

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 4297
OFFERED BY MR. LOEBSACK OF IOWA**

Page 22, strike line 14 and all that follows through page 23 line 4, and insert the following:

1 “(18) a description of how the State will award
2 funds under section 134A to support the develop-
3 ment and implementation of industry or sector part-
4 nerships.”.

Page 38, line 8, insert “, including industry or sector partnerships carried out using funds reserved under section 133(a)(4),” after “industry or sector partnerships”.

Page 72, line 2, strike the closing quotation mark and the semicolon.

Page 72, after line 2, insert the following:

5 “(4) EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT FUND.—The
6 Governor of a State shall reserve 5 percent of the
7 total amount allotted to the State under section
8 132(b)(2) for a fiscal year to carry out activities de-
9 scribed in section 134A.”;

Page 78, beginning on line 3, strike “sectoral and industry cluster strategies and partnerships,”.

Page 100, line 6, after “118” insert “, which may include services or strategies offered in conjunction with, or in addition to, activities carried out by an industry or sector partnership receiving funds under section 134A”.

Page 101, after line 22, insert the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

1 **SEC. 114. EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT FUND.**

2 (a) INDUSTRY OR SECTOR PARTNERSHIP GRANT
3 PROGRAM.—Subtitle D of title I is amended by adding
4 after section 134 the following new section:

5 **“SEC. 134A. EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT FUND.**

6 “(a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section to
7 enhance the engagement of local and regional employers
8 in the public workforce system by promoting industry or
9 sector partnerships that lead collaborative planning, re-
10 source alignment, and training efforts across multiple
11 firms for a range of workers employed or potentially em-
12 ployed by a targeted industry cluster, in order to encour-
13 age industry growth and competitiveness and to improve
14 worker training, retention, and advancement in targeted
15 industry clusters, including by developing—

1 “(1) immediate strategies for regions and com-
2 munities to fulfill pressing skilled workforce needs;

3 “(2) long-term plans to grow targeted industry
4 clusters with better training and a more productive
5 workforce;

6 “(3) core competencies and competitive advan-
7 tages for regions and communities undergoing struc-
8 tural economic redevelopment; and

9 “(4) skill standards, career ladders, job re-
10 definitions, employer practices, and shared training
11 and support capacities that facilitate the advance-
12 ment of workers at all skill levels.

13 “(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts reserved
15 under section 133(a)(4) to carry out this section, the
16 Governor of a State shall award, on a competitive
17 basis, grants described in paragraph (3) to industry
18 or sector partnerships to enable the industry or sec-
19 tor partnerships to plan and implement, respectively,
20 the industry or sector partnerships’ strategic objec-
21 tives in accordance with subsection (c)(2)(D).

22 “(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—

23 “(A) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—An im-
24 plementation grant awarded under paragraph

1 (3)(A) may not exceed a total of \$2,500,000 for
2 a 3-year period.

3 “(B) RENEWAL GRANTS.—A renewal grant
4 awarded under paragraph (3)(C) may not ex-
5 ceed a total of \$1,500,000 for a 3-year period.

6 “(3) IMPLEMENTATION AND RENEWAL
7 GRANTS.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Governor of a
9 State may award an implementation grant
10 under this section to a new or existing industry
11 or sector partnership.

12 “(B) DURATION.—An implementation
13 grant shall be for a duration of not more than
14 3 years, and may be renewed in accordance
15 with subparagraph (C).

16 “(C) RENEWAL.—The Governor of a State
17 may renew an implementation grant for not
18 more than 3 years. A renewal of such grant
19 shall be subject to the requirements of this sec-
20 tion, except that the Governor shall—

21 “(i) prioritize renewals to industry or
22 sector partnerships that can demonstrate
23 long-term sustainability; and

24 “(ii) require assurances that the in-
25 dustry or sector partnership will leverage

1 contributions from participating employers,
2 which may be cash or in-kind, that are not
3 less than 25 percent of the costs of car-
4 rying out the activities of the industry or
5 sector partnership.

6 “(D) FISCAL AGENT.—Each industry or
7 sector partnership receiving a grant under this
8 section shall designate an entity in the partner-
9 ship as the fiscal agent for purposes of this
10 grant.

