AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

110TH CONGRESS
1st Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT
110–262

GREEN JOBS ACT OF 2007

JULY 27, 2007.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, from the Committee on Education and Labor, submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 2847]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Education and Labor, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 2847) to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to establish an energy efficiency and renewable energy worker training program, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Green Jobs Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM.

Section 171 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2916) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(e) ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM.—

"(1) GRANT PROGRAM.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the Green Jobs Act of 2007, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall establish an energy efficiency and renewable energy worker training program under which the Secretary shall carry out the activities described in paragraph (2) to achieve the purposes of this subsection.

"(B) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of providing assistance and services under the program established under this subsection—

"(i) target populations of eligible individuals to be given priority for training and other services shall include—

"(I) workers affected by national energy and environmental policy;

"(II) individuals in need of updated training related to the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries; and

"(III) veterans, or past and present members of reserve components of the Armed Forces;

"(IV) unemployed workers;

"(V) individuals, including at-risk youth, seeking employment pathways out of poverty and into economic self-sufficiency; and

"(VI) formerly incarcerated, adjudicated, non-violent offenders;

"(ii) energy efficiency and renewable energy industries eligible to participate in a program under this subsection include—

"(I) the energy-efficient building, construction, and retrofits industries;

"(II) the renewable electric power industry;

"(III) the energy efficient and advanced drive train vehicle industry;

"(IV) the biofuels industry;

"(V) the deconstruction and materials use industries;

"(VI) the energy efficiency assessment industry serving the residential, commercial, or industrial sectors; and

"(VII) manufacturers that produce sustainable products using environmentally sustainable processes and materials.

"(2) ACTIVITIES.—

"(A) NATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Under the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary, acting through the Bureau of Labor Statistics, where appropriate, shall collect and analyze labor market data to track workforce trends resulting from energy-related initiatives carried out under this subsection. Activities carried out under this paragraph shall include—

"(i) tracking and documentation of academic and occupational competencies as well as future skill needs with respect to renewable energy and energy efficiency technology;

"(ii) tracking and documentation of occupational information and workforce training data with respect to renewable energy and energy efficiency technology;

"(iii) collaborating with State agencies, workforce investments boards, industry, organized labor, and community and nonprofit organizations to disseminate information on successful innovations for labor market services and worker training with respect to renewable energy and energy efficiency technology;

"(iv) serving as a clearinghouse for best practices in workforce development, job placement, and collaborative training partnerships;

"(v) promoting the establishment of workforce training initiatives with respect to renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies; and

"(vi) linking research and development in renewable energy and energy efficiency technology with the development of standards and curricula for current and future jobs;

"(vii) assessing new employment and work practices including career ladder and upgrade training as well as high performance work systems;

"(viii) providing technical assistance and capacity building to national and state energy partnerships, including industry and labor representatives.

"(B) NATIONAL ENERGY TRAINING PARTNERSHIP GRANTS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Under the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall award National Energy Training Partnerships Grants on a competitive basis to eligible entities to enable such entities to carry out training that leads to economic self-sufficiency and to develop an energy efficiency and renewable energy industries workforce. Grants shall be awarded under this subparagraph so as to ensure geographic diversity with at least 2 grants awarded to entities located in each of the 4 Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts with no subdistricts, and at least 1 grant awarded to an entity located in each of the subdistricts of the Petroleum Administration for Defense District with subdistricts, as such districts are established by the Secretary of Energy.

"(ii) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under clause (i), an entity shall be a non-profit partnership that—

"(I) includes the equal participation of industry, including public or private employers, and labor organizations, including joint labor-management training programs, and may include workforce investment boards, community-based organizations, educational institutions, small businesses, cooperatives, State and local veterans agencies, and veterans service organizations; and

"(II) demonstrates—

"(aa) experience in implementing and operating worker skills training and education programs;

"(bb) the ability to identify and involve in training programs carried out under this grant, target populations of workers who would benefit from activities related to energy efficiency and renewable energy industries; and

"(cc) the ability to help workers achieve economic self-sufficiency.

"(iii) PRIORITY.—Priority shall be given to partnerships which leverage additional public and private resources to fund training programs, including cash or in-kind matches from participating employers.

"(C) STATE LABOR MARKET RESEARCH, INFORMATION, AND LABOR EXCHANGE RESEARCH PROGRAM.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Under the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall award competitive grants to States to enable such States to administer labor market and labor exchange information programs that include the implementation of the activities described in clause (ii), in coordination with the one-stop delivery system.

"(ii) ACTIVITIES.—A State shall use amounts awarded under a grant under this subparagraph to provide funding to the State agency that administers the Wagner-Peyser Act and State unemployment compensation programs to carry out the following activities using State agency merit staff:

"(I) The identification of job openings in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sector.

"(II) The administration of skill and aptitude testing and assessment for workers.

"(III) The counseling, case management, and referral of qualified job seekers to openings and training programs, including energy efficiency and renewable energy training programs.

"(D) STATE ENERGY TRAINING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Under the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall award competitive grants to States to enable such States to administer renewable energy and energy efficiency workforce development programs that include the implementation of the activities described in clause (ii).

"(ii) PARTNERSHIPS.—A State shall use amounts awarded under a grant under this subparagraph to award competitive grants to eligible State Energy Sector Partnerships to enable such Partnerships to coordinate with existing apprenticeship and labor management training programs and implement training programs that lead to the economic self-sufficiency of trainees.

"(iii) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this subparagraph, a State Energy Sector Partnership shall—

"(I) consist of non-profit organizations that include equal participation from industry, including public or private nonprofit employers, and labor organizations, including joint labor-management training programs, and may include representatives from local governments, the workforce investment system, including worker investment agency one-stop career centers, community based organizations, community colleges, and other post-secondary institutions, small businesses, cooperatives, State and local veterans agencies, and veterans service organizations;

"(II) demonstrate experience in implementing and operating worker skills training and education programs; and

"(III) demonstrate the ability to identify and involve in training programs, target populations of workers who would benefit from activities related to energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.

"(iv) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall give priority to States that demonstrate that activities under the grant—

"(I) meet national energy policies associated with energy efficiency, renewable energy, and the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases;

"(II) meet State energy policies associated with energy efficiency, renewable energy, and the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases; and

"(III) leverage additional public and private resources to fund training programs, including cash or in-kind matches from participating employers.

"(v) COORDINATION.—A grantee under this subparagraph shall coordinate activities carried out under the grant with existing other appropriate training programs, including apprenticeship and labor management training programs, and implement training programs that lead to the economic self-sufficiency of trainees.

"(E) PATHWAYS OUT OF POVERTY DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Under the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall award at least 10 competitive grants to eligible entities to enable such entities to carry out training that leads to economic self-sufficiency. The Secretary shall give priority to entities that serve individuals in families with income of less than 200 percent of the poverty threshold (as determined by the Bureau of the Census) or a self-sufficiency standard for the local areas where the training is conducted that specifies the income needs of families, by family size, the number and ages of children in the family, and sub-State geographical considerations. Grants shall be awards to ensure geographic diversity.

"(ii) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant an entity shall be a partnership that—

"(I) includes community-based non-profit organizations, educational institutions with expertise in serving low-income adults or youth, public or private employers from the industry sectors described in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), and labor organizations representing workers in such industry sectors;

"(II) demonstrates experience in implementing and operating worker skills training and education programs;

"(III) coordinates activities, where appropriate, with the workforce investment system; and

"(IV) demonstrates the ability to recruit individuals for training and to support such individuals to successful completion in training programs carried out under this grant, targeting populations of workers who are or will be engaged in activities related to energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.

"(iii) PRIORITIES.—In awarding grants under this paragraph, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants that—

"(I) target programs to benefit low-income workers, unemployed youth and adults, high school dropouts, or other underserved sectors of the workforce within areas of high poverty;

"(II) ensure that supportive services are integrated with education and training, and delivered by organizations with direct access to and experience with targeted populations;

"(III) leverage additional public and private resources to fund training programs, including cash or in-kind matches from participating employers;

"(IV) involve employers and labor organizations in the determination of relevant skills and competencies and ensure that the certificates or credentials that result from the training are employer-recognized;

"(V) deliver courses at alternative times (such as evening and weekend programs) and locations most convenient and accessible to participants; and

"(VI) link adult remedial education with occupational skills training.

