To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to States to establish a comprehensive school career counseling framework.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LANGEVIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ______________

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to States to establish a comprehensive school career counseling framework.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Counseling for Career Choice Act”.

[114H1079]
SEC. 2. AMENDMENT.

Title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“PART G—COUNSELING FOR CAREER CHOICE

“SEC. 4701. DEFINITIONS.

“In this part:

“(1) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term ‘community college’ means—

“(A) a junior or community college (as defined in section 312(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058(f)));

“(B) a 4-year public institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that awards a significant number of degrees and certificates, as determined by the Secretary, that are not—

“(i) baccalaureate degrees (or an equivalent); or

“(ii) master’s, professional, or other advanced degrees; or

“(C) an area career and technical education school (as defined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302)).
“(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible entity’ means—

“(A) an eligible agency, as defined in section 3(18) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302(18));

“(B) a local educational agency, including an educational service agency; or

“(C) a consortium that consists of one local educational agency in combination with one or more local educational agencies, educational service agencies, non-profit organizations with demonstrated expertise in counseling or career and technical education, postsecondary institutions, or tribal organizations.

“(3) LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD.—The term ‘local workforce development board’ means a local workforce development board established under section 107 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3122).

“(4) ONE-STOP CENTER.—The term ‘one-stop center’ means a site described in section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3151).
“(5) SCHOOL COUNSELOR.—The term ‘school counselor’ means an individual who holds a valid school counseling license or certification from a State educational agency.

“(6) STAKEHOLDERS.—The term ‘stakeholders’ includes local educational agencies, school counselors, secondary schools, institutions of higher education (including community colleges), eligible agencies (as defined under section 203 of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9202)), the State workforce development board, the State agency responsible for labor market information, other applicable State agencies as determined by the Secretary, local workforce development boards, area career and technical education schools (as defined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006), local businesses and industries, organizations offering apprenticeship programs, tribal organizations, labor organizations, programs leading to post-secondary credentials, including industry-recognized credentials, other programs for career and technical education (as defined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302)), industry associations, and any other organizations, individ-
uals or persons that the Secretary determines appropriate to carry out the purposes of this part.

“(7) **STATEWIDE CAREER COUNSELING FRAMEWORK.**—The term ‘statewide career counseling framework’ means a framework that encompasses the middle grades through grade 12 and postsecondary education and that includes information on career awareness, skills assessment, skills training, student interest surveys, postsecondary education entrance requirements, secondary school graduation requirements, high school equivalency, adult education programs and services, financial aid, institutions of higher education, community colleges, programs leading to industry-recognized credentials, career and technical education programs, internships, dual enrollment programs, apprenticeships, and professional development opportunities or career development training for school counselors.

“(8) **STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD.**—The term ‘State workforce development board’ means a State workforce development board established under section 101 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111).

“(9) **TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.**—The term ‘tribal organization’ has the meaning given the term in sec-
tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-


“(10) INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL.—

The term ‘industry-recognized,’ used with respect to

a credential, means a credential that—

“(A) is sought or accepted by employers

within the industry or sector involved as a rec-

ognized, preferred, or required credential for re-

cruitment, screening, hiring, retention or ad-

vancement purposes; and

“(B) where appropriate, is endorsed by a

nationally recognized trade association or orga-

nization representing a significant part of the

industry or sector.

“SEC. 4702. GRANTS AUTHORIZED.

“(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts ap-
propriated to carry out this part, the Secretary shall
award grants, on a competitive basis, to State educational
agencies to enable the State educational agencies to carry
out the activities described in section 4704.

“(b) DURATION; AMOUNT; EXTENSION.—

“(1) DURATION.—Each grant under this sec-
tion shall be for a period of not more than 2 years.
“(2) AMOUNT.—Each grant shall be of an amount not less than $2,000,000 and not more than $5,000,000.

“(3) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may extend a grant awarded under this section for additional 3-year periods if the State educational agency—

“(A) is achieving the intended outcomes of the grant; and

“(B) shows continued engagement with stakeholders.

“SEC. 4703. APPLICATION.