11 “(E) USE OF GRANT FUNDS DURING
12 GRANT PERIODS.—An industry or sector part-
13 nership receiving grant funds under a grant
14 under this section shall expend grant funds or
15 obligate grant funds to be expended by the last
16 day of the grant period.

17 “(c) APPLICATION PROCESS.—

18 “(1) IDENTIFICATION OF A TARGETED INDUS-
19 TRY CLUSTER.—In order to qualify for a grant
20 under this section, an industry or sector partnership
21 shall identify a targeted industry cluster that could
22 benefit from such grant by—

23 “(A) working with businesses, industry as-
24 sociations and organizations, labor organiza-
25 tions, State boards, local boards, economic de-

1 velopment agencies, and other organizations
2 that the industry or sector partnership deter-
3 mines necessary, to identify an appropriate tar-
4 geted industry cluster based on criteria that in-
5 clude, at a minimum—

6 “(i) data showing the competitiveness
7 of the industry cluster;

8 “(ii) the importance of the industry
9 cluster to the economic development of the
10 area served by the industry or sector part-
11 nership, including estimation of jobs cre-
12 ated or preserved;

13 “(iii) the identification of supply and
14 distribution chains within the industry
15 cluster; and

16 “(iv) research studies on industry
17 clusters; and

18 “(B) working with appropriate employment
19 agencies, workforce investment boards, eco-
20 nomic development agencies, community organi-
21 zations, and other organizations that the indus-
22 try or sector partnership determines necessary
23 to ensure that the targeted industry cluster
24 identified under subparagraph (A) should be
25 targeted for investment, based primarily on—

1 “(i) demonstrated demand for job
2 growth potential;

3 “(ii) employment base;

4 “(iii) wages and benefits;

5 “(iv) demonstrated importance of the
6 targeted industry cluster to the area’s
7 economy; and

8 “(v) workforce development needs.

9 “(2) APPLICATION.—An industry or sector
10 partnership seeking a grant under this section shall
11 submit an application to the Governor of the State
12 that the industry or sector partnership serves or
13 seeks to serve at such time, in such manner, and
14 containing such information as the Governor may re-
15 quire. An application submitted under this para-
16 graph shall contain, at a minimum, the following:

17 “(A) A description of the industry or sec-
18 tor partnership, evidence of the industry or sec-
19 tor partnership’s capacity to carry out activities
20 in support of the strategic objectives identified
21 in the application under subparagraph (D), and
22 a description of the expected participation and
23 responsibilities of each of the required partners
24 described in subsection (h)(5)(A).

1 “(B) A description of the targeted industry
2 cluster for which the industry or sector partner-
3 ship intends to carry out activities through a
4 grant under this section, and a description of
5 how such targeted industry cluster was identi-
6 fied in accordance with paragraph (1).

7 “(C) A description of the workers that will
8 be targeted or recruited by the partnership, in-
9 cluding an analysis of the existing labor market,
10 a description of potential barriers to employ-
11 ment for targeted workers, and a description of
12 strategies that will be employed to help workers
13 overcome such barriers.

14 “(D) A description of the strategic objec-
15 tives that the industry or sector partnership in-
16 tends to carry out for the targeted industry
17 cluster, which objectives shall include—

18 “(i) recruiting key stakeholders in the
19 targeted industry cluster, such as multiple
20 businesses and employers, labor organiza-
21 tions, local boards, and education and
22 training providers, and regularly convening
23 the stakeholders in a collaborative struc-
24 ture that supports the sharing of informa-

1 tion, ideas, and challenges common to the
2 targeted industry cluster;

3 “(ii) identifying the training needs of
4 multiple businesses, especially with regard
5 to skill gaps critical to competitiveness and
6 innovation to the targeted industry cluster;

7 “(iii) facilitating economies of scale by
8 aggregating training and education needs
9 of multiple employers;

10 “(iv) helping postsecondary edu-
11 cational institutions, training institutions,
12 apprenticeship programs, and all other
13 training programs authorized under this
14 Act, align curricula, entrance require-
15 ments, and programs with the require-
16 ments for nationally portable, industry-rec-
17 ognized credentials (or, if not available for
18 the targeted industry, with other creden-
19 tials created or approved by the Secretary),
20 particularly for higher skill, high-priority
21 occupations validated by the industry;

