

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 580

To include community partners and intermediaries in the planning and delivery of education and related programs, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 26, 2015

Mr. WHITEHOUSE 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 include community partners and intermediaries in the planning and delivery of education and related programs, 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 “Community Partnerships in Education Act”.

6       (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for  
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY  
EDUCATION ACT OF 1965

Sec. 101. State plans.

- Sec. 102. Local educational agency plans.  
 Sec. 103. Schoolwide programs.  
 Sec. 104. Targeted assistance schools.  
 Sec. 105. Academic assessment and local educational agency and school improvement.  
 Sec. 106. School improvement grants.  
 Sec. 107. Evaluations.  
 Sec. 108. Definitions.

TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO THE CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND  
 TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT OF 2006

- Sec. 201. Definitions.  
 Sec. 202. Attainment of 21st century skills.  
 Sec. 203. Inclusion of community partners and intermediary organizations in State and local plans.  
 Sec. 204. Evaluations.

TITLE III—AMENDMENTS TO THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND  
 OPPORTUNITY ACT

- Sec. 301. Definitions.  
 Sec. 302. Inclusion of community partners and intermediary organizations in local workforce development boards and activities.  
 Sec. 303. Inclusion of community partners and intermediary organizations in adult education and literacy programs.  
 Sec. 304. Effective date.

TITLE IV—AMENDMENTS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF  
 1965

- Sec. 401. Definitions.  
 Sec. 402. TRIO programs.  
 Sec. 403. GEAR UP.  
 Sec. 404. Maintenance and expansion of existing programs.

1 **TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO THE**  
 2 **ELEMENTARY AND SEC-**  
 3 **ONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF**  
 4 **1965**

5 **SEC. 101. STATE PLANS.**

6 Section 1111 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
 7 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (b)(2)(C)(vii)—

9 (A) by striking “and changes in” and in-  
 10 sserting “changes in”; and

1 (B) by inserting before the period at the  
 2 end the following: “, and measures of the at-  
 3 tainment of 21st century skills (such as critical  
 4 thinking, problem-solving, communication, and  
 5 collaboration)”;

6 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(D)(i), by inserting “,  
 7 and aligned with the program the State will carry  
 8 out with funds received under this part” after “if  
 9 any”; and

10 (3) in subsection (h)(1)(C)—

11 (A) by striking “and” at the end of clause  
 12 (vii);

13 (B) by striking the period at the end of  
 14 clause (viii) and inserting “; and”; and

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

16 “(ix) information on student attain-  
 17 ment of 21st century skills (such as critical  
 18 thinking, problem-solving, communication,  
 19 and collaboration).”.

20 **SEC. 102. LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY PLANS.**

21 Section 1112(b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary  
 22 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6312(b)(1)) is amend-  
 23 ed—

24 (1) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “, such  
 25 as measures of the attainment of 21st century skills

1 (such as critical thinking, problem-solving, commu-  
2 nication, and collaboration),” after “any other indi-  
3 cators”;

4 (2) in subparagraph (P), by striking “and” at  
5 the end;

6 (3) in subparagraph (Q), by striking the period  
7 and inserting a semicolon; and

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

9 “(R) a description of the data-sharing  
10 agreement or agreements that the local edu-  
11 cational agency has entered into with other  
12 agencies and organizations so as to provide for  
13 shared access to information on student  
14 progress and success (consistent with the re-  
15 quirements of subpart 4 of part C of the Gen-  
16 eral Education Provisions Act), integrated plan-  
17 ning and joint review of the data, and coordi-  
18 nated adjustments in strategies for programs  
19 carried out with funds received under this part  
20 and activities in response to changes in student  
21 needs or to new challenges;

22 “(S) a description of how the local edu-  
23 cational agency will carry out programs with  
24 funds received under this part in partnership  
25 with one or more community partners, includ-

1 ing through joint planning and implementation,  
2 shared professional development designed to im-  
3 prove the effectiveness of school and community  
4 partner staff, development and implementation  
5 of shared data systems that support the im-  
6 provement of such programs and the improve-  
7 ment of the outcomes of such programs, and  
8 the alignment and coordination of local edu-  
9 cational agency, school, and community partner  
10 goals, activities, and training; and

11 “(T) a description of how the local edu-  
12 cational will carry out programs with funds re-  
13 ceived under this part with the involvement of  
14 one or more intermediary organizations that  
15 will assist the agency and its schools by train-  
16 ing staff, providing technical assistance that is  
17 designed to ensure continuous improvement,  
18 helping to ensure accountability for results, and  
19 helping to ensure that such funds flow quickly  
20 and effectively to effective service providers and  
21 activities.”.

