 days of receiving  
21 the application.

22 “(D) DISAPPROVAL.—The Secretary shall  
23 not disapprove an application under this sub-  
24 section without giving the applicant the oppor-  
25 tunity to revise and resubmit the application.

1           “(5) ADDITIONAL SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBIL-  
2 ITIES.—The Secretary shall—

3           “(A) through the Director of the Institute  
4 of Education Sciences, carry out national eval-  
5 uations of the implementation and outcomes of  
6 the pilots authorized under this subsection, with  
7 the first such evaluation to be completed not  
8 later than 5 years after the Secretary approves  
9 the first application from an eligible entity;

10          “(B) in consultation with the Director of  
11 the Institute of Education Sciences, identify  
12 best practices in the development and imple-  
13 mentation of innovative performance account-  
14 ability systems under this subsection;

15          “(C) disseminate information on those  
16 practices, including by making the information  
17 available on the website of the Department of  
18 Education; and

19          “(D) provide a report to the Committee on  
20 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the  
21 Senate and the Committee on Education and  
22 Workforce of the House of Representatives on  
23 the results of the pilot program, including a  
24 comparison of the outcomes as measured by the  
25 innovative performance accountability systems

1           implemented under this subsection and the per-  
 2           formance measures described in section 116.”.

3 **SEC. 206. MATCHING REQUIREMENT.**

4           Section 222(b) of the Adult Education and Family  
 5 Literacy Act (29 U.S.C. 3302(b)) is amended by inserting  
 6 after paragraph (2) the following:

7           “(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION  
 8           ON MATCHING FUNDS.—Each eligible agency shall  
 9           maintain, on the website of such agency and in an  
 10          easily accessible format, information documenting  
 11          the non-Federal contributions made available to  
 12          adult education and literacy programs pursuant to  
 13          this subsection, including the sources of such con-  
 14          tributions and, in the case of funds made available  
 15          by the State, the distribution of such funds to eligi-  
 16          ble providers.”.

17 **SEC. 207. STATE LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.**

18          Section 223(a) of the Adult Education and Family  
 19 Literacy Act (29 U.S.C. 3303(a)) is amended—

20           (1) in paragraph (1)(C)—

21           (A) in clause (i), by striking “programs,”  
 22           and inserting “, family literacy,”; and

23           (B) in clause (iii), by inserting “and ex-  
 24           pand options for the education of adults” after  
 25           “efficiencies”; and

1 (2) in paragraph (2)—

2 (A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting  
3 “digital” after “implementation of”;

4 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (E)  
5 through (L) and subparagraph (M), as sub-  
6 paragraphs (F) through (M) and subparagraph  
7 (O), respectively;

8 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (D)  
9 the following:

10 “(E) Developing content and models for  
11 family literacy programs.”;

12 (D) in subparagraph (J), as redesignated  
13 by subparagraph (B), in clause (i), by striking  
14 “and English language acquisition” and insert-  
15 ing “English language acquisition, digital lit-  
16 eracy skills, and information literacy skills”;

17 (E) in subparagraph (K), as redesignated  
18 by subparagraph (B), by inserting “, such as  
19 the development and retention of policies for  
20 credentialing of adult educators who dem-  
21 onstrate effectiveness” after “retention”;

22 (F) in subparagraph (L), as redesignated  
23 by subparagraph (B)—

24 (i) by striking “adult learners with  
25 learning disabilities or” and inserting “spe-

cific groups of adult learners, such as those with learning disabilities, those at the lowest levels of literacy, or those who are”; and

(ii) by striking “at the lowest achievement levels” and inserting “in appropriate and meaningful ways”; and

(G) by inserting after subparagraph (M), as redesignated by subparagraph (B), the following:

“(N) Strengthening the quality of adult education and literacy programs in the State through support for improved credentials, program quality standards, and certification and accreditation requirements.”.

**SEC. 208. GRANTS AND CONTRACTS FOR ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS.**

Section 231 of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (29 U.S.C. 3321) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d), by striking “subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 203(4)” and inserting “subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 203(8)”; and

(2) in subsection (e)(2), by striking “learning disabilities” and inserting “learning differences”.