22 “(v) ensuring that the State agency
23 carrying out the State program under the
24 Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.),
25 including staff of the agency that provide

1 services under such Act, shall inform re-
2 cipients of unemployment insurance of the
3 job and training opportunities that may re-
4 sult from the implementation of this grant;

5 “(vi) informing and collaborating with
6 organizations such as business-education
7 partnerships, apprenticeship programs,
8 secondary schools, and postsecondary edu-
9 cational institutions, and with parents and
10 career counselors, for the purpose of ad-
11 dressing the challenges of connecting low-
12 income individuals, as defined in section
13 101(25), and disadvantaged youth, as de-
14 fined in section 132(b)(2)(E), to careers;

15 “(vii) helping companies identify, and
16 work together to address, common organi-
17 zational and human resource challenges,
18 such as—

19 “(I) recruiting new workers;

20 “(II) implementing effective
21 workplace practices;

22 “(III) retraining dislocated and
23 incumbent workers;

24 “(IV) implementing a high-per-
25 formance work organization;

1 “(V) recruiting and retaining
2 women in nontraditional occupations;

3 “(VI) adopting new technologies;
4 and

5 “(VII) fostering experiential and
6 contextualized on-the-job learning;

7 “(viii) developing and strengthening
8 career ladders within and across compa-
9 nies, in order to enable dislocated, incum-
10 bent, and entry-level workers to improve
11 their skills and advance to higher-wage
12 jobs;

13 “(ix) improving job quality through
14 improving wages, benefits, and working
15 conditions;

16 “(x) helping partner companies in in-
17 dustry or sector partnerships to attract po-
18 tential employees from a diverse job seeker
19 base, including individuals with barriers to
20 employment (such as job seekers who are
21 low income, youth, older workers, and indi-
22 viduals who have completed a term of im-
23 prisonment), by identifying such barriers
24 through analysis of the existing labor mar-

1 ket and implementing strategies to help
2 such workers overcome such barriers; and
3 “(xi) strengthening connections
4 among businesses in the targeted industry
5 cluster, leading to cooperation beyond
6 workforce issues that will improve competi-
7 tiveness and job quality, such as joint pur-
8 chasing, market research, or centers for
9 technology and innovation.

10 “(E) A description of the nationally port-
11 able, industry-recognized credentials (or, if not
12 available for the targeted industry, other cre-
13 dentials created or approved by the Secretary or
14 that the partnership plans to develop and sub-
15 mit to the Secretary for approval) related to the
16 targeted industry cluster that the industry or
17 sector partnership proposes to support, develop,
18 or use as a performance measure, in order to
19 carry out the strategic objectives described in
20 subparagraph (D).

21 “(F) A description of the manner in which
22 the industry or sector partnership intends to
23 make sustainable progress toward the strategic
24 objectives.

1 “(G) Performance measures for measuring
2 progress toward the strategic objectives. Such
3 performance measures—

4 “(i) may consider the benefits pro-
5 vided by the grant activities funded under
6 this section for workers employed in the
7 targeted industry cluster, disaggregated by
8 gender and race, such as—

9 “(I) the number of workers re-
10 ceiving nationally portable, industry-
11 recognized credentials (or, if not avail-
12 able for the targeted industry, other
13 credentials created or approved by the
14 Secretary) described in the application
15 under subparagraph (E);

16 “(II) the number of workers with
17 increased wages, the percentage of
18 workers with increased wages, and the
19 average wage increase; and

20 “(III) for dislocated or non-
21 incumbent workers, the number of
22 workers placed in sector-related jobs;
23 and

24 “(ii) may consider the benefits pro-
25 vided by the grant activities funded under

1 this section for firms and industries in the
2 targeted industry cluster, such as—

3 “(I) the creation or updating of
4 an industry plan to meet current and
5 future workforce demand;

6 “(II) the creation or updating of
7 published industry-wide skill stand-
8 ards or career pathways;

9 “(III) the creation or updating of
10 nationally portable, industry-recog-
11 nized credentials, or for an industry in
12 which there is not such a credential,
13 the creation or updating of a training
14 curriculum that can lead to the devel-
15 opment of such a credential;

16 “(IV) the number of firms, and
17 the percentage of the local industry,
18 participating in the industry or sector
19 partnership; and

20 “(V) the number of firms, and
21 the percentage of the local industry,
22 receiving workers or services through
23 the grant funded under this section.

