111TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. 178

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize a connecting education and emerging professions demonstration grant program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

January 8, 2009

Mr. Feingold introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize a connecting education and emerging professions demonstration grant program.

- 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 "Connecting Education
- 5 and Emerging Professions Act of 2009".
- 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.
- 7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:
- 8 (1) The majority of secondary school students
- 9 in the United States receive some career-related in-

- struction before graduation, and about half of secondary school students have a strong career-related component to their educational programs.
 - (2) A gap still remains between what students are learning in school and the knowledge required to succeed in the current labor market.
 - (3) Employers in various economic sectors, including technology, manufacturing, healthcare, construction, and others, report difficulty in identifying qualified candidates for skilled positions.
 - (4) A survey of more than 400 employers nationwide found that nearly half were dissatisfied with the overall preparation of secondary school graduates.
 - (5) Almost 40 percent of secondary school graduates report feeling unprepared for the workplace or postsecondary education.
 - (6) In order for companies in the United States to be competitive in a global economy, the United States must have a highly skilled workforce.
 - (7) Adequate preparation on the secondary school level can help prepare students to enter high-demand fields in need of skilled workers.

- 1 (8) Collaboration between businesses, indus-2 tries, and education leaders can help determine how 3 best to prepare students for workforce success. 4 (9) Career-related experiences during secondary 5 education, such as apprenticeships, are associated
 - (10) The United States has a secondary school graduation rate of 70 percent, and approximately one-third of students entering secondary school will not graduate on time.

with positive labor market outcomes for students.

- (11) Minority and low socioeconomic status students have significantly lower secondary school graduation rates.
- (12) Disengagement from classroom instruction contributes to student decisions to drop out of school.
- (13) Studies indicate a link between career-oriented models of secondary education, secondary school dropout rate reduction, and higher earning potential for secondary school graduates.
- (14) Studies suggest that academic lessons taught in a work context or an applied manner can improve some students' ability to comprehend and retain information.
- 25 (b) Purposes.—The purposes of this Act are to—

- 1 (1) foster improved collaboration among sec-2 ondary schools, State, regional, and local businesses, 3 institutions of higher education, industry, workforce 4 development organizations, labor organizations, and 5 other nonprofit community organizations to identify 6 emerging industry pathways, as well as the academic 7 skills necessary to improve student success in the 8 workforce or postsecondary education;
 - (2) address industry and postsecondary education needs for a prepared and skilled workforce;
 - (3) improve the potential for economic and employment growth in covered communities; and
 - (4) help address the dropout crisis in the United States by involving students in a collaborative curriculum or program development process related to emerging industry pathways to improve student engagement and attendance in secondary school.

19 SEC. 3. CONNECTING EDUCATION AND EMERGING PROFES-

20 SIONS DEMONSTRATION GRANT PROGRAM.

- 21 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—Part D of title V of the Ele-
- 22 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
- 23 7241 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 24 lowing:

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1	"Subpart 22—Connecting Education and Emerging
2	Professions Demonstration Grant Program
3	"SEC. 5621. DEFINITIONS.
4	"In this subpart:
5	"(1) COVERED COMMUNITY.—The term 'cov-
6	ered community' means a town, city, community, re-
7	gion, or State that has—
8	"(A) experienced a significant percentage
9	job loss in the 5 years prior to the date of en-
10	actment of this subpart or is projected to expe-
11	rience a significant percentage job loss within 5
12	years after the date of enactment of this sub-
13	part; or
14	"(B) an unemployment rate that has in-
15	creased in the 12 months prior to the date of
16	enactment of this subpart.
17	"(2) Eligible partnership.—The term 'eligi-
18	ble partnership' means a partnership that includes—
19	"(A) a State educational agency, a consor-
20	tium of local educational agencies, or a local
21	educational agency that collaborates with—
22	"(i) a State, regional, or local busi-
23	ness, including a small business, that
24	serves a covered community in which a
25	qualifying school is located; or

1	"(ii) a regional workforce investment
2	board that serves a covered community in
3	which a qualifying school is located; and
4	"(B) at least one of the following entities:
5	"(i) An institution of higher education
6	that provides a 4-year program of instruc-
7	tion.
8	"(ii) An accredited community college.
9	"(iii) An accredited career or technical
10	school or college.
11	"(iv) A tribal college or university.
12	"(v) A nonprofit community organiza-
13	tion.
14	"(vi) A labor organization.
15	"(3) Emerging industry pathways.—The
16	term 'emerging industry pathways' means industry
17	careers that—
18	"(A) are estimated to increase in the num-
19	ber of job opportunities in a covered community
20	within the 5 to 7 years after the date of enact-
21	ment of this subpart;
22	"(B) require new academic skill sets be-
23	cause of new technology or innovation in the
24	field;