22 **SEC. 103. SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAMS.**

23 Section 1114(b)(1)(J) of the Elementary and Sec-  
24 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6314(b)(1)(J))  
25 is amended by inserting “, with the assistance of one or

1 more intermediary organizations described in section  
 2 1112(b)(1)(T),” after “Coordination and integration”.

3 **SEC. 104. TARGETED ASSISTANCE SCHOOLS.**

4 Section 1115(c)(1)(H) of the Elementary and Sec-  
 5 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6315(c)(1)(H))  
 6 is amended by inserting “, with the assistance of one or  
 7 more intermediary organizations described in section  
 8 1112(b)(1)(T),” after “coordinate and integrate”.

9 **SEC. 105. ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT AND LOCAL EDU-**  
 10 **CATIONAL AGENCY AND SCHOOL IMPROVE-**  
 11 **MENT.**

12 Section 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
 13 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6316) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by inserting “, such  
 15 as measures of the attainment of 21st century  
 16 skills,” after “section 1121(b)(1)(A) and (B)”;

17 (2) in subsection (b)(3)(A)—

18 (A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by  
 19 inserting “community partners and inter-  
 20 mediary organizations described in subpara-  
 21 graphs (S) and (T) of section 1112(b)(1),”  
 22 after “the local educational agency serving the  
 23 school,”; and

24 (B) in clause (vii)—

1 (i) by striking “and the State edu-  
 2 cational agency” and inserting “the State  
 3 educational agency”; and

4 (ii) by inserting “and community  
 5 partners and intermediary organizations  
 6 described in subparagraphs (S) and (T) of  
 7 section 1112(b)(1),” after “under the  
 8 plan”; and

9 (3) in subsection (c)(7)(A)—

10 (A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by  
 11 inserting “community partners or intermediary  
 12 organizations described in subparagraphs (S)  
 13 and (T) of section 1112(b)(1),” after “school  
 14 staff,”; and

15 (B) in clause (vii), by striking “and the  
 16 local educational agency” and inserting “, the  
 17 local educational agency, and community part-  
 18 ners and intermediary organizations described  
 19 in subparagraphs (S) and (T) of section  
 20 1112(b)(1)”.

21 **SEC. 106. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.**

22 Section 1003(g)(6) of the Elementary and Secondary  
 23 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6303(g)(6)) is amend-  
 24 ed—

1           (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-  
2 graph (A);

3           (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-  
4 paragraph (B) and inserting “; and”; and

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

6                   “(C) a commitment to carry out school and  
7 local educational agency improvement—

8                           “(i) in partnership with one or more  
9 community partners, including through  
10 joint planning and implementation, shared  
11 professional development designed to im-  
12 prove the effectiveness of school and com-  
13 munity partner staff, development and im-  
14 plementation of shared data systems that  
15 support program improvement and the im-  
16 provement of program outcomes, and the  
17 alignment and coordination of local edu-  
18 cational agency, school, and community  
19 partner goals, activities, and training; and

20                           “(ii) with the involvement of one or  
21 more intermediary organizations that will  
22 assist the agency and its schools by train-  
23 ing staff, providing technical assistance  
24 that is designed to ensure continuous im-  
25 provement, helping to ensure accountability



1 for results, and helping to ensure that pro-  
2 gram funds flow quickly and effectively to  
3 effective service providers and activities.”.

4 **SEC. 107. EVALUATIONS.**

5 Section 1501(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary  
6 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6491(a)(2)) is amend-  
7 ed—

8 (1) by redesignating subparagraph (O) as sub-  
9 paragraph (Q); and

10 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (N) the fol-  
11 lowing:

12 “(O) Whether and how local educational  
13 agencies are involving community partners and  
14 intermediary organizations in their activities  
15 carried out under section 1003(g) and part A,  
16 and the impact of that involvement.

17 “(P) The implementation of the data-shar-  
18 ing agreements entered into under section  
19 1112(b)(1)(E), and the impact of that imple-  
20 mentation.”.