"(iv) DATA COLLECTION.—Grantees shall collect and report the following information:

"(I) The number of participants.

"(II) The demographic characteristics of participants, including race, gender, age, parenting status, participation in other Federal

programs, education and literacy level at entry, significant barriers to employment (such as limited English proficiency, criminal record, addiction or mental health problem requiring treatment, or mental disability).

"(III) The services received by participants, including training, education, and supportive services.

"(IV) The amount of program spending per participant.

"(V) Program completion rates.

"(VI) Factors determined as significantly interfering with program participation or completion.

"(VII) The rate of Job placement and the rate of employment retention after 1 year.

"(VIII) The average wage at placement, including any benefits, and the rate of average wage increase after 1 year.

"(IX) Any post-employment supportive services provided.

The Secretary shall assist grantees in the collection of data under this clause by making available, where practicable, low-cost means of tracking the labor market outcomes of participants, and by providing standardized reporting forms, where appropriate.

"(3) ACTIVITIES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Activities to be carried out under a program authorized by subparagraphs (B), (D), or (E) of paragraph (2) shall be coordinated with existing systems or providers, as appropriate. Such activities may include—

"(i) occupational skills training, including curriculum development, on-the-job training, and classroom training;

"(ii) safety and health training;

"(iii) the provision of basic skills, literacy, GED, English as a second language, and job readiness training;

"(iv) individual referral and tuition assistance for a community college training program, or any training program leading to an industry-recognized certificate;

"(v) internship programs in fields related to energy efficiency and renewable energy;

"(vi) customized training in conjunction with an existing registered apprenticeship program or labor-management partnership;

"(vii) career ladder and upgrade training;

"(viii) the implementation of transitional jobs strategies; and

"(ix) the provision of supportive services.

"(B) OUTREACH ACTIVITIES.—In addition to the activities authorized under subparagraph (A), activities authorized for programs under subparagraphs (D) or (E) of paragraph (2) may include the provision of outreach, recruitment, career guidance, and case management services.

"(4) WORKER PROTECTIONS AND NONDISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS.—

"(A) APPLICATION OF WIA.—The provisions of sections 181 and 188 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2931 and 2938) shall apply to all programs carried out with assistance under this subsection.

"(B) CONSULTATION WITH LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.—If a labor organization represents a substantial number of workers who are engaged in similar work or training in an area that is the same as the area that is proposed to be funded under this Act, the labor organization shall be provided an opportunity to be consulted and to submit comments in regard to such a proposal.

"(5) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall negotiate and reach agreement with the eligible entities that receive grants and assistance under this section on performance measures for the indicators of performance referred to in subparagraph (A) and (B) of section 136(b)(2) that will be used to evaluate the performance of the eligible entity in carrying out the activities described in subsection (e)(2). Each State and local performance measure shall consist of such an indicator of performance, and a performance level referred to in subparagraph (B).

"(B) PERFORMANCE LEVELS.—The Secretary shall negotiate and reach agreement with the eligible entity regarding the levels of performance expected to be achieved by the eligible entity on the indicators of performance.

"(6) REPORT.—

"(A) STATUS REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Green Jobs Act of 2007, the Secretary shall transmit a report to Congress on the training program established by this subsection. The re-

port shall include a description of the entities receiving funding and the activities carried out by such entities.

"(B) EVALUATION.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of such Act, the Secretary shall transmit to Congress an assessment of such program and an evaluation of the activities carried out by entities receiving funding from such program.

"(7) DEFINITION.—As used in this subsection, the term 'renewable energy' has the meaning given such term in section 203(b)(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58).

"(8) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection, $125,000,000 for each fiscal year, of which—

"(A) not to exceed 20 percent of the amount appropriated in each such fiscal year shall be made available for, and shall be equally divided between, national labor market research and information under paragraph (2)(A) and State labor market information and labor exchange research under paragraph (2)(C), and not more than 2 percent of such amount shall be for the evaluation and report required under paragraph (4);

"(B) 20 percent shall be dedicated to Pathways Out of Poverty Demonstration Programs under paragraph (2)(E); and

"(C) the remainder shall be divided equally between National Energy Partnership Training Grants under paragraph (2)(B) and State energy training partnership grants under paragraph (2)(D).".

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this legislation is to establish a sustainable, public program providing quality workforce training linked to good jobs that are created by federal renewable energy and energy efficiency initiatives.

II. COMMITTEE ACTION INCLUDING LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND VOTES IN COMMITTEE

110TH CONGRESS

Introduction of the Green Jobs Act of 2007

H.R. 2847, the Green Jobs Act of 2007, was introduced on June 25, 2007, by Ms. Solis, for herself, Mr. Tierney and Mr. McNerney. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

Full Committee markup of the Green Jobs Act of 2007

On June 27, 2007, the Committee on Education and Labor met to markup H.R. 2847. The bill was ordered to be reported by the Committee, by a vote of 26 ayes, 18 nays and 1 present. During the markup, several amendments were considered. The amendments are described in the Explanation of Amendments section of this report.

III. SUMMARY OF THE BILL

The legislation would establish a grant program for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Workforce Training to be administered by the Department of Labor (DOL) in coordination with the Department of Energy to help America develop the specialized workforce skills needed to ensure robust growth and development of good jobs in the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries. The initiative would: (1) expand our nation's capacity to identify and track the new jobs and skills associated with the growing clean energy technology sector; (2) develop national and state skill

training programs that will demonstrate best practices in quality training that address skill shortages that have already begun to impair the expansion of clean energy and efficiency technologies; and (3) provide a pathway out of poverty by training targeted workers for sustainable employment.

IV. Statement and Committee Views

The United States must reduce its dependency on oil

It has become increasingly clear that the United States must reduce its dependency on oil. The United States is home to less than three percent of the world's reserves and more than sixty percent of oil consumed in the United States is imported, costing our nation more than $290 billion annually. U.S. gasoline consumption as a share of GDP is nearly five times that in the other major industrialized countries.

The dependency on oil makes us subject to the international risks associated with unpredictable and unstable nations. Seventy-seven percent of the world's 1.148 trillion barrels of proven reserves are in the hands of the national companies; 14 of the top 20 oil-producing companies are state-controlled. Our nation's dependence on foreign energy sources and energy costs has grown, making all Americans less secure and hitting the bottom lines of families and businesses across the country.

A recent report titled "National Security and the Threat of Climate Change," underscored the connection between security, energy use and climate change and clearly outlined the risks of inaction. It concluded that climate change is a threat multiplier for instability in some of the most volatile regions of our world, resulting in already weak and failing governments being pushed toward authoritarianism and radical ideologies.

Renewable energy sources provide hope for the future

Renewable energy sources hold the promise of providing a long term solution to our nation's energy needs. Renewable energy sources include solar power, wind power, hydropower, biomass and geothermal energy. By definition, renewable energy sources do not diminish over time, and they have much less of an environmental impact. Developing these resources in a responsible way can go a long way towards addressing our energy security needs and global warming.

Job growth in the energy sector

The energy sector of our economy is growing. President Bush's high growth job initiative identified the energy sector as one of 14 sectors that fit within the following criteria: (1) projected to add substantial numbers of new jobs to the economy or affect the growth of other industries; or (2) existing or emerging businesses being transformed by technology and innovation requiring new skills sets for workers.

Our workers currently lack the skills needed for renewable energy jobs

We increasingly face a skills gap in our economy. The jobs being created in the 21st Century require higher skill levels than ever be-

fore. Currently, our workforce does not have the necessary skills required to meet the needs of employers in the new economy. We must invest in education and training to help our workers meet this challenge.

This skills gap issue is prevalent in the energy sector of our economy. A 2006 study from the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) identified the shortage of skills and training as a leading non-technical barrier to renewable energy and energy efficiency growth. The NREL study identified a number of critical unmet training needs, including lack of reliable installation, maintenance, and inspection services, the shortage of key technical and manufacturing skills, and failure of the educational system to provide adequate training in new technologies.