24 “(H) A time line for achieving progress to-
25 ward the strategic objectives.

1 “(I) In the case of an industry or sector
2 partnership seeking a renewal grant, an assur-
3 ance that the industry or sector partnership will
4 leverage employer contributions as described in
5 subsection (b)(3)(C)(ii).

6 “(d) AWARD BASIS.—

7 “(1) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—The Gov-
8 ernor shall award grants under this section in a
9 manner to ensure geographic diversity of grant re-
10 cipients.

11 “(2) PRIORITIES.—In awarding grants under
12 this section, the Governor shall give priority to in-
13 dustry or sector partnerships that—

14 “(A) work with employers within a tar-
15 geted industry cluster to retain and expand em-
16 ployment in high wage, high growth areas;

17 “(B) focus on helping workers move to-
18 ward economic self-sufficiency and ensuring the
19 workers have access to adequate supportive
20 services;

21 “(C) address the needs of firms with lim-
22 ited human resources or in-house training ca-
23 pacity, including small- and medium-sized
24 firms; and

1 “(D) coordinate with entities carrying out
2 State and local workforce investment, economic
3 development, and education activities.

4 “(e) ACTIVITIES.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An industry or sector part-
6 nership receiving a grant under this section shall
7 carry out the activities necessary to meet the stra-
8 tegic objectives, including planning activities if appli-
9 cable, described in the partnership’s application in a
10 manner that—

11 “(A) integrates services and funding
12 sources in a way that enhances the effectiveness
13 of the activities; and

14 “(B) uses grant funds awarded under this
15 section efficiently.

16 “(2) PLANNING ACTIVITIES.—Planning activi-
17 ties may only be carried out by an industry or sector
18 partnership receiving an implementation grant under
19 this section during the first year of the grant period
20 with not more than \$250,000 of the grant funds.

21 “(3) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—An industry or
22 sector partnership may retain a portion of a grant
23 awarded under this section for a fiscal year to carry
24 out the administration of this section in an amount
25 not to exceed 5 percent of the grant amount.

1 “(f) ADMINISTRATION BY THE GOVERNOR.—

2 “(1) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Governor
3 may retain not more than 10 percent of the funds
4 appropriated to carry out this section for each fiscal
5 year to administer this section.

6 “(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND OVER-
7 SIGHT.—The Governor shall provide technical assist-
8 ance to industry and sector partnerships receiving
9 grants under this section by holding conferences and
10 through the collection and dissemination of informa-
11 tion on best practices under paragraph (3). The
12 Governor may award a grant or contract to one or
13 more organizations in the State to provide technical
14 assistance to foster the planning, formation, and im-
15 plementation of industry and sector partnerships.

16 “(3) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON
17 BEST PRACTICES.—The Governor shall—

18 “(A) coordinate the annual review of each
19 industry or sector partnership receiving a grant
20 under this section and produce an overview re-
21 port that, at a minimum, includes—

22 “(i) the critical learning of each in-
23 dustry or sector partnership, such as—

24 “(I) the training that was most
25 effective;

1 “(II) the human resource chal-
2 lenges that were most common;

3 “(III) how technology is changing
4 the targeted industry cluster; and

5 “(IV) the changes that may im-
6 pact the targeted industry cluster over
7 the next 5 years; and

8 “(ii) a description of what industry or
9 sector partnerships serving similar tar-
10 geted industry clusters consider best prac-
11 tices, such as—

12 “(I) how to work effectively with
13 postsecondary educational institutions;

14 “(II) the use of internships;

15 “(III) coordinating with appren-
16 ticeships and cooperative education
17 programs;

18 “(IV) how to work effectively
19 with schools providing vocational edu-
20 cation;

21 “(V) how to work effectively with
22 adult populations, including—

23 “(aa) dislocated workers;

24 “(bb) women in nontradi-
25 tional occupations; and

1 “(cc) individuals with bar-
2 riers to employment, such as job
3 seekers who—

4 “(AA) are economically
5 disadvantaged;

6 “(BB) have limited
7 English proficiency;

8 “(CC) require remedial
9 education;

10 “(DD) are older work-
11 ers;

