

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 733

To provide for regional skills training alliances, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 1999

Mr. MORAN of Virginia (for himself and Mr. DREIER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To provide for regional skills training alliances, and for other purposes.

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 “Regional Skills Train-  
5       ing Alliances Act of 1999”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITION.**

7       For purposes of this Act, the term “Secretary”  
8       means the Secretary of Commerce.

1           **TITLE 1—SKILL GRANTS**

2   **SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION.**

3           (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Commerce, act-  
4   ing through the Director of the National Institute of  
5   Standards and Technology, and in consultation with the  
6   Secretary of Labor, shall provide grants to eligible entities  
7   described in subsection (b) to assist such entities to im-  
8   prove the job skills necessary for employment in specific  
9   industries.

10          (b) **ELIGIBLE ENTITIES DESCRIBED.**—

11               (1) **IN GENERAL.**—An eligible entity described  
12   in this subsection is a consortium that—

13                       (A) shall consist of representatives from  
14                       not less than 10 businesses (or a non-profit or-  
15                       ganization that represents not less than 10  
16                       businesses); and

17                       (B) may consist of representatives from  
18                       one or more of the following:

19                               (i) Labor organizations.

20                               (ii) State and local government.

21                               (iii) Educational institutions.

22               (2) **MAJORITY OF REPRESENTATIVES.**—A ma-  
23   jority of the representatives comprising the consor-  
24   tium shall be representatives described in paragraph  
25   (1)(A).

1           (3) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.**—To the maxi-  
2           mum extent practicable, each business, organization,  
3           or government that forms an eligible entity under  
4           paragraph (1) shall be located in the same geo-  
5           graphic region of the United States.

6           (c) **PRIORITY FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.**—In provid-  
7           ing grants under subsection (a), the Secretary shall give  
8           priority to an eligible entity if a majority of representatives  
9           forming the entity represent small-business concerns, as  
10          described in section 3(a) of the Small Business Act (15  
11          U.S.C. 632(a)).

12          (d) **MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT.**—The amount of  
13          a grant provided to an eligible entity under subsection (a)  
14          may not exceed \$1,000,000 for any fiscal year.

15          **SEC. 102. APPLICATION.**

16          (a) **CERTAIN STATES WITH MULTIPLE CONSOR-**  
17          **TIA.**—In a State in which two or more eligible entities seek  
18          grants under section 101 for a fiscal year, as determined  
19          by the Governor of the State, the Governor may solicit  
20          proposals from the entities concerning the activities to be  
21          carried out under the grants. If the Governor solicits such  
22          proposals, based on the proposals received, the Governor  
23          shall submit an application on behalf of 1 or more of the  
24          entities to the Secretary at such time, in such manner,  
25          and containing such information as the Secretary may rea-

1 sonably require. The provisions of this title relating to eli-  
2 gible entities shall apply to each of the entities for which  
3 the Governor applies.

4 (b) OTHER STATES.—In a State in which only one  
5 eligible entity seeks a grant under section 101 for a fiscal  
6 year, as determined by the Governor of the State, or in  
7 which the Governor does not solicit proposals as described  
8 in subsection (a), the Secretary may not provide a grant  
9 under section 101 to the eligible entity unless such entity  
10 submits to the Secretary an application at such time, in  
11 such manner, and containing such information as the Sec-  
12 retary may reasonably require.

13 **SEC. 103. USE OF AMOUNTS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not provide a  
15 grant under section 101 to an eligible entity unless such  
16 entity agrees to use amounts received from such grant to  
17 improve the job skills necessary for employment by busi-  
18 nesses in the industry with respect to which such entity  
19 was established.

20 (b) CONDUCT OF PROGRAM.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program  
22 described in subsection (a), the eligible entity may  
23 provide for—

24 (A) an assessment of training and job skill  
25 needs for the industry;

1 (B) development of a sequence of skill  
2 standards that are benchmarked to advanced  
3 industry practices;

4 (C) development of curriculum and train-  
5 ing methods;

6 (D) purchase, lease, or receipt of donations  
7 of training equipment;

8 (E) identification of training providers;

9 (F) development of apprenticeship pro-  
10 grams;

11 (G) development of training programs for  
12 dislocated workers;

13 (H) development of the membership of the  
14 entity;

15 (I) provision of training programs for  
16 workers; and

17 (J) development of training plans for busi-  
18 nesses.

19 (2) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.**—In carrying  
20 out the program described in subsection (a), the eli-  
21 gible entity shall provide for development and track-  
22 ing of performance outcome measures for the pro-  
23 gram and the training providers involved in the pro-  
24 gram.

1 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The eligible entity  
2 may use not more than 10 percent of the amount of a  
3 grant to pay for administrative costs associated with the  
4 program described in subsection (a).

5 **SEC. 104. REQUIREMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS.**

6 The Secretary may not provide a grant under section  
7 101 to an eligible entity unless such entity agrees that—

8 (1) it will make available non-Federal contribu-  
9 tions toward the costs of carrying out activities  
10 under section 103 in an amount that is not less than  
11 \$2 for each \$1 of Federal funds provided under a  
12 grant under section 101; and

13 (2) of such non-Federal contributions, not less  
14 than \$1 of each such \$2 shall be from businesses  
15 participating in the eligible entity.

16 **SEC. 105. LIMIT ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.**

17 The Secretary may use not more than 5 percent of  
18 the funds made available to carry out this title to pay for  
19 Federal administrative costs associated with making  
20 grants under this title.

21 **SEC. 106. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
23 this Act \$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2000,  
24 2001, and 2002.

## 1       **TITLE II—PLANNING GRANTS**

### 2       **SEC. 201. AUTHORIZATION.**

3           (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Commerce, act-  
4       ing through the Director of the National Institute of  
5       Standards and Technology, and in consultation with the  
6       Secretary of Labor, shall provide grants to States to en-  
7       able the States to assist businesses, organizations, and  
8       agencies described in section 101(b) in conducting plan-  
9       ning to form consortia described in such section.

10          (b) **MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT.**—The amount of  
11       a grant provided to a State under subsection (a) may not  
12       exceed \$500,000 for any fiscal year.

### 13       **SEC. 202. APPLICATION.**

14          The Secretary may not provide a grant under section  
15       201 to a State unless such State submits to the Secretary  
16       an application at such time, in such manner, and contain-  
17       ing such information as the Secretary may reasonably re-  
18       quire.

### 19       **SEC. 203. REQUIREMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS.**

20          The Secretary may not provide a grant under section  
21       201 to a State unless such State agrees that it will make  
22       available non-Federal contributions toward the costs of  
23       carrying out activities under this title in an amount that  
24       is not less than \$1 for each \$1 of Federal funds provided  
25       under a grant under section 201.

1 **SEC. 204. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2       There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
3 this title \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.

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