Employers and investors in the renewable energy sector have identified this gap as a barrier to growth and expansion. According to Energy Solutions (St. Louis, MO), "The limiting factor to our growth as an industry is lack of qualified professionals to perform the analyses. We need a more robust effort to train even college graduates to understand the use of energy in the built environment . . ." Mainstay Energy (Chicago, IL) expressed similar concerns, stating, "We see incredible promise for energy to drive the re-industrialization of this region, but we need more skilled workers. In everything from construction to engineering to trades to project management, our economy can benefit from more well-trained "green collar" workers."

As Congress advances programs to enhance the development of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, the shortage of trained workers is emerging as a significant barrier to growth in this sector.

The Green Jobs Act of 2007 will help train the workers we need

The programs established by the Green Jobs Act of 2007 would help ensure that our nation has the most up-to-date research and labor market information as well as the best models for training workers in the new skills required to properly manufacture, install, maintain, and operate clean energy technologies. For instance, grant funding provided under the legislation could train workers in such substantial new skills as wind turbine siting, airfoils and composite repair, and weather patterns that affect turbine performance.

While the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries use many skills that can be transferred from other industries, specific, additional skills are often needed to take maximum advantage of the newer energy technologies. For instance, investments in training of building maintenance workers and building superintendents and engineers can improve the operations of today's sophisticated heating and cooling systems by as much as ten percent in large public and commercial buildings, according to the National Association of Energy Services Companies. Such training could save millions of dollars per year in energy costs in larger public or commercial buildings.

The Green Jobs Act of 2007 will help address this need by providing training opportunities for 20,000 to 30,000 workers a year.

V. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short title

Section 1 provides that the Short Title of H.R. 2847 is the "Green Jobs Act of 2007."

Section 2.

Section 2 creates a Subsection (e) in Section 171, of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA).

Section 171(e) ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM.

Section 171(e)(1)(A) directs the Secretary of Labor to establish an energy efficient and renewable energy worker training program in consultation with the Secretary of Energy.

Section 171(e)(1)(B)(i) identifies target populations who have priority for training under the act.

Section 171(e)(1)(B)(ii) provides a nonexclusive list of eligible energy efficiency and renewable industries.

Section 171(e)(2)(A) establishes a national research program to develop labor market data and track future green collar workforce trends through the Bureau of Labor Statistics, where appropriate.

Section 171(e)(2)(B)(i) establishes National Energy Training Partnership Grants. These competitive grants would be available to all eligible entities to carry out training that leads to economic self sufficiency and develops an energy efficiency and renewable energy industries workforce. The grant process is intended to ensure geographic diversity, by requiring that at least two grants are awarded to entities located in each of the four Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts and at least one is awarded to an entity located in each of the sub districts of the Petroleum Administration or Defense District.

Section 171(e)(2)(B)(ii) includes a list of requirements for the partnerships eligible to receive a grant. The partnerships must include business and labor, and may include other entities involved in education and training. The partnership must demonstrate experience in implementing training and education programs and in identifying populations who would benefit from the training. Priority is provided to partnerships that leverage other resources.

Section 171(e)(2)(B)(iii) provides that eligible activities for the National Energy training partnership grants program include occupational skills training, safety and health training, wrap around support services (including transportation, child care and income support), basic skills such as job readiness, GED and English as a second language, and tuition assistance for community college training programs.

Section 171(e)(2)(C)(i) provides for a State Labor Marker Research, Information and Labor Exchange Research program to be implemented in coordination with the one-stop delivery system.

Section 171(e)(2)(C)(ii) provides for funding to state agencies that administer the Wagner-Peyser Act and state unemployment compensation programs. The funding is provided for the agencies to identify job openings, administer skill and aptitude testing and provide counseling and case management services.

Section 171(e)(2)(D)(i) establishes a State Energy Training Partnership Program. Under this program, the Secretary shall provide

grants to States to administer renewable energy and energy efficiency workforce development programs.

Section 171(e)(2)(D)(ii) directs the State to use the amounts awarded to eligible State Energy Sector Partnerships, in coordination with existing apprenticeships, labor management training programs and programs that lead to training individuals for economic self-sufficiency.

Section 171(e)(2)(D)(iii) provides the requirements for eligibility to receive a State Energy Sector Partnership grant. A partnership must include equal participation of industry and labor, and may include other entities involved in education and training. The partnership must demonstrate experience in implementing training and education programs and in identifying populations who would benefit from the training. Priority is provided to partnerships which leverage other resources.

Section 171(e)(2)(D)(iv) provides priority to States that demonstrate that activities under the grant meet National and State energy policies, and leverage other resources.

Section 171(e)(2)(D)(v) requires grantees to coordinate with existing apprenticeships, labor management training programs and programs encouraging economic self-sufficiency.

Section 171(e)(2)(E)(i) defines the purpose of the Pathways Out of Poverty Demonstration Program grants that enable eligible entities to carry out training that leads to economic self-sufficiency, for targeted impoverished families. This section enables the program to award a minimum of 10 grants to eligible entities that train or lead to helping individuals establish economic self-sufficiency.

Section 171(e)(2)(E)(ii) outlines the requirements for entities to be eligible to receive a Pathways Out of Poverty grant. Partnerships must include community based organizations, educational institutions, industry and labor organizations. Eligible entities must have expertise in serving the lower income public, and must demonstrate experience in training, and recruiting targeted populations.

Section 171(e)(2)(E)(iii) provides priority to grant applicants that: target low income workers; ensure integrated supportive services; leverage other resources; involve employers and labor; deliver services at alternative times and locations; and link with adult remedial education and training.

Section 171(e)(2)(E)(v) requires grantees to collect and report their programs data. The data includes the number of participants, demographic characteristics of participants, a detailed description of services rendered to the participants, the amount of spending, program completion rates, placement rates, average wage at placement and all performance information.

Section 171(e)(3)(A) outlines the activities to be carried out under the National Energy Training Partnerships, the State Energy Training Partnerships, and the Pathways Out of Poverty Demonstration Grants. Such activities include: occupational training; on-the-job training; safety and health training; basic skills, literacy, GED, ESL and job readiness training; training leading to community college or industry-recognized certificate training; internships; customized training; career ladder training; transitional jobs strategies; and supportive services. Where internships are funded

through these grants, the Committee urges that they be paid internships, where possible.

Section 171(e)(3)(B) provides for outreach and recruitment activities for the State Energy Training Partnerships and the Pathways Out of Poverty Grants.

Section 171(e)(4) applies the WIA worker protection and nondiscrimination provisions to all programs carried out under the subsection, and provides for consultation with labor organizations representing affected workers.

Section 171(e)(5) provides for the Secretary to negotiate performance measures to measure the effectiveness of programs funded by the grants authorized under this act.

Section 171(e)(6) requires the Secretary to report to Congress on the status of the program not later than 18 months of the date of enactment, and requires an evaluation of the program not later than 3 years after the date of enactment.

Section 171(e)(7) defines renewable energy consistent with the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Section 171(e)(8) provides an authorization of $125,000,000 to carry out the purposes of this act. No more than twenty percent of the amount appropriated is to be available for national labor market research, and state labor market information. Twenty percent is to be dedicated to the Pathways Out of Poverty Demonstration programs and the remainder shall be divided between the National Energy Partnership Training Grants and State Energy Training Partnership Grants.

VI. Explanation of Amendments

A summary of the amendments appears below:

McKeon Substitute: This substitute proposed to strike the creation of the new program and replace it with specific authority for state and local workforce investment boards to carry out worker training programs focusing on renewable energy and energy efficiency. The authority to carry out such programs is already provided for in current law, however insufficient funding has militated against the creation of programs designed to address National priorities such as Green Jobs. The amendment was defeated by a vote of 20 ayes and 25 nays.

Boustany Amendment: This amendment proposed to sunset the program created in the Green Jobs Act after five years. The program was created as a part of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA), and as such it would be subject to the authorization cycle of WIA. The amendment was defeated by a vote of 18 ayes and 26 nays.