1	"(C) are important to the growth of the
2	State economy, regional economy, or local
3	area's economy; and
4	"(D) may include—
5	"(i) green industries;
6	"(ii) healthcare industries;
7	"(iii) advanced manufacturing indus-
8	tries; and
9	"(iv) programs of study, as described
10	in section 122(c)(1)(A) of the Carl D. Per-
11	kins Career and Technical Education Act
12	of 2006.
13	"(4) Qualifying school.—The term 'quali-
14	fying school' means a secondary school that—
15	"(A) serves students not less than 30 per-
16	cent of whom are eligible for the school lunch
17	program under the Richard B. Russell National
18	School Lunch Act or meet an equivalent indi-
19	cator of poverty established by the Secretary;
20	"(B) has a graduation rate that is lower
21	than the State average; and
22	"(C) is located in a covered community.
23	"(5) School- and work-based curriculum
24	OR PROGRAM.—The term 'school- and work-based
25	curriculum or program' means a curriculum or pro-

- gram that incorporates a combination of school-1 2 based instruction and work-based learning opportu-3 nities, including internships, work experience pro-4 grams, apprenticeships, service learning programs, 5 mentorship opportunities, job shadowing, and other 6 career and technical education programs, in an 7 emerging industry pathway. "(6) Tribal college or university.—The 8
- 8 "(6) Tribal college or university' means an edu-9 term 'tribal college or university' means an edu-10 cational institution that is—
- 11 "(A) a tribal college or university, as de-12 fined in section 2(a) of the Tribally Controlled 13 Colleges and Universities Assistance Act of 14 1978; or
- 15 "(B) one of the 1994 Institutions, as de-16 fined in section 532 of the Equity in Edu-17 cational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 18 U.S.C. 301 note).

19 "SEC. 5622. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.

- "(a) IN GENERAL.—From amounts appropriated under section 5626, the Secretary shall establish and carry out an emerging professions and educational improvement demonstration project, by awarding grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible partnerships.
- 25 "(b) Program Periods.—

1	"(1) In general.—The Secretary shall award
2	grants under this subpart for periods of not more
3	than 5 years, of which the eligible partnership shall
4	use—
5	"(A) not more than 18 months for assess-
6	ing emerging industry pathways, assessing the
7	academic skills needed for success in such path-
8	ways, and designing a school- and work-based
9	curriculum or program to teach such academic
10	skills necessary for success in an emerging in-
11	dustry pathway;
12	"(B) not more than 48 months for imple-
13	menting the new emerging industry pathways
14	school- and work-based curriculum or program
15	in qualifying schools; and
16	"(C) not more than 12 months to dissemi-
17	nate best practices to other State educational
18	agencies, local educational agencies, or schools.
19	"(2) Overlap.—Each eligible partnership re-
20	ceiving a grant under this subpart may carry out
21	subparagraphs (A), (B), or (C) concurrently.
22	"(c) Priority.—In awarding grants under this sub-
23	part, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible partner-
24	ships that—

- "(1) serve qualifying schools in which 50 percent or more of the students are eligible for the school lunch program under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act or meet an equivalent indicator of poverty established by the Secretary;
 - "(2) serve qualifying schools the majority of which have secondary school dropout rates in the top 25 percent statewide;
 - "(3) pledge to serve the students most at-risk of dropping out of qualifying schools;
 - "(4) develop school- and work-based curricula or programs serving green industries, health care industries, and advanced manufacturing industries; or
- "(5) have a demonstrated record of success in forming collaborative partnerships with businesses, workforce development boards, institutions of higher education, local community and technical colleges, tribal colleges or universities, labor organizations, and other nonprofit community organizations.

20 "SEC. 5623. APPLICATIONS.