“A State educational agency desiring a grant under this part shall submit an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require. The application shall include—

“(1) a description of the statewide career counseling framework and implementation plan supported by not less than 5 stakeholders, of which at least 1 stakeholder shall be a local business or industry or statewide industry organization and 1 shall be a local educational agency or secondary school; and

“(2) a description of how the State educational agency will award subgrants and ensure that the activities described in section 4704 are carried out.
“SEC. 4704. ACTIVITIES.

“(a) In general.—A State educational agency receiving a grant under section 4702 shall use grant funds to—

“(1) implement comprehensive school career counseling programs that align with the statewide counseling framework described in the State educational agency’s application;

“(2) identify and assess school counseling activities and postsecondary options available within the State, and outside the State as applicable;

“(3) identify regional workforce trends in collaboration with entities at the State and regional level with expertise in identifying such trends, such as State workforce development boards, local workforce development boards, regional economic development organizations, or State employment agencies;

“(4) train school counselors effectively to provide students with current and relevant workforce information, financial aid assistance, personal counseling, and academic advising relevant to students’ individual career and postsecondary education goals;

“(5) develop and implement a process and infrastructure for school counselors and school counselor programs to access the statewide career coun-

selsing framework and information regarding the re-
gional workforce trends identified in paragraph (4);

“(6) develop and implement professional devel-
opment or career development training certification
programs for counselors and other educators in-
volved in preparing students for postsecondary op-
portunities, which may include partnering with an
industry association that provides a nationally-recog-
nized certification in career development;

“(7) develop a searchable method by which
counseling professional development opportunities
from around the State are collected, maintained, and
disseminated to school counselors;

“(8) establish, improve, or coordinate postsec-
ondary opportunities, which may include individual
career planning, personalized learning plans, reg-
istered apprenticeships, internships, dual enrollment
programs, programs leading to industry-recognized
credentials (including programs at a secondary
school), 2-year degree programs, 4-year degree pro-
grams, and other applicable postsecondary opportu-
nities;

“(9) provide recommendations and improve a
local educational agency’s and other education serv-
ice program providers to out of school youth and
adults curricula to better align with workforce
trends and available postsecondary opportunities;

“(10) conduct other activities pertaining to the
administration of the statewide framework;

“(11) establish partnerships with one-stop cen-
ters, which may include co-locating a one-stop center
in a high school, transporting students to local one-
stop centers, or having one-stop center career coun-
selors and business liaisons assist school counselors
in hosting job fairs, career days, or other such simi-
lar tasks;

“(12) leverage resources and emerging tech-
ologies that are being developed by stakeholders to
support the counseling framework; and

“(13) evaluate secondary and postsecondary
outcomes for individuals served by the career coun-
seling programs, disaggregated by the subgroups of
students described in section 1111(c)(2)(B).

“(b) SUBGRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A State educational agency
that receives a grant may carry out the activities de-
scribed in subsection (a) directly or through award-
ing subgrants, on a competitive basis, to eligible en-
tities to enable the eligible entities to carry out any
of the activities.
“(2) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that desires a subgrant under this subsection shall submit an application to the State educational agency at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the State educational agency may reasonably require, including a description of the comprehensive school career counseling program for participating schools and students that the eligible entity proposes to develop and implement using subgrant funds.

“(c) HIRING OF PERSONNEL.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under section 4702 may use the grant funds to hire additional personnel to carry out the activities described in subsection (a).

“SEC. 4705. SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.

“Funds made available under this part shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, other Federal, State, and local funds available to carry out the activities supported under this part.

“SEC. 4706. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

“(a) SEA REPORTS.—Not later than 2 years after receiving a grant under this part, a State educational agency shall submit a report to the Secretary that includes, at a minimum—
“(1) a description of the use of funds received under this part; and

“(2) the results of the evaluation conducted under section 4704(a)(13).

“(b) Secretary’s Reports.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Counseling for Career Choice Act, and every 3 years thereafter, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the progress made by the eligible entities receiving grants under this part in implementing grant activities, including the contents of the reports under subsection (a).

“SEC. 4707. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part $40,000,000 for fiscal year 2021 and $40,000,000 for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.”.