Price Amendment: This amendment proposed to apply Paygo to H.R. 2847. This Congress has imposed strict Paygo requirements on all mandatory spending. H.R. 2847 does not contain mandatory or direct spending. All funds provided for the grant program are subject to appropriations. The amendment was defeated by a vote of 20 ayes and 25 nays.

McKeon Amendment: This amendment proposed to add "the nuclear and clean coal to liquids industries" to the list of eligible industries. There are serious questions regarding whether these industries can be fairly described as safe, clean, and efficient renew-

able energy industries. The amendment was defeated by a vote of 20 ayes and 25 nays.

McKeon Amendment: This amendment proposed to strike priority to "formerly incarcerated, adjudicated, non-violent offenders." This population is in great need of additional skills, in order to avoid recidivism and the cycle of poverty. The amendment was defeated by a vote of 20 ayes and 26 nays.

The following amendments were adopted by voice vote:

Kucinich Amendment: This amendment added "the energy efficiency assessment industry" as an eligible industry.

Ehlers Amendment: This amendment added "manufacturers that produce sustainable products using environmentally sustainable processes and materials" as an eligible industry.

Foxx Amendment: To require the Secretary of Labor to apply performance measures to the grants.

Tierney Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute: The substitute contained technical modifications.

VII. Application of Law to the Legislative Branch

Section 102(b)(3) of Public Law 104–1, the Congressional Accountability Act, requires a description of the application of this bill to the legislative branch. H.R. 2847 would have no direct impact on the Legislative Branch.

VIII. Regulatory Impact Statement

The Committee has determined that H.R. 2847 will have only a minimal impact on the regulatory burden.

IX. Unfunded Mandate Statement

Section 423 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act (as amended by Section 101(a)(2) of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act, P.L. 104–4) requires a statement of whether the provisions of the reported bill include unfunded mandates.

(See attached CBO letter for further analysis.)

X. Earmark Statement

H.R. 2847 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.

ROLLCALL

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

ROLL CALL: 1 **BILL: H.R. 2847** **DATE: 6/27/2007**
AMENDMENT NUMBER: 3 **DEFEATED: 20 AYES / 25 NOES**
SPONSOR/AMENDMENT: MCKEON / SUBSTITUTE TO THE SUBSTITUTE

MEMBER	AYE	NO	PRESENT	NOT VOTING
Mr. MILLER, Chairman		X		
Mr. KILDEE, Vice Chairman		X		
Mr. PAYNE		X		
Mr. ANDREWS		X		
Mr. SCOTT		X		
Ms. WOOLSEY		X		
Mr. HINOJOSA		X		
Mrs. McCARTHY		X		
Mr. TIERNEY		X		
Mr. KUCINICH		X		
Mr. WU		X		
Mr. HOLT		X		
Mrs. SUSAN DAVIS		X		
Mr. DANNY DAVIS		X		
Mr. GRIJALVA		X		
Mr. TIMOTHY BISHOP		X		
Ms. SANCHEZ		X		
Mr. SARBANES		X		
Mr. SESTAK				X
Mr. LOEBSACK		X		
Ms. HIRONO		X		
Mr. ALTMIRE				X
Mr. YARMUTH		X		
Mr. HARE		X		
Ms. CLARKE		X		
Mr. COURTNEY		X		
Ms. SHEA-PORTER		X		
Mr. McKEON	X			
Mr. PETRI	X			
Mr. HOEKSTRA	X			
Mr. CASTLE	X			
Mr. SOUDER	X			
Mr. EHLERS	X			
Mrs. BIGGERT	X			
Mr. PLATTS	X			
Mr. KELLER	X			
Mr. WILSON	X			
Mr. KLINE	X			
Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS				X
Mr. MARCHANT				X
Mr. PRICE	X			
Mr. FORTUÑO	X			
Mr. BOUSTANY	X			
Mrs. FOXX	X			
Mr. KUHL	X			
Mr. ROB BISHOP	X			
Mr. DAVID DAVIS	X			
Mr. WALBERG	X			
Mr. HELLER	X			
TOTALS	**20**	**25**		**4**

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

ROLL CALL: 2 **BILL: H.R. 2847** **DATE: 6/27/2007**
AMENDMENT NUMBER: 5 **DEFEATED: 18 AYES / 26 NOES**
SPONSOR/AMENDMENT: BOUSTANY / SUNSET NEW PROGRAM

MEMBER	AYE	NO	PRESENT	NOT VOTING
Mr. MILLER, Chairman		X		
Mr. KILDEE, Vice Chairman		X		
Mr. PAYNE		X		
Mr. ANDREWS		X		
Mr. SCOTT		X		
Ms. WOOLSEY		X		
Mr. HINOJOSA		X		
Mrs. McCARTHY		X		
Mr. TIERNEY		X		
Mr. KUCINICH		X		
Mr. WU		X		
Mr. HOLT		X		
Mrs. SUSAN DAVIS		X		
Mr. DANNY DAVIS		X		
Mr. GRIJALVA		X		
Mr. TIMOTHY BISHOP		X		
Ms. SANCHEZ		X		
Mr. SARBANES		X		
Mr. SESTAK				X
Mr. LOEBSACK		X		
Ms. HIRONO		X		
Mr. ALTMIRE				X
Mr. YARMUTH		X		
Mr. HARE		X		
Ms. CLARKE		X		
Mr. COURTNEY		X		
Ms. SHEA-PORTER		X		
Mr. McKEON	X			
Mr. PETRI	X			
Mr. HOEKSTRA	X			
Mr. CASTLE		X		
Mr. SOUDER	X			
Mr. EHLERS	X			
Mrs. BIGGERT	X			
Mr. PLATTS				X
Mr. KELLER	X			
Mr. WILSON	X			
Mr. KLINE	X			
Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS				X
Mr. MARCHANT				X
Mr. PRICE	X			
Mr. FORTUÑO	X			
Mr. BOUSTANY	X			
Mrs. FOXX	X			
Mr. KUHL	X			
Mr. ROB BISHOP	X			
Mr. DAVID DAVIS	X			
Mr. WALBERG	X			
Mr. HELLER	X			
TOTALS	**18**	**26**		**5**

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

ROLL CALL: 3 **BILL: H.R. 2847** **DATE: 6/27/2007**
AMENDMENT NUMBER: 6 **DEFEATED: 20 AYES / 25 NOES**
SPONSOR/AMENDMENT: PRICE / PAYGO

MEMBER	AYE	NO	PRESENT	NOT VOTING
Mr. MILLER, Chairman		X		
Mr. KILDEE, Vice Chairman		X		
Mr. PAYNE		X		
Mr. ANDREWS		X		
Mr. SCOTT		X		
Ms. WOOLSEY		X		
Mr. HINOJOSA		X		
Mrs. McCARTHY		X		
Mr. TIERNEY		X		
Mr. KUCINICH		X		
Mr. WU		X		
Mr. HOLT		X		
Mrs. SUSAN DAVIS		X		
Mr. DANNY DAVIS		X		
Mr. GRIJALVA		X		
Mr. TIMOTHY BISHOP		X		
Ms. SANCHEZ		X		
Mr. SARBANES		X		
Mr. SESTAK				X
Mr. LOEBSACK		X		
Ms. HIRONO		X		
Mr. ALTMIRE				X
Mr. YARMUTH		X		
Mr. HARE		X		
Ms. CLARKE		X		
Mr. COURTNEY		X		
Ms. SHEA-PORTER		X		
Mr. McKEON	X			
Mr. PETRI	X			
Mr. HOEKSTRA	X			
Mr. CASTLE	X			
Mr. SOUDER	X			
Mr. EHLERS	X			
Mrs. BIGGERT	X			
Mr. PLATTS	X			
Mr. KELLER	X			
Mr. WILSON	X			
Mr. KLINE	X			
Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS				X
Mr. MARCHANT				X
Mr. PRICE	X			
Mr. FORTUÑO	X			
Mr. BOUSTANY	X			
Mrs. FOXX	X			
Mr. KUHL	X			
Mr. ROB BISHOP	X			
Mr. DAVID DAVIS	X			
Mr. WALBERG	X			
Mr. HELLER	X			
TOTALS	**20**	**25**		**4**