21 **SEC. 108. DEFINITIONS.**

22 Section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
23 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801) is amended—

1           (1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through  
2           (24) and (25) through (43) as paragraphs (8)  
3           through (25) and (27) through (45), respectively;

4           (2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the fol-  
5           lowing:

6           “(7) COMMUNITY PARTNER.—The term ‘com-  
7           munity partner’ means a nonprofit or public organi-  
8           zation that has expertise in the planning and deliv-  
9           ery of education and related programs, in forging co-  
10          ordination and cooperation between educators and  
11          other members of the community, or in training edu-  
12          cators and other deliverers of educational services.”;  
13          and

14          (3) by inserting after paragraph (25), as redesi-  
15          gnated by paragraph (1), the following:

16          “(26) INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATION.—The  
17          term ‘intermediary organization’ means a nonprofit  
18          organization that has expertise in training, forging  
19          public-private partnerships, systems development,  
20          capacity-building, improving scalability, evaluation,  
21          and the effective use of data to improve the progress  
22          of students, schools and other educational institu-  
23          tions, and education programs.”.

1 **TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO THE**  
2 **CARL D. PERKINS CAREER**  
3 **AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**  
4 **ACT OF 2006**

5 **SEC. 201. DEFINITIONS.**

6 Section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-  
7 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302) is amend-  
8 ed—

9 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through  
10 (18) and paragraphs (19) through (34) as para-  
11 graphs (10) through (19) and paragraphs (21)  
12 through (36), respectively;

13 (2) by inserting after paragraph (8) the fol-  
14 lowing new paragraph:

15 “(9) **COMMUNITY PARTNER.**—The term ‘com-  
16 munity partner’ means a nonprofit organization that  
17 has expertise in the planning and delivery of edu-  
18 cation and related programs, in forging coordination  
19 and cooperation between educators and other mem-  
20 bers of the community, in training educators and  
21 other deliverers of educational services, or in devel-  
22 opment and implementation of data systems that  
23 measure the progress of students, schools and insti-  
24 tutions of higher education, and programs.”; and

1           (3) by inserting after paragraph (19) (as redesi-  
2           gnated by paragraph (1)) the following new para-  
3           graph:

4           “(20) INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATION.—The  
5           term ‘intermediary organization’ means a nonprofit  
6           organization that has expertise in training, forging  
7           public-private partnerships, systems development,  
8           capacity-building, improving scalability, and evalua-  
9           tion.”.

10 **SEC. 202. ATTAINMENT OF 21ST CENTURY SKILLS.**

11           (a) ACCOUNTABILITY.—Section 113(b)(2)(C) of the  
12 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of  
13 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2323(b)(2)(C)) is amended by inserting  
14 “attainment of 21st century skills (such as critical think-  
15 ing, problem-solving, communication, and collaboration)  
16 and” after “such as”.

17           (b) LOCAL AND STATE REPORTS.—Section 113 of  
18 such Act is further amended—

19           (1) in subsection (b)(4)(C)(ii)—

20                   (A) in subclause (I), by striking “; and”  
21                   and inserting a semicolon;

22                   (B) in subclause (II), by striking the pe-  
23                   riod and inserting “; and”; and

24                   (C) by inserting after subclause (II) the  
25                   following new subclause:

1                   “(III) describe the progress of  
 2                   career and technical education stu-  
 3                   dents served by the eligible recipient  
 4                   in attaining 21st century skills (such  
 5                   as critical thinking, problem-solving,  
 6                   communication, and collaboration).”;  
 7                   and

8                   (2) in subsection (c)(2)—

9                   (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “;  
 10                  and” and inserting a semicolon;

11                  (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the  
 12                  period and inserting “; and”; and

13                  (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)  
 14                  the following new subparagraph:

15                  “(C) describe the progress of career and  
 16                  technical education students of the State in at-  
 17                  taining 21st century skills (such as critical  
 18                  thinking, problem-solving, communication, and  
 19                  collaboration).”.

