

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 90

To establish a National Board on workforce skills and to develop a comprehensive school-to-work transition program for students in the United States.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 1993

Mr. KILDEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To establish a National Board on workforce skills and to develop a comprehensive school-to-work transition program for students in the United States.

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 “Workforce Readiness  
5       Act of 1993”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       For purposes of this Act:

8               (1) The term “career guidance counselor”  
9       means an individual who is certified in career guid-

1       ance and who assists students with evaluating career  
2       options, opportunities, planning, and decisionmaking  
3       and in seeking and obtaining employment.

4               (2) The term “generic skills” means cross-in-  
5       dustry, cross-occupation skills which are necessary  
6       for all individuals to have to be effective participants  
7       in the workforce.

8               (3) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
9       of Education.

10              (4) The term “school-to-work transition” means  
11       the process by which students acquire academic and  
12       occupational skills and work experience to assist in  
13       the transition from school to employment.

## 14       **TITLE I—NATIONAL BOARD ON** 15       **WORKFORCE SKILLS**

### 16       **SEC. 101. ESTABLISHMENT.**

17       There is established a National Board on Workforce  
18       Skills for the 21st Century (in this title referred to as the  
19       “National Board”).

### 20       **SEC. 102. PURPOSE.**

21       It is the purpose of this title to oversee the develop-  
22       ment of voluntary national standards that will identify the  
23       generic workplace readiness skills which employers agree  
24       all students should have upon completion of high school  
25       in order to be effective participants in the workforce.

1 **SEC. 103. DUTIES.**

2 The National Board shall—

3 (1) work with employers and educators to es-  
4 tablish, through a broad public process, voluntary  
5 national standards that will identify the generic  
6 workplace readiness skills which employers agree  
7 that students should have upon completion of high  
8 school;

9 (2) in developing such standards, take into con-  
10 sideration current work in this area undertaken  
11 under other auspices, including activities carried out  
12 under title II;

13 (3) consult with industry-specific occupational  
14 boards formulate work-ready skills standards;

15 (4) conduct research and evaluation activities  
16 necessary to determine the relationship between pos-  
17 session of skills and increased work performance;

18 (5) update such skills as the skill requirements  
19 of the economy change;

20 (6) conduct research and demonstration activi-  
21 ties which include the development and testing of  
22 models for integrating skills into the school-based  
23 learning in the K–12 grades, giving priority to mod-  
24 els which integrate academic and workplace instruc-  
25 tion beginning in elementary school grades;

1 (7) release draft standards for broad review and  
2 comment, and ensure the input of a broad range of  
3 employers including small businesses;

4 (8) once the final standards have been approved  
5 by the National Board, work with consortia of em-  
6 ployers, labor, and education representatives to in-  
7 corporate the standards into State and local sys-  
8 temic education reform efforts; and

9 (9) recommend procedures for the dissemina-  
10 tion of information and the provision of technical as-  
11 sistance to consortia of business, labor, and edu-  
12 cation.

13 **SEC. 104. COMPOSITION.**

14 The National Board shall be composed of 23 mem-  
15 bers appointed in accordance with section 105, represent-  
16 ing business and industry, labor, education, and local gov-  
17 ernment. The National Board shall reflect a broad range  
18 of businesses, including representatives from the manufac-  
19 turing, financial, and service sectors.

20 **SEC. 105. MEMBERSHIP.**

21 Members of the National Board shall be appointed  
22 as follows:

23 (1) 7 members, of which at least 3 shall be  
24 Baldrige Award winners, shall be appointed by the  
25 Speaker of the House of Representatives, upon rec-

1       ommendations of the majority and minority leaders  
2       of the House, respectively.

3           (2) 7 members, of which at least 3 shall be  
4       Baldrige Award winners, shall be appointed by the  
5       President pro tempore of the Senate, upon rec-  
6       ommendations of the majority and minority leaders  
7       of the Senate, respectively.

8           (3) 7 members, of which at least 3 shall be  
9       Baldrige Award winners, shall be appointed by the  
10       President of the United States.

11 **SEC. 106. EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.**

12       The Secretary of education and the Secretary of  
13       Labor shall serve as ex officio members of the National  
14       Board.

15 **SEC. 107. TERMS OF APPOINTEES.**

16       (a) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The members of the  
17       National Board appointed under paragraph 1 of section  
18       105 shall be appointed for a term of 3 years, the members  
19       appointed under paragraph 2 of section 105 shall be ap-  
20       pointed for a term of 4 years, and the members appointed  
21       under paragraph 3 of section 105 shall be appointed for  
22       a term of 5 years.

23       (b) SUBSEQUENT TERMS.—After the terms under  
24       subsection (a) are served, each member appointed subse-  
25       quently shall be appointed for a 3-year term.