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

ROLL CALL: 4 **BILL: H.R. 2847** **DATE: 6/27/2007**
AMENDMENT NUMBER: 8 **DEFEATED: 20 AYES / 25 NOES**
SPONSOR/AMENDMENT: MCKEON/NUCLEAR AND CLEAN COOL TO LIQUIDS

MEMBER	AYE	NO	PRESENT	NOT VOTING
Mr. MILLER, Chairman		X		
Mr. KILDEE, Vice Chairman		X		
Mr. PAYNE		X		
Mr. ANDREWS		X		
Mr. SCOTT		X		
Ms. WOOLSEY		X		
Mr. HINOJOSA		X		
Mrs. McCARTHY		X		
Mr. TIERNEY		X		
Mr. KUCINICH		X		
Mr. WU		X		
Mr. HOLT		X		
Mrs. SUSAN DAVIS		X		
Mr. DANNY DAVIS		X		
Mr. GRIJALVA		X		
Mr. TIMOTHY BISHOP		X		
Ms. SANCHEZ		X		
Mr. SARBANES		X		
Mr. SESTAK				X
Mr. LOEBSACK		X		
Ms. HIRONO		X		
Mr. ALTMIRE				X
Mr. YARMUTH		X		
Mr. HARE		X		
Ms. CLARKE		X		
Mr. COURTNEY		X		
Ms. SHEA-PORTER		X		
Mr. McKEON	X			
Mr. PETRI	X			
Mr. HOEKSTRA	X			
Mr. CASTLE	X			
Mr. SOUDER	X			
Mr. EHLERS	X			
Mrs. BIGGERT	X			
Mr. PLATTS	X			
Mr. KELLER	X			
Mr. WILSON	X			
Mr. KLINE	X			
Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS				X
Mr. MARCHANT				X
Mr. PRICE	X			
Mr. FORTUÑO	X			
Mr. BOUSTANY	X			
Mrs. FOXX	X			
Mr. KUHL	X			
Mr. ROB BISHOP	X			
Mr. DAVID DAVIS	X			
Mr. WALBERG	X			
Mr. HELLER	X			
TOTALS	**20**	**25**		**4**

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

ROLL CALL: 5 **BILL: H.R. 2847** **DATE: 6/27/2007**
AMENDMENT NUMBER: 10 **DEFEATED: 19 AYES / 26 NOES**
SPONSOR/AMENDMENT: MCKEON/STRIKE PRIORITY GIVEN TO FORMERLY-INCARCERATED, ADJUDICATED, NON-VIOLENT OFFENDERS

MEMBER	AYE	NO	PRESENT	NOT VOTING
Mr. MILLER, Chairman		X		
Mr. KILDEE, Vice Chairman		X		
Mr. PAYNE		X		
Mr. ANDREWS		X		
Mr. SCOTT		X		
Ms. WOOLSEY		X		
Mr. HINOJOSA		X		
Mrs. McCARTHY		X		
Mr. TIERNEY		X		
Mr. KUCINICH		X		
Mr. WU		X		
Mr. HOLT		X		
Mrs. SUSAN DAVIS		X		
Mr. DANNY DAVIS		X		
Mr. GRIJALVA		X		
Mr. TIMOTHY BISHOP		X		
Ms. SANCHEZ		X		
Mr. SARBANES		X		
Mr. SESTAK				X
Mr. LOEBSACK		X		
Ms. HIRONO		X		
Mr. ALTMIRE				X
Mr. YARMUTH		X		
Mr. HARE		X		
Ms. CLARKE		X		
Mr. COURTNEY		X		
Ms. SHEA-PORTER		X		
Mr. McKEON	X			
Mr. PETRI	X			
Mr. HOEKSTRA	X			
Mr. CASTLE	X			
Mr. SOUDER		X		
Mr. EHLERS	X			
Mrs. BIGGERT	X			
Mr. PLATTS	X			
Mr. KELLER	X			
Mr. WILSON	X			
Mr. KLINE	X			
Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS				X
Mr. MARCHANT				X
Mr. PRICE	X			
Mr. FORTUÑO	X			
Mr. BOUSTANY	X			
Mrs. FOXX	X			
Mr. KUHL	X			
Mr. ROB BISHOP	X			
Mr. DAVID DAVIS	X			
Mr. WALBERG	X			
Mr. HELLER	X			
TOTALS	**19**	**26**		**4**

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

ROLL CALL: 6 **BILL: H.R. 2847** **DATE: 6/27/2007**
AMENDMENT NUMBER **PASSED: 26 AYES/18 NOES/1 PRESENT**
SPONSOR/AMENDMENT: FAVORABLY REPORTING THE BILL

MEMBER	AYE	NO	PRESENT	NOT VOTING
Mr. MILLER, Chairman	X			
Mr. KILDEE, Vice Chairman	X			
Mr. PAYNE	X			
Mr. ANDREWS	X			
Mr. SCOTT	X			
Ms. WOOLSEY	X			
Mr. HINOJOSA	X			
Mrs. McCARTHY	X			
Mr. TIERNEY	X			
Mr. KUCINICH	X			
Mr. WU	X			
Mr. HOLT	X			
Mrs. SUSAN DAVIS	X			
Mr. DANNY DAVIS	X			
Mr. GRIJALVA	X			
Mr. TIMOTHY BISHOP	X			
Ms. SANCHEZ	X			
Mr. SARBANES	X			
Mr. SESTAK				X
Mr. LOEBSACK	X			
Ms. HIRONO	X			
Mr. ALTMIRE				X
Mr. YARMUTH	X			
Mr. HARE	X			
Ms. CLARKE	X			
Mr. COURTNEY	X			
Ms. SHEA-PORTER	X			
Mr. McKEON		X		
Mr. PETRI		X		
Mr. HOEKSTRA		X		
Mr. CASTLE			X	
Mr. SOUDER		X		
Mr. EHLERS	X			
Mrs. BIGGERT		X		
Mr. PLATTS		X		
Mr. KELLER		X		
Mr. WILSON		X		
Mr. KLINE		X		
Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS				X
Mr. MARCHANT				X
Mr. PRICE		X		
Mr. FORTUÑO		X		
Mr. BOUSTANY		X		
Mrs. FOXX		X		
Mr. KUHL		X		
Mr. ROB BISHOP		X		
Mr. DAVID DAVIS		X		
Mr. WALBERG		X		
Mr. HELLER		X		
TOTALS	**26**	**18**	**1**	**4**

XII. Statement of Oversight Findings and Recommendations of the Committee

In compliance with clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII and clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

XIII. New Budget Authority and CBO Cost Estimate

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and with respect to requirements of 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following estimate for H.R. 2847 from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. Congress,
Congressional Budget Office,
Washington, DC, July 13, 2007.

Hon. George Miller,
Chairman, Committee on Education and Labor,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Chairman: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 2847, the Green Jobs Act of 2007.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Christina Hawley Anthony.

Sincerely,

Peter R. Orszag,
Director.

Enclosure.

H.R. 2847—Green Jobs Act of 2007

Summary: H.R. 2847 would amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to create a new training program for energy efficiency and renewable energy workers. That program would target workers affected by national energy and environmental policy and individuals in need of updated training in those areas. The bill would authorize appropriations of $125 million for each fiscal year for activities that would include national and state labor market research, job referral, and job training. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2847 would increase outlays by $5 million in 2008 and $390 million over the 2008–2012 period. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 2847 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimated cost to the Federal Government: The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 2847 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 500 (education, training, employment: and social services).

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Worker Training Program:					
Authorization Level	125	125	125	125	125
Estimated Outlays	5	45	95	120	125

Basis of estimate: For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted by the end of fiscal year 2007 that the amounts authorized in the bill are appropriated for each year, and that outlays will follow historical patterns for similar programs.

H.R. 2847 would amend the Workforce Investment Act to authorize appropriations of $125 million annually for a new training program for energy efficiency and renewable energy workers. Funding would be allocated for labor market research at the national and state levels, and to competitive grants to states and nonprofit organizations for workforce development and job training activities that target energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that enacting the bill would cost $5 million in 2008 and $390 million over the 2008–2012 period.

Intergovernmental and private-sector impact: H.R. 2847 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. It would authorize several grant programs that would benefit state governments. Any costs to those governments would be incurred voluntarily as a condition of receiving federal assistance.