20 **SEC. 203. INCLUSION OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND**  
 21 **INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATIONS IN STATE**  
 22 **AND LOCAL PLANS.**

23                  (a) STATE PLAN.—Section 122 of the Carl D. Per-  
 24                  kins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20  
 25                  U.S.C. 2342) is amended—

1           (1) in subsection (b)(1)(A)(ix), by striking “in-  
2           cluding parent and community organizations” and  
3           inserting “including parent and intermediary organi-  
4           zations and community partners”;

5           (2) in subsection (c)(1)(A)—

6                 (A) in clause (iii), by striking “; and” and  
7                 inserting a semicolon; and

8                 (B) by inserting after clause (iv) the fol-  
9                 lowing new clauses:

10                         “(v) are carried out in partnership  
11                         with one or more community partners, in-  
12                         cluding through joint planning and imple-  
13                         mentation, shared professional develop-  
14                         ment designed to improve the effectiveness  
15                         of eligible recipient and community partner  
16                         staff, development and implementation of  
17                         shared data systems that support program  
18                         improvement and the improvement of pro-  
19                         gram outcomes, and the alignment and co-  
20                         ordination of eligible recipient and commu-  
21                         nity partner goals, activities, and training;  
22                         and

23                         “(vi) are carried out with the involve-  
24                         ment of one or more intermediary organi-  
25                         zations that will assist the eligible appli-

1 cants by training staff, providing technical  
 2 assistance that is designed to ensure con-  
 3 tinuous improvement, helping to ensure ac-  
 4 countability for results, and helping to en-  
 5 sure that program funds flow quickly and  
 6 effectively to effective service providers and  
 7 activities;” and

8 (3) in subsection (c)(2)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (F), by striking “;  
 10 and” and inserting a semicolon;

11 (B) in subparagraph (G), by inserting  
 12 “and” after the semicolon; and

13 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (G)  
 14 the following:

15 “(H) may be provided by a community  
 16 partner or an intermediary organization;”.

17 (b) LOCAL PLAN.—Section 134(b) of the Carl D.  
 18 Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20  
 19 U.S.C. 2354(b)) is amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (5), by inserting “community  
 21 partners, intermediary organizations,” after “labor  
 22 organizations”;

23 (2) in paragraph (11), by striking “; and” and  
 24 inserting a semicolon;

1           (3) in paragraph (12)(B), by striking the period  
2 and inserting a semicolon; and

3           (4) by inserting after paragraph (12) the fol-  
4 lowing new paragraphs:

5           “(13) describe the data-sharing agreement or  
6 agreements that the eligible recipient agency has en-  
7 tered into with other agencies and organizations so  
8 as to provide for shared access to information on  
9 student progress and success (consistent with the re-  
10 quirements of subpart 4 of part C of the General  
11 Education Provisions Act), integrated planning and  
12 joint review of the data, and coordinated adjust-  
13 ments in program strategies and activities in re-  
14 sponse to changes in student needs or to new chal-  
15 lenges;

16           “(14) describe how the eligible recipient will  
17 carry out its program under this part in partnership  
18 with one or more community partners, including  
19 through joint planning and implementation, shared  
20 professional development designed to improve the ef-  
21 fectiveness of eligible recipient and community part-  
22 ner staff, development and implementation of shared  
23 data systems that support program improvement  
24 and the improvement of program outcomes, and the  
25 alignment and coordination of eligible recipient and



1 community partner goals, activities, and training;  
2 and

3 “(15) a description of how the eligible recipient  
4 will carry out its program under this part with the  
5 involvement of one or more intermediary organiza-  
6 tions that will assist the eligible entity by training  
7 staff, providing technical assistance that is designed  
8 to ensure continuous improvement, helping to ensure  
9 accountability for results, and helping to ensure that  
10 program funds flow quickly and effectively to effec-  
11 tive service providers and activities.”.

12 (c) LOCAL USE OF FUNDS.—Section 135(b) of the  
13 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of  
14 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2355(b)) is amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (5), by striking “development  
16 programs that” and inserting “development pro-  
17 grams, which may be provided by community part-  
18 ners or intermediary organizations, that”;

19 (2) in paragraph (8), by striking “; and” and  
20 inserting a semicolon;

21 (3) in paragraph (9), by striking the period and  
22 inserting “; and”; and

23 (4) by inserting after paragraph (9) the fol-  
24 lowing new paragraph:

1           “(10) development and implementation of data-  
2           sharing agreements between the eligible recipient  
3           and other agencies and organizations that provide  
4           for shared access to information on student progress  
5           and success (consistent with the requirements of  
6           subpart 4 of part C of the General Education Provi-  
7           sions Act), integrated planning and joint review of  
8           the data, and coordinated adjustments in program  
9           strategies and activities in response to changes in  
10          student needs or to new challenges.”.