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"An eligible partnership that desires to receive a grant under this subpart shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including—

- "(1) a description of the eligible partnership,
 including the responsibilities of each partner and
 how each partner will meet its responsibilities;
 - "(2) a description of the statewide, regional, or local emerging industry pathways and labor market needs to be filled;
 - "(3) a description of how members of the eligible partnership will collaborate with each other and interested community stakeholders to assess the emerging industry pathways in the State, region, or local area;
 - "(4) a description of how the eligible partnership will engage students from qualifying schools to be served in the design and implementation of the school- and work-based curriculum or program;
 - "(5) a description of how the eligible partnership will use the assessment of emerging industry pathways to establish a school- and work-based curriculum or program to teach academic and industry skills needed for success in such emerging industries and how these skills will be aligned with existing challenging State academic content standards;
 - "(6) a description of how teachers, parents or guardians, and school guidance counselors will be consulted by the eligible partnership in the develop-

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- ment of the school- and work-based curriculum or
 program developed under this subpart;
 - "(7) a description of how the eligible partnership will ensure that teachers and instructors have the necessary training and preparation to teach the school- and work-based curriculum or program developed under this subpart;
 - "(8) a description of how the school- and workbased curriculum or program developed under this subpart will improve the academic achievement, student attendance, and secondary school completion of at-risk students and such students' readiness to enter into a career in an emerging industry or pursue postsecondary education;
 - "(9) a description of how the eligible partnership will design a school- and work-based curriculum or program that meets the unique academic and career development needs of students to be served by the curriculum or program;
 - "(10) a description of how the school- and work-based curriculum or program will support statewide, regional, or local emerging industries;
 - "(11) a description of how the eligible partnership will measure and report improvement in academic and student engagement outcomes among stu-

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1	dents who participate in the school- and work-based
2	curriculum or program developed under this subpart
3	"(12) a description of how the eligible partner
4	ship will seek to leverage other sources of Federal
5	State, and local funding to support the development
6	and implementation of the school- and work-based
7	curriculum or program;
8	"(13) a description of how the eligible partner
9	ship will work to create, use, and evaluate individual
10	learning plans and career portfolios for students
11	served under this subpart;
12	"(14) a description of how the eligible partner
13	ship will coordinate such curriculum or program
14	with programs funded under the Carl D. Perkins
15	Career and Technical Education Act of 2006; and
16	"(15) a description of how the eligible partner
17	ship plans to sustain and expand such school- and
18	work-based curriculum or program after the Federa
19	grant period ends.
20	"SEC. 5624. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.
21	"(a) Selection.—In awarding grants under this
22	subpart, the Secretary shall—
23	"(1) consider the information submitted by the
24	elioible partnerships under section 5623.

1	"(2) prioritize applications in accordance with
2	section 5622(c); and
3	"(3) select eligible partnerships that submit ap-
4	plications in compliance with section 5623.
5	"(b) Award Amounts.—
6	"(1) In general.—Subject to subsection (c),
7	the Secretary shall award each grant under this sub-
8	part in an amount of not more than \$5,000,000.
9	"(2) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible partnership
10	that receives a grant under this subpart shall use—
11	"(A) not more than 35 percent of the
12	grant funds for designing the emerging industry
13	pathways school- and work-based curriculum or
14	program; and
15	"(B) not less than 65 percent of the grant
16	funds for implementing the emerging industry
17	pathways school- and work-based curriculum or
18	program in qualifying schools.
19	"(c) Funding To Implement Curricula or Pro-
20	GRAMS.—The Secretary may not award grant funds under
21	subsection (b)(2)(B) to implement the emerging industry
22	pathways school- and work-based curriculum or program
23	until the Secretary certifies that the eligible partnership
24	is in compliance with the following:

- "(1) The eligible partnership has engaged in a collaborative process involving educators and school administrators, including curriculum experts, as well as representatives from local businesses and industry to assess emerging industry demands and the academic knowledge and skills needed to meet those demands.
 - "(2) The school- and work-based curriculum or program developed by the eligible partnership is aligned with challenging State academic content standards.
 - "(3) The eligible partnership has consulted with and involved students in qualifying schools in the collaboration process and design of the school- and work-based curriculum or program.
 - "(4) The eligible partnership has received a commitment from at least one qualifying school agreeing to implement the school- and work-based curriculum or program in the qualifying school.
 - "(5) The school- and work-based curriculum or program will help prepare students for both direct entry into a career in emerging industries and success in postsecondary education.
 - "(6) The eligible partnership has established a plan to promote the school- and work-based cur-