Estimate prepared by: Federal costs: Christina Hawley Anthony; Impact on state, local, and tribal governments: Melissa Merrell; Impact on the private sector: Nabeel Alsalam.

Estimate approved by: Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

XIV. Statement of General Performance Goals and Objectives

In accordance with clause 3(c) of House Rule XIII, the goal of H.R. 2847 is to establish a grant program to provide for energy efficiency and renewable energy workforce training.

XV. Constitutional Authority Statement

Under clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee must include a statement citing the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by H.R. 2847. The Committee believes that the amendments made by this bill, which establish a sustainable, public program providing quality workforce training linked to good jobs that are created by federal renewable energy and energy efficiency initiatives are within Congress' authority under Article I, section 8, clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States.

XVI. Committee Estimate

Clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison of the costs that would be incurred in carrying out H.R. 2847. However, clause 3(d)(3)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not

apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act.

XVII. Changes in Existing Law Made by the Bill, as Reported

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (new matter is printed in italic and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT OF 1998

* * * * * * *

TITLE I—WORKFORCE INVESTMENT SYSTEMS

* * * * * * *

Subtitle D—National Programs

* * * * * * *

SEC. 171. DEMONSTRATION, PILOT, MULTISERVICE, RESEARCH, AND MULTISTATE PROJECTS.

(a) * * *

* * * * * * *

(e) Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Worker Training Program.—

(1) Grant program.—

(A) In general.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the Green Jobs Act of 2007, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall establish an energy efficiency and renewable energy worker training program under which the Secretary shall carry out the activities described in paragraph (2) to achieve the purposes of this subsection.

(B) Eligibility.—For purposes of providing assistance and services under the program established under this subsection—

(i) target populations of eligible individuals to be given priority for training and other services shall include—

(I) workers affected by national energy and environmental policy;

(II) individuals in need of updated training related to the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries; and

(III) veterans, or past and present members of reserve components of the Armed Forces;

(IV) unemployed workers;

(V) individuals, including at-risk youth, seeking employment pathways out of poverty and into economic self-sufficiency; and

(VI) formerly incarcerated, adjudicated, non-violent offenders;

(ii) energy efficiency and renewable energy industries eligible to participate in a program under this subsection include—

(I) the energy-efficient building, construction, and retrofits industries;

(II) the renewable electric power industry;

(III) the energy efficient and advanced drive train vehicle industry;

(IV) the biofuels industry;

(V) the deconstruction and materials use industries;

(VI) the energy efficiency assessment industry serving the residential, commercial, or industrial sectors; and

(VII) manufacturers that produce sustainable products using environmentally sustainable processes and materials.

(2) ACTIVITIES.—

(A) NATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Under the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary, acting through the Bureau of Labor Statistics, where appropriate, shall collect and analyze labor market data to track workforce trends resulting from energy-related initiatives carried out under this subsection. Activities carried out under this paragraph shall include—

(i) tracking and documentation of academic and occupational competencies as well as future skill needs with respect to renewable energy and energy efficiency technology;

(ii) tracking and documentation of occupational information and workforce training data with respect to renewable energy and energy efficiency technology;

(iii) collaborating with State agencies, workforce investments boards, industry, organized labor, and community and nonprofit organizations to disseminate information on successful innovations for labor market services and worker training with respect to renewable energy and energy efficiency technology;

(iv) serving as a clearinghouse for best practices in workforce development, job placement, and collaborative training partnerships;

(v) promoting the establishment of workforce training initiatives with respect to renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies; and

(vi) linking research and development in renewable energy and energy efficiency technology with the development of standards and curricula for current and future jobs;

(vii) assessing new employment and work practices including career ladder and upgrade training as well as high performance work systems;

(viii) providing technical assistance and capacity building to national and state energy partnerships, including industry and labor representatives.

(B) NATIONAL ENERGY TRAINING PARTNERSHIP GRANTS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Under the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall award National Energy Training Partnerships Grants on a competitive basis to eligible entities to enable such entities to carry out training that leads to economic self-sufficiency and to develop an energy efficiency and renewable energy industries workforce. Grants shall be awarded under this subparagraph so as to ensure geographic diversity with at least 2 grants awarded to entities located in each of the 4 Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts with no subdistricts, and at least 1 grant awarded to an entity located in each of the subdistricts of the Petroleum Administration for Defense District with subdistricts, as such districts are established by the Secretary of Energy.

(ii) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under clause (i), an entity shall be a non-profit partnership that—

(I) includes the equal participation of industry, including public or private employers, and labor organizations, including joint labor-management training programs, and may include workforce investment boards, community-based organizations, educational institutions, small businesses, cooperatives, State and local veterans agencies, and veterans service organizations; and

(II) demonstrates—

(aa) experience in implementing and operating worker skills training and education programs;

(bb) the ability to identify and involve in training programs carried out under this grant, target populations of workers who would benefit from activities related to energy efficiency and renewable energy industries; and

(cc) the ability to help workers achieve economic self-sufficiency.

(iii) PRIORITY.—Priority shall be given to partnerships which leverage additional public and private resources to fund training programs, including cash or in-kind matches from participating employers.

(C) STATE LABOR MARKET RESEARCH, INFORMATION, AND LABOR EXCHANGE RESEARCH PROGRAM.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Under the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall award competitive grants to States to enable such States to administer labor market and labor exchange information

programs that include the implementation of the activities described in clause (ii), in coordination with the one-stop delivery system.

(ii) ACTIVITIES.—A State shall use amounts awarded under a grant under this subparagraph to provide funding to the State agency that administers the Wagner-Peyser Act and State unemployment compensation programs to carry out the following activities using State agency merit staff:

(I) The identification of job openings in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sector.

(II) The administration of skill and aptitude testing and assessment for workers.

(III) The counseling, case management, and referral of qualified job seekers to openings and training programs, including energy efficiency and renewable energy training programs.

(D) STATE ENERGY TRAINING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Under the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall award competitive grants to States to enable such States to administer renewable energy and energy efficiency workforce development programs that include the implementation of the activities described in clause (ii).

(ii) PARTNERSHIPS.—A State shall use amounts awarded under a grant under this subparagraph to award competitive grants to eligible State Energy Sector Partnerships to enable such Partnerships to coordinate with existing apprenticeship and labor management training programs and implement training programs that lead to the economic self-sufficiency of trainees.

(iii) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this subparagraph, a State Energy Sector Partnership shall—

(I) consist of non-profit organizations that include equal participation from industry, including public or private nonprofit employers, and labor organizations, including joint labor-management training programs, and may include representatives from local governments, the workforce investment system, including worker investment agency one-stop career centers, community based organizations, community colleges, and other post-secondary institutions, small businesses, cooperatives, State and local veterans agencies, and veterans service organizations;

(II) demonstrate experience in implementing and operating worker skills training and education programs; and

(III) demonstrate the ability to identify and involve in training programs, target populations of workers who would benefit from activities related to energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.

(iv) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall give priority to States that demonstrate that activities under the grant—

(I) meet national energy policies associated with energy efficiency, renewable energy, and the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases;

(II) meet State energy policies associated with energy efficiency, renewable energy, and the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases; and

(III) leverage additional public and private resources to fund training programs, including cash or in-kind matches from participating employers.

(v) COORDINATION.—A grantee under this subparagraph shall coordinate activities carried out under the grant with existing other appropriate training programs, including apprenticeship and labor management training programs, and implement training programs that lead to the economic self-sufficiency of trainees.

(E) PATHWAYS OUT OF POVERTY DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Under the program established under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall award at least 10 competitive grants to eligible entities to enable such entities to carry out training that leads to economic self-sufficiency. The Secretary shall give priority to entities that serve individuals in families with income of less than 200 percent of the poverty threshold (as determined by the Bureau of the Census) or a self-sufficiency standard for the local areas where the training is conducted that specifies the income needs of families, by family size, the number and ages of children in the family, and sub-State geographical considerations. Grants shall be awards to ensure geographic diversity.