11 **SEC. 204. EVALUATIONS.**

12          Section 114(d)(2)(B) of the Carl D. Perkins Career  
13 and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2324)  
14 is amended—

15           (1) in clause (vi), by striking “; and” and in-  
16           serting a semicolon;

17           (2) in clause (vii), by striking the period and in-  
18           serting a semicolon; and

19           (3) by inserting after clause (vii) the following  
20           new clauses:

21                   “(viii) whether and how eligible recipi-  
22                   ents are involving community partners and  
23                   intermediary organizations in their activi-  
24                   ties carried out under part C, and the im-  
25                   pact of that involvement; and

1                   “(ix) the implementation of the data-  
2                   sharing agreements entered into under sec-  
3                   tion 135(b)(10), and the impact of that  
4                   implementation.”.

5 **TITLE     III—AMENDMENTS     TO**  
6 **THE     WORKFORCE     INNOVA-**  
7 **TION    AND OPPORTUNITY ACT**

8 **SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.**

9           Section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
10 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102) is amended—

11           (1) by redesignating paragraphs (11) through  
12           (29) and paragraphs (30) through (71) as para-  
13           graphs (12) through (30) and paragraphs (32)  
14           through (73), respectively;

15           (2) by inserting after paragraph (10) the fol-  
16           lowing new paragraph:

17           “(11) COMMUNITY PARTNER.—Except as other-  
18           wise specified in section 203, the term ‘community  
19           partner’ means a nonprofit or public organization  
20           that has expertise in the planning and delivery of  
21           workforce development and related programs, in  
22           forging coordination and cooperation between work-  
23           force development service providers and other mem-  
24           bers of the community, or in training service pro-  
25           viders.”; and

1           (3) by inserting after paragraph (30) (as redesi-  
 2           gnated by paragraph (1)) the following new para-  
 3           graph:

4           “(31) INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATION.—Except  
 5           as otherwise specified in section 203, the term  
 6           ‘intermediary organization’ means a nonprofit orga-  
 7           nization that has expertise in training, forging pub-  
 8           lic-private partnerships, systems development, capac-  
 9           ity-building, improving scalability, evaluation, and  
 10          development and implementation of data systems  
 11          that measure the progress of program participants  
 12          and programs.”.

13 **SEC. 302. INCLUSION OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND**  
 14                                   **INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATIONS IN LOCAL**  
 15                                   **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS AND**  
 16                                   **ACTIVITIES.**

17          (a) LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS.—  
 18          Section 107(b)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
 19          tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3122(b)(2)) is amended—

20                 (1) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as sub-  
 21                 paragraph (F);

22                 (2) in subparagraph (D)(v), by striking “and”  
 23                 at the end; and

24                 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the fol-  
 25                 lowing new subparagraph:

1           “(E) each local board shall include rep-  
2           representatives of community partners and inter-  
3           mediary organizations; and”.

4           (b) LOCAL PLANS.—Section 108(b) of such Act (29  
5 U.S.C. 3123(b)) is amended—

6           (1) by redesignating paragraph (22) as para-  
7           graph (23);

8           (2) in paragraph (21), by striking “and” at the  
9           end; and

10          (3) by inserting after paragraph (21) the fol-  
11          lowing new paragraph:

12           “(22) a description of the data-sharing agree-  
13          ment or agreements that the local board has entered  
14          into with other agencies and organizations so as to  
15          provide for shared access to information on partici-  
16          pant progress and success (consistent, as applicable,  
17          with the requirements of subpart 4 of part C of the  
18          General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232f  
19          et seq.)), integrated planning and joint review of the  
20          data, and coordinated adjustments in program strat-  
21          egies and activities in response to changes in student  
22          needs or to new challenges; and”.

23          (c) PERFORMANCE INDICATORS.—Section  
24 116(b)(2)(B) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(b)(2)(B)) is  
25 amended by inserting before the period at the end the fol-

1 lowing: “, including the acquisition of 21st century skills  
 2 (such as critical thinking, problem-solving, communica-  
 3 tion, and collaboration) by program participants”.

4 (d) PERFORMANCE INFORMATION.—Section  
 5 116(d)(3) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(d)(3)) is amend-  
 6 ed—

7 (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at  
 8 the end;

9 (2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period  
 10 and inserting “; and”; and

11 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the fol-  
 12 lowing new subparagraph:

13 “(D) at the discretion of the Governor, in-  
 14 formation on program participants’ develop-  
 15 ment of 21st century skills (such as critical  
 16 thinking, problem-solving, communication, and  
 17 collaboration).”.