12 “(EE) are individuals
13 who have completed a sen-
14 tence for a criminal offense;
15 and

16 “(FF) have other bar-
17 riers to employment;

18 “(GG) employer prac-
19 tices that are most effective;

20 “(VI) the types of training that
21 are most effective;

22 “(VII) other areas where indus-
23 try or sector partnerships can assist
24 each other; and

1 “(VIII) alignment of curricula
2 with nationally portable, industry-rec-
3 ognized credentials (or, if not avail-
4 able for the targeted industry, with
5 other credentials created or approved
6 by the Secretary), as described in the
7 application under subsection
8 (c)(2)(E);

9 “(B) make resource materials, including all
10 reports published and all data collected under
11 this section, available on the Internet; and

12 “(C) conduct conferences and seminars
13 to—

14 “(i) disseminate information on best
15 practices developed by industry or sector
16 partnerships receiving grants under this
17 section; and

18 “(ii) provide information to the com-
19 munities of industry of sector partnerships.

20 “(g) ADMINISTRATION BY THE SECRETARY.—

21 “(1) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—In providing
22 technical assistance under section 170, the Secretary
23 shall provide technical assistance to each Governor
24 to carry out this section, including creating or ap-
25 proving credentials for industries in which nationally

1 portable, industry-recognized credentials do not
2 exist.

3 “(2) BEST PRACTICES.—In issuing best prac-
4 tices under section 170, the Secretary shall, with re-
5 gard to the grant program carried out under this
6 section, include in such best practices quantifiable
7 benchmarks and methodologies that industry or sec-
8 tor partnerships may use to evaluate the effective-
9 ness of each type of activity in making progress to-
10 ward the strategic objectives described in subsection
11 (c)(2)(D). Such benchmarks and methodologies shall
12 consider the benefits of the industry or sector part-
13 nership and its activities for workers, firms, indus-
14 tries, and communities.

15 “(h) REPORTS.—

16 “(1) INDUSTRY AND SECTOR PARTNERSHIP.—
17 Not later than one year after receiving a grant
18 under this section, and annually thereafter, an in-
19 dustry or sector partnership receiving a grant under
20 this section shall submit to the Governor of the
21 State that the industry or sector partnership serves
22 a report that includes such information as the Gov-
23 ernor may reasonably require, including—

24 “(A) information on the activities funded
25 pursuant to a grant under this section; and

1 “(B) an evaluation of the progress such
2 partnership has made toward the strategic ob-
3 jectives identified in the application under sub-
4 section (c)(2)(D), and measures such progress
5 using the performance measures identified in
6 the application under subsection (c)(2)(G).

7 “(2) GOVERNOR.—Not later than 18 months
8 after the date of enactment of the Workforce Invest-
9 ment Improvement Act, and annually thereafter,
10 each Governor shall submit to the Secretary a report
11 on the industry and sector partnerships receiving
12 grants under this section in the Governor’s State.
13 The report shall include a description of—

14 “(A) the industry or sector partnerships
15 receiving funding;

16 “(B) the activities carried out by the in-
17 dustry or sector partnerships;

18 “(C) how the industry or sector partner-
19 ships were selected to receive funding under
20 this section; and

21 “(D) an assessment of the results achieved
22 by the grant program including findings from
23 the annual reviews described in subsection
24 (f)(3)(A).

1 “(3) SECRETARY.—Not later than 90 days
2 after receiving the reports under paragraph (2), and
3 annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a re-
4 port to Congress on the industry or sector partner-
5 ship grant program under this section. The report
6 shall include a summary and analysis of the reports
7 that the Secretary receives under paragraph (2).

8 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 “(1) CAREER LADDER.—The term ‘career lad-
10 der’ means an identified series of positions, work ex-
11 periences, and educational benchmarks or credentials
12 that offer occupational and financial advancement
13 within a specified career field or related fields over
14 time.

15 “(2) ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY.—The term
16 ‘economic self-sufficiency’ means, with respect to a
17 worker, earning a wage sufficient to support a fam-
18 ily adequately over time, based on factors such as—

19 “(A) family size;

20 “(B) the number and ages of children in
21 the family;

22 “(C) the cost of living in the worker’s com-
23 munity; and

24 “(D) other factors that may vary by re-
25 gion.