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1	riculum or program among qualifying schools, busi-
2	nesses, parental groups, and community organiza-
3	tions.
4	"(d) Eligible Uses of Funds.—
5	"(1) Planning Phase.—An eligible partner
6	ship that receives a grant under this subpart shall
7	use the grant funds in the designing phase for the
8	following:
9	"(A) Establishing collaborative working
10	groups consisting of educators, school adminis
11	trators, representatives of local or regional busi-
12	nesses, postsecondary education representatives
13	representatives from labor organizations, and
14	representatives from nonprofit organizations.
15	"(B) Identifying emerging industry path-
16	ways at the State, regional, or local level.
17	"(C) Identifying the academic and skil
18	gaps that need to be addressed to promote suc
19	cess in the emerging industry pathways identi-
20	fied in subparagraph (B).
21	"(D) Developing a school- and work-based
22	curriculum or program to teach and integrate
23	the academic and work-based skills, including

soft skills, that are needed for success in emerg-

1	ing industry pathways and postsecondary edu-
2	cation.
3	"(E) Creating a comprehensive set of aca-
4	demic and industry skills to be taught across
5	multiple emerging industry pathways.
6	"(F) Aligning the school- and work-based
7	curriculum or program with challenging State
8	academic content standards.
9	"(G) Establishing professional development
10	opportunities for educators, business partners,
11	school counselors, and others who will be imple-
12	menting the school- and work-based curriculum
13	or program.
14	"(H) Collaborating with multistate regions
15	to develop and identify a school- and work-
16	based curriculum or program that addresses re-
17	gional emerging industry pathways.
18	"(2) Implementing phase.—An eligible part-
19	nership that receives a grant under this subpart
20	shall use the grant funds in the implementing phase
21	for the following:
22	"(A) Integrating the emerging industry
23	pathways school- and work-based curriculum or
24	program into classroom- or work-based instruc-
25	tion.

1	"(B) Providing professional development
2	opportunities designed around the school- and
3	work-based curriculum or program for edu-
4	cators, business partners, and others.
5	"(C) Identifying and creating school- and
6	work-based learning curricula or programs for
7	students in such emerging industry pathways.
8	"(D) Promoting the school- and work-
9	based curriculum or program among school
10	guidance counselors.
11	"(E) Working with pupil services staff to
12	develop opportunities for career exploration
13	among emerging industry pathways business
14	partners.
15	"(F) Conducting ongoing evaluations of
16	the school- and work-based curriculum or pro-
17	gram, including assessing whether participating
18	students report increased engagement in learn-
19	ing, increased school attendance, and improved
20	success upon entry into the workforce or post-
21	secondary education.
22	"(G) Purchasing resources, including text-
23	books, reference materials, assessments, labs,
24	computers, and software, for use in the school-

and work-based curriculum or program. $\,$

1	"(3) DISSEMINATION PHASE.—An eligible part-
2	nership that receives a grant under this subpart
3	shall use the grant funds in the dissemination phase
4	for the following:
5	"(A) Evaluating, cataloging, and dissemi-
6	nating best practices from the school- and
7	work-based curriculum or program.
8	"(B) Disseminating the school- and work-
9	based curriculum or program to—
10	"(i) the National Research Center for
11	Career and Technical Education;
12	"(ii) State, regional, and local profes-
13	sional education organizations; and
14	"(iii) institutions of higher education.
15	"(e) MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS.—An eligible part-
16	nership that receives a grant under this subpart shall pro-
17	vide, from non-Federal sources, matching funds, which
18	may be provided in cash or in-kind, to carry out the activi-
19	ties supported by the grant, in an amount equal to—
20	"(1) for the first year of the grant, 5 percent
21	of the amount of the grant for such year;
22	"(2) for the second year of the grant, 10 per-
23	cent of the amount of the grant for such year;
24	"(3) for the third year of the grant, 15 percent
25	of the amount of the grant for such year:

1	"(4) for the fourth year of the grant, 20 per-
2	cent of the amount of the grant for such year; and
3	"(5) for the fifth year of the grant, 25 percent
4	of the amount of the grant for such year.
5	"(f) Supplement, Not Supplant.—Grant funds
6	awarded under this subpart shall be used to supplement
7	and not supplant other Federal, State, and local funds
8	available to implement secondary school education pro-
9	grams or career and technical education programs.
10	"SEC. 5625. EVALUATION AND REPORTS.
11	"(a) Annual Reports.—An eligible partnership
12	that receives a grant under this subpart shall submit an
13	annual report to the Secretary during the grant period de-
14	tailing how the eligible partnership is using the grant
15	funds under this subpart, including—
16	"(1) how the State educational agency or local
17	educational agency that is a member of the eligible
18	partnership collaborated with local businesses, work-
19	force boards, institutions of higher education, and
20	community organizations to assess emerging indus-
21	try pathways;
22	"(2) how the eligible partnership has consulted
23	with and involved students in qualifying schools in