18 (e) YOUTH ACTIVITIES.—Section 129(c) of such Act  
 19 (29 U.S.C. 3164(c)) is amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “21st cen-  
 21 tury skills (such as critical thinking, problem-solv-  
 22 ing, communication, and collaboration),” after  
 23 “basic skills,”; and

24 (2) in paragraph (2)—

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

3 (B) in subparagraph (N), by striking the  
4 period and inserting “; and”; and

5 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (N)  
6 the following new subparagraph:

7 “(O) development of 21st century skills  
8 (such as critical thinking, problem-solving, com-  
9 munication, and collaboration).”.

10 (f) ADULT AND DISLOCATED WORKER ACTIVITIES.—  
11 Section 134(e)(3)(D) of such Act (29 U.S.C.  
12 3174(e)(3)(D)) is amended—

13 (1) in clause (x), by striking “and” at the end;

14 (2) in clause (xi), by striking the period and in-  
15 serting “; and”; and

16 (3) by inserting after clause (xi) the following  
17 new clause:

18 “(xii) development of 21st century  
19 skills (such as critical thinking, problem-  
20 solving, communication, and collabora-  
21 tion).”.

22 (g) EVALUATIONS.—Section 169(a)(2) of such Act  
23 (29 U.S.C. 3224(a)(2)) is amended—

24 (1) in subparagraph (A)(i), by inserting “and  
25 21st century skills (such as critical thinking, prob-

1 lem-solving, communication, and collaboration)”  
 2 after “employment competencies”;

3 (2) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at  
 4 the end;

5 (3) by redesignating subparagraph (G) as sub-  
 6 paragraph (I); and

7 (4) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the fol-  
 8 lowing new subparagraphs:

9 “(G) whether and how providers of services  
 10 under chapters 2 and 3 of subtitle A involve  
 11 community partners and intermediary organiza-  
 12 tions in their delivery of services, and the im-  
 13 pact of that involvement;

14 “(H) the implementation of the data-shar-  
 15 ing agreements entered into pursuant to section  
 16 108(b)(22), and the impact of that implementa-  
 17 tion; and”.

18 **SEC. 303. INCLUSION OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND**  
 19 **INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATIONS IN ADULT**  
 20 **EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROGRAMS.**

21 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 203 of the Workforce In-  
 22 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3272) is amend-  
 23 ed—

24 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through  
 25 (12) and paragraphs (13) through (17) as para-



1 graphs (4) through (13) and paragraphs (15)  
2 through (19), respectively;

3 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
4 lowing new paragraph:

5 “(3) COMMUNITY PARTNER.—The term ‘com-  
6 munity partner’ means a nonprofit or public organi-  
7 zation that has expertise in the planning and deliv-  
8 ery of education and related programs, in forging co-  
9 ordination and cooperation between educators and  
10 other members of the community, or in training edu-  
11 cators and other deliverers of educational services.”;  
12 and

13 (3) by inserting after paragraph (13) (as redes-  
14 igned by paragraph (1)) the following new para-  
15 graph:

16 “(14) INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATION.—The  
17 term ‘intermediary organization’ means a nonprofit  
18 organization that has expertise in training, forging  
19 public-private partnerships, systems development,  
20 capacity-building, improving scalability, evaluation,  
21 and development and implementation of data sys-  
22 tems that measure the progress of students, schools,  
23 and other educational institutions and programs.”.

1 (b) GRANTS AND CONTRACTS FOR ELIGIBLE PRO-  
2 VIDERS.—Section 231(e)(10) of such Act (29 U.S.C.  
3 3321(e)(10)) is amended—

4 (1) by inserting “and data-sharing arrange-  
5 ments (designed to provide for shared access to in-  
6 formation on student progress (consistent with the  
7 requirements of subpart 4 of part C of the General  
8 Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232f et seq.)),  
9 integrated planning, and coordinated adjustments in  
10 program strategies and activities in response to  
11 changes in student needs or to new challenges)”  
12 after “strong links”;

13 (2) by inserting “community partners, inter-  
14 mediary organizations,” after “postsecondary edu-  
15 cational institutions,”; and

16 (3) by striking “nonprofit organizations, and  
17 intermediaries” and inserting “and nonprofit organi-  
18 zations”.

19 (c) LOCAL PLAN.—Section 232(2) of such Act (29  
20 U.S.C. 3322(2)) is amended by inserting “and data-shar-  
21 ing agreements” after “cooperative agreements”.