(ii) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant an entity shall be a partnership that—

(I) includes community-based non-profit organizations, educational institutions with expertise in serving low-income adults or youth, public or private employers from the industry sectors described in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), and labor organizations representing workers in such industry sectors;

(II) demonstrates experience in implementing and operating worker skills training and education programs;

(III) coordinates activities, where appropriate, with the workforce investment system; and

(IV) demonstrates the ability to recruit individuals for training and to support such individuals to successful completion in training programs carried out under this grant, targeting populations of workers who are or will be engaged in activities related to energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.

(iii) PRIORITIES.—In awarding grants under this paragraph, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants that—

(I) target programs to benefit low-income workers, unemployed youth and adults, high school dropouts, or other underserved sectors of the workforce within areas of high poverty;

(II) ensure that supportive services are integrated with education and training, and delivered by organizations with direct access to and experience with targeted populations;

(III) leverage additional public and private resources to fund training programs, including cash or in-kind matches from participating employers;

(IV) involve employers and labor organizations in the determination of relevant skills and competencies and ensure that the certificates or credentials that result from the training are employer-recognized;

(V) deliver courses at alternative times (such as evening and weekend programs) and locations most convenient and accessible to participants; and

(VI) link adult remedial education with occupational skills training.

(iv) DATA COLLECTION.—Grantees shall collect and report the following information:

(I) The number of participants.

(II) The demographic characteristics of participants, including race, gender, age, parenting status, participation in other Federal programs, education and literacy level at entry, significant barriers to employment (such as limited English proficiency, criminal record, addiction or mental health problem requiring treatment, or mental disability).

(III) The services received by participants, including training, education, and supportive services.

(IV) The amount of program spending per participant.

(V) Program completion rates.

(VI) Factors determined as significantly interfering with program participation or completion.

(VII) The rate of Job placement and the rate of employment retention after 1 year.

(VIII) The average wage at placement, including any benefits, and the rate of average wage increase after 1 year.

(IX) Any post-employment supportive services provided.

The Secretary shall assist grantees in the collection of data under this clause by making available, where practicable, low-cost means of tracking the labor mar-

ket outcomes of participants, and by providing standardized reporting forms, where appropriate.

(3) ACTIVITIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Activities to be carried out under a program authorized by subparagraphs (B), (D), or (E) of paragraph (2) shall be coordinated with existing systems or providers, as appropriate. Such activities may include—

(i) occupational skills training, including curriculum development, on-the-job training, and classroom training;

(ii) safety and health training;

(iii) the provision of basic skills, literacy, GED, English as a second language, and job readiness training;

(iv) individual referral and tuition assistance for a community college training program, or any training program leading to an industry-recognized certificate;

(v) internship programs in fields related to energy efficiency and renewable energy;

(vi) customized training in conjunction with an existing registered apprenticeship program or labor-management partnership;

(vii) career ladder and upgrade training;

(viii) the implementation of transitional jobs strategies; and

(ix) the provision of supportive services.

(B) OUTREACH ACTIVITIES.—In addition to the activities authorized under subparagraph (A), activities authorized for programs under subparagraphs (D) or (E) of paragraph (2) may include the provision of outreach, recruitment, career guidance, and case management services.

(4) WORKER PROTECTIONS AND NONDISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) APPLICATION OF WIA.—The provisions of sections 181 and 188 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2931 and 2938) shall apply to all programs carried out with assistance under this subsection.

(B) CONSULTATION WITH LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.—If a labor organization represents a substantial number of workers who are engaged in similar work or training in an area that is the same as the area that is proposed to be funded under this Act, the labor organization shall be provided an opportunity to be consulted and to submit comments in regard to such a proposal.

(5) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall negotiate and reach agreement with the eligible entities that receive grants and assistance under this section on performance measures for the indicators of performance referred to in subparagraph (A) and (B) of section 136(b)(2) that will be used to evaluate the performance of the eligible entity in carrying out the activities described in subsection (e)(2). Each State and local performance measure shall consist of such an indicator of performance, and a performance level referred to in subparagraph (B).

(B) PERFORMANCE LEVELS.—The Secretary shall negotiate and reach agreement with the eligible entity regarding the levels of performance expected to be achieved by the eligible entity on the indicators of performance.

(6) REPORT.—

(A) STATUS REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Green Jobs Act of 2007, the Secretary shall transmit a report to Congress on the training program established by this subsection. The report shall include a description of the entities receiving funding and the activities carried out by such entities.

(B) EVALUATION.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of such Act, the Secretary shall transmit to Congress an assessment of such program and an evaluation of the activities carried out by entities receiving funding from such program.

(7) DEFINITION.—As used in this subsection, the term "renewable energy" has the meaning given such term in section 203(b)(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58).

(8) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection, $125,000,000 for each fiscal years, of which—

(A) not to exceed 20 percent of the amount appropriated in each such fiscal year shall be made available for, and shall be equally divided between, national labor market research and information under paragraph (2)(A) and State labor market information and labor exchange research under paragraph (2)(C), and not more than 2 percent of such amount shall be for the evaluation and report required under paragraph (4);

(B) 20 percent shall be dedicated to Pathways Out of Poverty Demonstration Programs under paragraph (2)(E); and

(C) the remainder shall be divided equally between National Energy Partnership Training Grants under paragraph (2)(B) and State energy training partnership grants under paragraph (2)(D).

* * * * * * *

MINORITY VIEWS

Republican Members of the House Committee on Education and Labor are committed to strengthening the workforce and ensuring the responsible use of energy and encouraging the use of energy efficiency and renewable energy. However, we do not believe that it is necessary to create the proposed new program in order to accomplish these goals.

H.R. 2847, the Green Jobs Act of 2007, creates a new program under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) pilot and demonstration authority in order to provide training for workers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy fields. The bill authorizes three kinds of activities: research programs at both the State and national levels; partnership grant programs at both the State and national levels; and a demonstration program to help build the economic self-sufficiency of participants.

Success in training and retraining workers is at the heart of our country's ability to remain competitive in the global economy, and our federal job training programs are central components of that effort. In 1998, Members of both parties enacted WIA to establish a system of one-stop career centers aimed at providing one convenient, central location to offer job training and related employment services. While those reforms were generally successful, the WIA system is still hampered by often unnecessary bureaucracy that prevents it from being as effective as it could be for workers and their families.

In the last Congress, this Committee and the House voted to further streamline and consolidate workforce development programs. We did so because program overlap and duplication has contributed to a still-confusing patchwork of services at the State and local level, squandering resources and reducing the funding available for job training and related services. Committee Republicans believe that H.R. 2847 adds to the duplicative nature of our workforce development programs, marking a significant step backwards in our effort to streamline the delivery of job training services.

HISTORY OF THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

In 1998, under the Committee on Education and the Workforce's leadership, Congress passed the Workforce Investment Act in order to reform the nation's job training system that had been fragmented, contained overlapping programs, and did not serve either job seekers or employers well. WIA consolidated and integrated employment and training services at the local level in a more unified workforce development system.

The Act created three funding streams to provide for adult employment and training services, dislocated workers' employment and training services, and youth development services. These serv-

ices are directed by local, business-led workforce investment boards.

One of the hallmarks of the system is that, in order to encourage the development of comprehensive systems that improve services to both employers and job seekers, local services are provided through a one-stop delivery system. At the one-stop centers, assistance ranges from core services such as job search and placement assistance, access to job listings, and an initial assessment of skills and needs; intensive services such as comprehensive assessments and case management; and, if needed, occupational skills training. In addition, to further promote a seamless system of services for job seekers and employers, numerous other federal programs also must make their services available through the one-stop system.

Since passage of the bill and implementation by the U.S. Department of Labor, States and local areas have created comprehensive services and effective one-stop delivery systems. The system is serving the needs of unemployed workers seeking new jobs in this time of economic growth. In addition, the training services provided through WIA are invaluable in helping employers find the workers they need in areas of the country facing skill shortages.

Strengthening and improving our nation's workforce development programs that help Americans get back to work is essential in this time of economic growth. Even during times of growth, many individuals need training to find new or better jobs in our knowledge-based economy. We know that the majority of jobs and career fields require at least some postsecondary education and training to succeed.