1 “(3) HIGH-PRIORITY OCCUPATION.—The term
2 ‘high-priority occupation’ means an occupation
3 that—

4 “(A) has a significant presence in an in-
5 dustry cluster;

6 “(B) is in demand by employers;

7 “(C) pays family-sustaining wages that en-
8 able workers to achieve economic self-suffi-
9 ciency, or can reasonably be expected to lead to
10 such wages;

11 “(D) has or is in the process of developing
12 a documented career ladder; and

13 “(E) has a significant impact on a region’s
14 economic development strategy.

15 “(4) INDUSTRY CLUSTER.—The term ‘industry
16 cluster’ means a concentration of interconnected
17 businesses, suppliers, research and development enti-
18 ties, service providers, and associated institutions in
19 a particular field that are linked by common work-
20 force needs.

21 “(5) INDUSTRY OR SECTOR PARTNERSHIP.—
22 The term ‘industry or sector partnership’ means a
23 workforce collaborative that is described as follows:

24 “(A) REQUIRED PARTNERS.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An industry or
2 sector partnership is a workforce collabo-
3 rative that organizes key stakeholders in a
4 targeted industry cluster into a working
5 group that focuses on the workforce needs
6 of the targeted industry cluster and in-
7 cludes, at the appropriate stage of develop-
8 ment of the partnership—

9 “(I) representatives of multiple
10 firms or employers in the targeted in-
11 dustry cluster, including small- and
12 medium-sized employers when prac-
13 ticable;

14 “(II) one or more representatives
15 of State labor organizations, central
16 labor coalitions, or other labor organi-
17 zations, except in instances where no
18 labor representation exists;

19 “(III) one or more representa-
20 tives of local boards;

21 “(IV) one or more representa-
22 tives of postsecondary educational in-
23 stitutions or other training providers;
24 and

1 “(V) one or more representatives
2 of State workforce agencies or other
3 entities providing employment serv-
4 ices.

5 “(ii) DIVERSE AND DISTINCT REP-
6 RESENTATION.—No individual may serve
7 as a partner in an industry or sector part-
8 nership, as defined in this paragraph, for
9 more than one of the required categories
10 described in subclauses (I) through (V) of
11 clause (i).

12 “(B) AUTHORIZED PARTNERS.—An indus-
13 try or sector partnership may include represent-
14 atives of—

15 “(i) State or local government;

16 “(ii) State or local economic develop-
17 ment agencies;

18 “(iii) other State or local agencies;

19 “(iv) chambers of commerce;

20 “(v) nonprofit organizations;

21 “(vi) philanthropic organizations;

22 “(vii) economic development organiza-
23 tions;

24 “(viii) industry associations; and

1 “(ix) other organizations, as deter-
2 mined necessary by the members com-
3 prising the industry or sector partnership.

4 “(6) INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED.—The term ‘in-
5 dustry-recognized’, used with respect to a credential,
6 means a credential that—

7 “(A) is sought or accepted by businesses
8 within the industry or sector involved as a rec-
9 ognized, preferred, or required credential for re-
10 cruitment, screening, or hiring purposes; and

11 “(B) is endorsed by a nationally recognized
12 trade association or organization representing a
13 significant part of the industry or sector, where
14 appropriate.

15 “(7) NATIONALLY PORTABLE.—The term ‘na-
16 tionally portable’, used with respect to a credential,
17 means a credential that is sought or accepted by
18 businesses within the industry sector involved, across
19 multiple States, as a recognized, preferred, or re-
20 quired credential for recruitment, screening, or hir-
21 ing purposes.

22 “(8) TARGETED INDUSTRY CLUSTER.—The
23 term ‘targeted industry cluster’ means an industry
24 cluster that has—

1 “(A) economic impact in a local or regional
2 area, such as advanced manufacturing, clean
3 energy technology, and health care;

4 “(B) immediate workforce development
5 needs, such as advanced manufacturing, clean
6 energy, technology, and health care; and

7 “(C) documented career opportunities.

8 “(j) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
9 tion shall be construed to permit the reporting or sharing
10 of personally identifiable information collected or made
11 available under this section.

12 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
13 tents in section 1(b) is amended by inserting after the item
14 relating to section 134 the following:

“134A. Industry or sector partnership grant program.”.