22 **SEC. 304. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

23 The amendments made by this title shall take effect  
24 as if enacted as part of title I of the Workforce Innovation  
25 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.), consistent

1 with subsections (b) and (c) of section 506 of such Act  
2 (29 U.S.C. 3101 note).

3 **TITLE IV—AMENDMENTS TO THE**  
4 **HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF**  
5 **1965**

6 **SEC. 401. DEFINITIONS.**

7 Section 481 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
8 U.S.C. 1088) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
9 lowing new subsections:

10 “(g) **COMMUNITY PARTNER.**—For purposes of this  
11 title, the term ‘community partner’ means a nonprofit or  
12 public organization that has expertise in the planning and  
13 delivery of education and related programs, in forging co-  
14 ordination and cooperation between educators and edu-  
15 cational institutions with other members of the commu-  
16 nity, or in training educators and other deliverers of edu-  
17 cational services.

18 “(h) **INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATION.**—For purposes  
19 of this title, the term ‘intermediary organization’ means  
20 a nonprofit organization that has expertise in training,  
21 forging public-private partnerships, systems development,  
22 capacity-building, improving scalability, evaluation, and  
23 development and implementation of data systems that  
24 measure the progress of students, schools and other edu-  
25 cational institutions, and programs.”.

1 **SEC. 402. TRIO PROGRAMS.**

2 Section 402A of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
3 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–11) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (b)(1)—

5 (A) by striking “For the purposes de-  
6 scribed” and inserting the following:

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes de-  
8 scribed”; and

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

10 “(B) COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND INTER-  
11 MEDIARY ORGANIZATIONS.—An entity described  
12 in subparagraph (A) receiving a grant or enter-  
13 ing into a contract under this chapter shall, to  
14 the extent practicable, carry out the grant or  
15 contract—

16 “(i) with one or more community  
17 partners, including through joint planning  
18 and implementation, shared professional  
19 development designed to improve the effec-  
20 tiveness of such eligible entity and commu-  
21 nity partner staff, development and imple-  
22 mentation of shared data systems that  
23 support the improvement of the operations  
24 and outcomes of the program carried out  
25 with such grant or contract, and the align-  
26 ment and coordination of such eligible enti-

1 ty and community partner goals, activities,  
2 and training; and

3 “(ii) with the involvement of one or  
4 more intermediary organizations that will  
5 assist such eligible entity by training staff,  
6 providing technical assistance that is de-  
7 signed to ensure continuous improvement,  
8 helping to ensure accountability for results,  
9 and helping to ensure that the grant or  
10 contract funds flow quickly and effectively  
11 to effective service providers and activi-  
12 ties.”;

13 (2) in subsection (c)(6), by adding at the end  
14 the following: “The Secretary shall encourage enti-  
15 ties receiving grants or entering into contracts under  
16 this chapter to enter into data-sharing agreements  
17 with other agencies and organizations so as to pro-  
18 vide for shared access to information on student  
19 progress and success (consistent with the require-  
20 ments of subpart 4 of part C of the General Edu-  
21 cation Provisions Act), integrated planning and re-  
22 view of the data, and coordinated adjustments in  
23 program strategies and activities in response to  
24 changes in student needs or to new challenges.”; and

25 (3) in subsection (f)(3)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (i) by redesignating clauses (v) and  
3 (vi) as clauses (vi) and (vii), respectively;  
4 and

5 (ii) by inserting after clause (iv) the  
6 following new clause:

7 “(v) student acquisition of 21st cen-  
8 tury skills (such as critical thinking, prob-  
9 lem-solving, communication, and collabora-  
10 tion);”; and

11 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

12 (i) by redesignating clauses (v), (vi),  
13 and (vii) as clauses (vi), (vii), and (viii),  
14 respectively; and

15 (ii) by inserting after clause (iv) the  
16 following new clause:

17 “(v) student acquisition of 21st cen-  
18 tury skills (such as critical thinking, prob-  
19 lem-solving, communication, and collabora-  
20 tion);”.

21 **SEC. 403. GEAR UP.**

22 (a) **DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—Section  
23 404A(c)(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
24 U.S.C. 1070a–21(c)(2)) is amended—

25 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

1 (A) by striking “and” at the end of clause  
2 (i); and

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

4 “(iii) one or more community part-  
5 ners; and”; and

6 (2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “inter-  
7 mediary organizations,” after “subpart 4,”.

