

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 717

To encourage partnerships between community colleges and four-year colleges  
and universities.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 29, 2007

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

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## A BILL

To encourage partnerships between community colleges and  
four-year colleges and universities.

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 “Community College  
5 Partnership Act of 2007”.

6       **SEC. 2. COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY; COLLEGE**  
7       **PREPARATION PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED.**

8       Subpart 2 of part A of title IV of the Higher Edu-  
9 cation Act of 1965 is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating section 407E as section  
2 406E; and

3 (2) by inserting after chapter 3 (20 U.S.C.  
4 1070a–31 et seq.) the following new chapter:

5 **“CHAPTER 4—COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
6 **OPPORTUNITY**

7 **“SEC. 407A. PURPOSE.**

8 “It is the purpose of this chapter to enhance opportu-  
9 nities of students at community or technical colleges to  
10 transfer to 4-year institutions and complete bachelor’s de-  
11 grees.

12 **“SEC. 407B. ACTIVITIES.**

13 “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—From the amounts ap-  
14 propriated under section 407E, the Secretary shall award  
15 grants to an eligible partnership that—

16 “(1) shall include—

17 “(A) 1 or more community or technical  
18 colleges that award associate’s degrees; and

19 “(B) 1 or more institutions of higher edu-  
20 cation that offer a baccalaureate or post-bacca-  
21 laureate degree not awarded by the institutions  
22 described in subparagraph (A) with which it is  
23 partnered; and

1           “(2) may include a State agency responsible for  
2 the oversight or coordination of institutions of high-  
3 er education.

4           “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under this  
5 part shall be used for—

6           “(1) the development of policies and programs  
7 to expand opportunities for community or technical  
8 college students to earn bachelor’s degrees, including  
9 promoting the transfer of academic credits between  
10 institutions and expanding articulation and guaran-  
11 teed transfer agreements between institutions of  
12 higher education;

13           “(2) support services to students participating  
14 in the program, such as tutoring, mentoring, and  
15 academic and personal counseling, as well as any  
16 service that facilitates the transition of students  
17 from the community or technical college to the part-  
18 ner institution;

19           “(3) academic program enhancements at the  
20 community or technical college that result in increas-  
21 ing the quality of the program offered and the num-  
22 ber of student participants in the program offered in  
23 cooperation with a baccalaureate degree granting in-  
24 stitution pursuant to this section; and

1           “(4) programs to identify barriers that inhibit  
2           student transfers.

3           “(c) APPLICATIONS.—Any institution, or a consortia  
4           or system of higher education, that desires to obtain a  
5           grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an  
6           application at such time, in such manner, and containing  
7           such information or assurances as the Secretary may re-  
8           quire.

9           “(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe  
10          such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this  
11          section.

12       **“SEC. 407C. DEFINITION.**

13          “For the purpose of this part, the term ‘community  
14          or technical college’ means a public or nonprofit institu-  
15          tion of higher education—

16               “(1) that admits as regular students persons  
17               who are beyond the age of compulsory school attend-  
18               ance in the State in which the institution is located  
19               and who have the ability to benefit from the training  
20               offered by the institution;

21               “(2) that predominately does not provide an  
22               educational program for which it awards a bach-  
23               elor’s degree (or an equivalent degree);

24               “(3) that—

1           “(A) provides an educational program of  
2           not less than 2 years that is acceptable for full  
3           credit toward such a degree; or

4           “(B) offers a 2-year program in engineer-  
5           ing, mathematics, or the physical or biological  
6           sciences, designed to prepare a student to work  
7           as a technician or at the semiprofessional level  
8           in engineering, scientific, or other technological  
9           fields requiring the understanding and applica-  
10          tion of basic engineering, scientific, or mathe-  
11          matical principles of knowledge; and

12          “(4) that is accredited by a regional accrediting  
13          agency or association recognized by the Secretary  
14          under section 496.

15 **“SEC. 407D. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16          “There are authorized to be appropriated  
17          \$50,000,000 to carry out this chapter for fiscal year 2008  
18          and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 suc-  
19          ceeding fiscal years.”.

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