1 **SEC. 209. LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE COST LIMITS.**

2 Section 233(a) of the Adult Education and Family  
3 Literacy Act (29 U.S.C. 3323(a)) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and for pro-  
5 fessional development” after “literacy activities”;  
6 and

7 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “professional  
8 development,”.

9 **SEC. 210. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.**

10 Section 242 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-  
11 eracy Act (29 U.S.C. 3332) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-  
14 ing the following:

15 “(1) assistance to help States meet the require-  
16 ments of section 116 in order to ensure—

17 “(A) that the outcomes and other data re-  
18 quired pursuant to section 116 are collected  
19 and reported in a timely and accessible manner;  
20 and

21 “(B) that such data are reported consist-  
22 ently across States and eligible providers and  
23 are reviewed for quality and consistency at the  
24 Federal level.”;

1 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2)  
 2 through (4) as paragraphs (5) through (7), re-  
 3 spectively; and

4 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the  
 5 following:

6 “(2) technical assistance to participating eligi-  
 7 ble agencies and eligible providers in implementing  
 8 innovative performance accountability systems under  
 9 section 212(b)(1);

10 “(3) grants to such agencies and providers to  
 11 assist them in implementing such systems;

12 “(4) carrying out the national evaluations re-  
 13 quired under section 212(b)(5)(A);” and

14 (2) in subsection (c)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1)(C), by inserting  
 16 “skills and information literacy skills” after  
 17 “digital literacy”; and

18 (B) in paragraph (2)—

19 (i) in subparagraph (C)(vii)—

20 (I) in the matter preceding sub-  
 21 clause (I), by striking “best practices”  
 22 and inserting “effective practices”;

23 (II) in subclause (I), by striking  
 24 “adults with learning disabilities and  
 25 with” and inserting “specific popu-

lations, such as adults with learning differences, adults with the lowest levels of literacy or numeracy, adults who are supporting the education of their children, and”;

(III) by redesignating subclauses (III) and (IV) as subclauses (IV) and (V), respectively;

(IV) by inserting after subclause (II) the following:

“(III) family literacy programs;”;

and

(V) in subclause (IV), as redesignated by subclause (III), by inserting “, including digital literacy skills and information literacy skills development” after “activities”;

(ii) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) in clause (ii), by inserting “for themselves and their children” after “education and training”; and

(II) in clause (iii), by inserting “, such as counseling, transportation, and child care,” after “support services”;



- 1 (iii) in subparagraph (F), by striking  
2 “and” after the semicolon;
- 3 (iv) by redesignating subparagraph  
4 (G) as subparagraph (K); and
- 5 (v) by inserting after subparagraph  
6 (F) the following:
- 7 “(G) developing and rigorously evaluating  
8 model programs for the preparation of highly  
9 effective adult educators;
- 10 “(H) carrying out initiatives to support the  
11 professionalization of adult education through  
12 the creation and implementation of full-time  
13 staffing models;
- 14 “(I) providing professional development  
15 and technical assistance to adult educators that  
16 is designed to help ensure that adult education  
17 and family literacy programs build pathways to  
18 future success for all adult learners; and
- 19 “(J) strengthening the quality of adult  
20 education and literacy programs through sup-  
21 port for improved credentials, program quality  
22 standards, and certification and accreditation  
23 requirements that States may adopt on a vol-  
24 untary basis; and”.

1 **SEC. 211. INTEGRATED ENGLISH LITERACY AND CIVICS**  
2 **EDUCATION.**

3 Section 243 of the Adult Education and Family Lit-  
4 eracy Act (29 U.S.C. 3333) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “, in combina-  
6 tion with integrated education and training activi-  
7 ties”; and

8 (2) in subsection (c), by striking “designed”  
9 and all that follows through the period at the end  
10 and inserting the following: “designed to prepare  
11 adults who are English learners for full participation  
12 in the economic, educational, and civic life of the  
13 community, which may include integration with the  
14 local workforce development system.”.

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