8 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—Section 404B(b) of the Higher  
9 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–22(b)) is  
10 amended—

11 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as  
12 subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively;

13 (2) by striking “Each eligible entity” and in-  
14 serting the following:

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity”; and

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

17 “(2) DATA SHARING.—Each eligible entity re-  
18 ceiving a grant under this chapter shall, to the ex-  
19 tent feasible, enter into data-sharing agreements  
20 with other organizations or agencies so as to provide  
21 for shared access to information on student progress  
22 and success (consistent with the requirements of  
23 subpart 4 of part C of the General Education Provi-  
24 sions Act), integrated planning and joint review of  
25 the data, and coordinated adjustments in program

1 strategies and activities in response to changes in  
2 student needs or to new challenges.”.

3 (c) APPLICATIONS.—Section 404C(a)(2) of the High-  
4 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–23(a)(2)) is  
5 amended—

6 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-  
7 graph (I);

8 (2) by striking the period and inserting “; and”  
9 at the end of subparagraph (J); and

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

11 “(K) describe, in the case of an eligible en-  
12 tity described in section 404A(c)(2), how the  
13 entities included in the partnership will engage  
14 in—

15 “(i) joint planning and implementa-  
16 tion;

17 “(ii) shared professional development  
18 designed to improve the effectiveness of  
19 school, community partner, and other  
20 staff;

21 “(iii) development and implementation  
22 of shared data systems that support pro-  
23 gram improvement and the improvement of  
24 program outcomes; and



1                   “(iv) the alignment and coordination  
2                   of local educational agency, school, commu-  
3                   nity partner, and other partnership mem-  
4                   ber goals, activities, and training.”.

5           (d) ACTIVITIES.—Section 404D(a)(3) of the Higher  
6 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–24(a)(3)) is  
7 amended—

8                   (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-  
9                   graph (A);

10                   (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-  
11                   paragraph (B) and inserting “; and”; and

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

13                           “(C) at the discretion of the eligible entity,  
14                           acquire 21st century skills (such as critical  
15                           thinking, problem-solving, communication, and  
16                           collaboration).”.

17 **SEC. 404. MAINTENANCE AND EXPANSION OF EXISTING**  
18 **PROGRAMS.**

19           (a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—Section 418A(a) of the  
20 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070d–2(a))  
21 is amended—

22                   (1) by striking “The Secretary shall” and in-  
23                   serting the following:

24                           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall”; and

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

1           “(2) COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND INTER-  
2           MEDIARY ORGANIZATIONS.—Each such program  
3           shall be implemented—

4                   “(A) in partnership with one or more com-  
5                   munity partners, including through joint plan-  
6                   ning and implementation, shared professional  
7                   development designed to improve the effective-  
8                   ness of, as applicable, school, institution of  
9                   higher education, nonprofit organization, and  
10                  community partner staff, development and im-  
11                  plementation of shared data systems that sup-  
12                  port program improvement and the improve-  
13                  ment of program outcomes, and the alignment  
14                  and coordination of, as applicable, school, insti-  
15                  tution of higher education, nonprofit organiza-  
16                  tion, and community partner goals, activities,  
17                  and training; and

18                   “(B) with the involvement of one or more  
19                   intermediary organizations that assist the  
20                   grantee by training staff, providing technical  
21                   assistance that is designed to ensure continuous  
22                   improvement, helping to ensure accountability  
23                   for results, and helping to ensure that program  
24                   funds flow quickly and effectively to effective  
25                   service providers and activities.

1           “(3) DATA SHARING.—Each such program shall  
2 include the implementation of one or more data-  
3 sharing agreements that between the grantee and  
4 other organizations or agencies that provide for  
5 shared access to information on student progress  
6 and success (consistent with the requirements of  
7 subpart 4 of part C of the General Education Provi-  
8 sions Act), integrated planning and joint review of  
9 the data, and coordinated adjustments in program  
10 strategies and activities in response to changes in  
11 student needs or to new challenges.”.

12           (b) SERVICES PROVIDED.—Section 418A(b) of the  
13 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070d–2(b))  
14 is amended—

15           (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph  
16 (8);

17           (2) by redesignating paragraph (9) as para-  
18 graph (10); and

19           (3) by inserting after paragraph (8) the fol-  
20 lowing:

21           “(9) activities designed to ensure that partici-  
22 pants acquire 21st century skills (such as critical  
23 thinking, problem-solving, communication, and col-  
24 laboration); and”.

○