the design and implementation of the emerging in-

1	dustry pathways school- and work-based curriculum
2	or program;
3	"(3) the effectiveness of the school- and work-
4	based curriculum or program with respect to improv-
5	ing—
6	"(A) student engagement;
7	"(B) attendance;
8	"(C) secondary school graduation rates;
9	and
10	"(D) preparation for and placement in a
11	career in an emerging industry or in postsec-
12	ondary education;
13	"(4) how the eligible partnership has improved
14	its capacity to respond to new workforce develop-
15	ment priorities and create educational opportunities
16	that address such new workforce development prior-
17	ities; and
18	"(5) any other information the Secretary may
19	reasonably require.
20	"(b) Final Reports.—
21	"(1) In general.—An eligible partnership that
22	receives a grant under this subpart shall, at the end
23	of the grant period, collect and prepare a report on
24	the following information:

1	"(A) The number and percentage of stu-
2	dents served by the eligible partnership who—
3	"(i) graduated from secondary school
4	with a regular secondary school diploma in
5	the standard number of years;
6	"(ii) entered into a job in an emerging
7	industry; and
8	"(iii) enrolled in a postsecondary in-
9	stitution.
10	"(B) The emerging industry pathways
11	school- and work-based curriculum or program
12	and the—
13	"(i) successes of such curriculum or
14	program, including placement rates of stu-
15	dents in work or postsecondary education
16	and trends in secondary school graduation
17	rates in qualifying schools utilizing the
18	school- and work-based curriculum or pro-
19	gram;
20	"(ii) areas of improvement for the
21	school- and work-based curriculum or pro-
22	gram;
23	"(iii) lessons learned from the imple-
24	mentation of the school- and work-based

1	curriculum or program in secondary
2	schools; and
3	"(iv) plans to replicate the school- and
4	work-based curriculum or program in other
5	schools or examples of successful replica-
6	tion of the curriculum or program.
7	"(2) Submission of Reports.—A report pre-
8	pared under paragraph (1) shall be submitted to the
9	Secretary and the National Research Center for Ca-
10	reer and Technical Education.
11	"(c) Federal Evaluation and Report.—Not
12	later than 6 years after the date of enactment of this sub-
13	part, the Secretary shall—
14	"(1) develop and execute a plan for evaluating
15	the emerging industry pathways school- and work-
16	based curricula or programs assisted under this sub-
17	part; and
18	"(2) submit a report to Congress—
19	"(A) detailing aggregate data on—
20	"(i) the categories of activities for
21	which eligible partnerships used grant
22	funds under this subpart;
23	"(ii) the impact of the grants on—

1	"(I) student engagement, attend-
2	ance, and completion of secondary
3	school; and
4	"(II) the postsecondary place-
5	ment of students in high-quality
6	emerging industry careers or postsec-
7	ondary education; and
8	"(iii) promising strategies for improv-
9	ing student engagement, attendance, and
10	completion of secondary school through en-
11	gaging curricula or programs; and
12	"(B) that includes any recommendations
13	for improvements that can be made to the
14	grant program under this subpart.
15	"SEC. 5626. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
16	"(a) In General.—From the amounts appropriated
17	to and available for Program Administration within the
18	Departmental Management account in the Department of
19	Education for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2013,
20	there are authorized to be appropriated \$25,000,000 for
21	each of fiscal years 2010 through 2013, respectively, to
22	carry out this subpart.
23	"(b) Set Aside for Evaluation.—Of the amounts
24	appropriated under subsection (a) for a fiscal year, 2 per-

- 1 cent shall be set aside for such fiscal year for the Federal
- 2 evaluation required under section 5625(c).".
- 3 (b) Table of Contents in
- 4 section 2 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
- 5 of 1965 is amended by inserting after the item relating
- 6 to section 5618 the following:

"SUBPART 22—CONNECTING EDUCATION AND EMERGING PROFESSIONS DEMONSTRATION GRANT PROGRAM

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[&]quot;Sec. 5621. Definitions.

[&]quot;Sec. 5622. Program authorized.

[&]quot;Sec. 5623. Applications.

[&]quot;Sec. 5624. Program administration.

[&]quot;Sec. 5625. Evaluation and reports.

[&]quot;Sec. 5626. Authorization of appropriations.".