1 **SEC. 108. CHAIRPERSON.**

2 The National Board shall annually elect a Chair-  
3 person from among its members who shall serve for a term  
4 of 1 year.

5 **SEC. 109. COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.**

6 (a) COMPENSATION.—Members of the National  
7 Board shall serve without compensation.

8 (b) EXPENSES.—While away from their homes or  
9 regular places of business on the business of the National  
10 Board, members of the Board may be allowed travel ex-  
11 penses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as is au-  
12 thorized under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

13 (c) STAFF.—The National Board shall appoint an  
14 Executive Director who shall be compensated at a rate de-  
15 termined by the National Board not to exceed level 15 of  
16 the General Schedule under title 5, United States Code,  
17 and who may appoint such staff as is necessary.

18 **TITLE II—SCHOOL-TO-WORK**  
19 **TRANSITION PROGRAMS**

20 **SEC. 201. PURPOSE.**

21 It is the purpose of this title to develop school-to-work  
22 transition programs which provide students with the edu-  
23 cation and skills necessary to enter the workplace ready  
24 to perform and able to attain a satisfactory standard of  
25 living.

1 **SEC. 202. GRANT AUTHORIZATION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to  
3 make grants to local educational agencies to develop, im-  
4 plement, or expand programs which integrate workplace  
5 skills into the regular school curriculum in order to facili-  
6 tate the transition from school to work.

7 (b) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF ASSISTANCE.—In  
8 approving grants under this title, the Secretary shall as-  
9 sure an equitable distribution of assistance among the  
10 States and among urban and rural areas of the States.

11 **SEC. 203. APPLICATIONS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—A local educational agency that  
13 desires to receive a grant under this title shall submit an  
14 application to the Secretary at such time, in such form,  
15 and containing such information that the Secretary may  
16 reasonably require.

17 (b) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—Such application  
18 shall include—

19 (1) the composition of the business/industry/  
20 labor partnership with which the local education  
21 agency will work to develop and implement an effec-  
22 tive school-to-work transition program;

23 (2) a description of how funds will be used;

24 (3) a description of how the program will be co-  
25 ordinated with K–12 vocational educational pro-  
26 grams; and

1           (4) an assurance that the applicant shall main-  
2           tain data and information regarding the program,  
3           including the number of students served.

4 **SEC. 204. USES OF FUNDS.**

5           (a) REQUIREMENTS.—Grants made available under  
6 this title shall be used by local educational agencies work-  
7 ing to develop and implement comprehensive school-to-  
8 work transition which shall include processes and proce-  
9 dures for—

10           (1) enabling students to gain a better under-  
11 standing of skill necessary for the workplace through  
12 work site visits, demonstrating and using of business  
13 technologies in the classroom, and bringing rep-  
14 resentatives of business and organized labor into the  
15 classroom;

16           (2) developing or adopting curricula and in-  
17 structional materials which incorporate generic  
18 workplace skills;

19           (3) expanding opportunities for students to  
20 enter career preparation programs that integrate  
21 academic instruction with workplace instruction;

22           (4) providing career guidance counselors to as-  
23 sist students seeking job placement or further occu-  
24 pational specific education; and

1           (5) professional development strategies for  
2 teachers, principals, counselors, and other school  
3 personnel to further the purposes of this title.

4           (b) OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES.—A local educational  
5 agency may—

6           (1) initiate a flexible school schedule to enable  
7 students to spend adequate time in the classroom  
8 and at the workplace; and

9           (2) design programs which enhance opportuni-  
10 ties for students to enter into programs leading to  
11 an associate degree in an occupational field or pro-  
12 gram authorized under part E, title III of the Carl  
13 Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Edu-  
14 cation Act.

15 **SEC. 205. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.**

16           (a) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of a grant  
17 under this title may not exceed—

18           (1) 90 percent of the total cost of a project for  
19 the first year for which the project receives assist-  
20 ance under this title, and

21           (2) 75 percent of such cost for the second such  
22 year and each subsequent year.

23           (b) OTHER SOURCES.—The share of payments from  
24 sources other than funds appropriated under this title may  
25 be in cash or in-kind fairly evaluated.

1 **SEC. 206. REPORTING.**

2 (a) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—A local educational  
3 agency that receives a grant under this title shall submit  
4 a report to the Secretary each year.

5 (b) REPORT TO THE CONGRESS.—The Secretary  
6 shall submit to the Congress a biannual report.

7 **SEC. 207. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appro-  
9 priated \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 1993 and such sums  
10 as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1994,  
11 1995, 1996, and 1997 for grants to local educational  
12 agencies for the development and implementation of pro-  
13 grams under this title to assist students to make the tran-  
14 sition from school to work.

15 (b) FUNDS FOR NATIONAL BOARD.—Of the funds  
16 authorized under subsection (a), 5 percent shall be re-  
17 served for activities authorized under title I of this Act.

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