While Committee Republicans believe that WIA has gone a long way to streamlining the needs of the nation's workforce, it is essential that Congress remove barriers in current law that hamper workers in their efforts to take full advantage of the assistance WIA offers, rather than creating new, cumbersome, and duplicative programs.

H.R. 2847, The Green Jobs Act

Today, rather than moving WIA forward, H.R. 2847 would add to the duplicative nature of our workforce development programs, marking a significant step backwards in our effort to streamline the delivery of job training services. While Committee Republicans strongly support State and local efforts to train individuals for careers in energy sectors, we do not agree with the creation of a new stand-alone, job training program.

We strongly object to the fact that local workforce investment systems, which represent large and small businesses that actually have the jobs to offer, have little to no role in the training programs established under this legislation while the bill allows labor unions to assume a major role through legislated training partnerships and in required consultation of potential grant proposals, Currently, one-stop centers, the hallmark of the WIA legislation, perform much of the work proposed in the State research grants provision of H.R. 2847. However, one-stop centers are denied access to these grants under this bill. Instead of using the very well-established workforce system, the bill allocates funding for the State labor market research program directly to the Employment Service,

which means that counseling, case management, and skills assessment activities for the energy sector can only be carried out by State agency employees. The proposed structure would create further division between the State bureaucracy and the local one-stop centers,

In addition, the program duplicates assistance programs that are already available to help train workers. Specifically, the workforce investment system currently addresses the needs of the energy industry through: (1) the WIA formula grant programs; (2) the High-Growth Job Training Initiative; (3) the Community-Based Job Training Initiative; and (4) the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) initiative. Under the bill, the U.S. Department of Labor would also be required to establish a national research program that would include eight specific activities. These activities, such as serving as a clearinghouse for best practices, are already conducted by the Department under other authorities; adding further duplication and complication of those activities.

The eligible entities, target population, and authorized activities defined in the training partnership program and the "Pathways Out of Poverty Demonstration Program" are also duplicative of the services currently authorized under the WIA formula programs. Committee Republicans believe that a focus on renewable energy and "green jobs" is important, but it is not necessary to create an entirely new workforce training system and structure to do so when we already have an effective workforce development system in place.

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

Due to an effort to meet an arbitrary deadline set by the House leadership, H.R. 2847 was not considered under the normal Committee processes and was not afforded the proper opportunity for review and comment. Hearings were not held on the legislation, stakeholders had little or no time to review it, and the bill was purposely crafted outside the WIA reauthorization process. The proposed program should have been considered through the appropriate venues, which would have allowed for necessary stakeholder input. Instead, this measure will get lost in a multi-jurisdictional legislative package.

If hearings had been held on this legislation, Committee Republicans would have sought to discover the rationale for giving non-violent criminals priority for training under the bill. We also would have questioned why the successful one-stop program was circumvented through an entirely new and separate line of programs. Committee Republicans would have asked why labor unions are given special treatment under this bill, when the local workforce investment boards and the business community, those who provide high paying and high skilled jobs, have significantly reduced roles. And finally, Members should have had the opportunity to question why energy-related jobs were singled out when our nation needs additional nurses, more skilled auto workers, and new workers in a variety of other fields mired in heavy global competition.

ENHANCING THE RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKFORCE

Committee Republicans support efforts to expand the energy efficient and renewable energy workforce so that the energy industry remains an important and critical part of our nation's economic prosperity. However, we do not believe that it is necessary to create a new program in order to address this need. We feel that the Committee should have worked within the current system, established through WIA, to address our changing workforce. The key features of the Workforce Investment Act are the adaptability and flexibility it offers to answer our changing workforce needs. Congress spent years creating the system so that it would not be necessary to create a new program every time it wanted to focus on increased job training for a specific industry.

To this end, during consideration of H.R. 2847, Committee Republicans supported an amendment in the nature of a substitute, offered by Congressman Howard P. "Buck" McKeon (R–CA), the Senior Republican on the Committee, which worked through the existing workforce investment system to give State and local programs specific authority to carry out training in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industry.

The amendment would have used the well-established workforce investment system to allow States and local workforce investment boards to establish worker training programs for energy efficiency and renewable energy workforce through eligible partnerships. Local workforce investment boards would have been empowered to award competitive grants to entities in the one-stop delivery system to identify job openings, administer aptitude testing, and provide counseling and referral services for jobseekers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy sector.

The amendment also would have also strengthened current WIA research initiatives to include energy efficiency and renewable energy training by allowing for the collection of labor market data from this specific sector, allowing the U.S. Department of Labor to track workforce trends, including occupational competencies, and promoting energy sector worker training initiatives resulting from energy-related initiatives.

While Committee Republicans are not in favor of creating a new program to address the needs of the energy efficiency and renewable energy efficiency workforce, we also feel that the program neglects certain essential industries. Nearly 37 years have passed since the last nuclear power plant was sited in the United States. The last new reactor in America took 26 years alone to site and build (The Watts Bar–1 reactor, ordered in 1970 and licensed to operate in 1996, was the most recent U.S. nuclear unit to be completed). Nuclear energy is one of the most efficient and renewable energy sources our country should be promoting. As electric power demand increases to keep pace with technology and productivity gains, America needs to build more nuclear generating capacity. We need to increase U.S. generation by some 40 percent in the next two decades just to meet growing demand.

Building new nuclear power plants requires highly skilled labor and most of those highly skilled construction workers are now re-

tired. One of the most severe limitations on our ability to increase nuclear generation is the lack of trained workers in the specialized areas such as nuclear pipe fitting, wiring, steel erection and concrete construction. America needs a new generation trained for these high skill, high paying jobs.

In addition to training workers in the nuclear field, new technology advances to increase energy production without negatively impacting the environment—such as coal-to-liquid technology—equally require worker training. It is estimated that America controls, at today's consumption levels, approximately 210-year supply of energy drawn from coal. This is extremely significant considering we now have the technology to burn coal with little to no NOX, SOX or mercury. Technologies are advancing that will turn coal into a clean burning fuel for our transportation sector promoting our energy independence. A new worker training bill to expand energy jobs in America is incomplete without these industries.

In view of these needs, Congressman McKeon offered an amendment to expand the industries that may be eligible to participate in the new energy efficiency and renewable energy worker training program. Specifically, the amendment sought to add the nuclear and coal-to-liquid industries. This amendment was supported by Committee Republicans it was rejected on a party line vote during Committee consideration.

Committee Republicans also supported an amendment, offered by Charles Boustany (R–LA) that would have worked to avoid program duplication by sunsetting the new program after five years. While the Amendment was rejected on a party line vote, Committee Republicans believe that the review required by Mr. Boustany's sunset clause would have gone a long way to ensuring the program was efficient and maintained effectiveness.

INVOLVEMENT OF THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT SYSTEM AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

H.R. 2847, the Green Jobs Act, requires eligible energy partnerships to apply for grants under the new national and State training programs and the new demonstration program for self-sufficiency. While industry and labor organizations are required partners under the partnership, the workforce investment system, which comprises the very entities responsible for tailoring WIA programs to the specific needs of local communities, is not.

As such, Committee Republicans supported an amendment offered by Congresswoman Judy Biggert (R–IL) requiring the involvement of the workforce investment system in all energy partnerships under the bill in order to ensure that those performing the needed training have complete knowledge of all local workforce needs. The amendment would have also allowed funding under the State research program to go to local one-stop centers in order to provide the strongest array of services to energy sector workers. H.R. 2847 requires funding for the program to be funneled directly to State bureaucracies.

The proposed bill also provides for labor organizations to be consulted on, and submit comments regarding, proposals under the legislation, if the proposed grant area has a sizeable number of workers represented by the labor organizations and engaged in

work or training in that area. Labor organizations are the only group afforded this luxury in the bill language, which specifically excludes business and community groups. The amendment would have ensured that the business community was consulted in and afforded the opportunity to comment on grant proposals that would affect local industries in order to ensure that those grant programs best target local workforce needs.

The amendment was withdrawn with the understanding that the Majority will support language to include consultation with the business community.

CONCLUSION

Committee Republicans believe that the current workforce system established under WIA needs to be updated; however, the new program created under this bill duplicates current workforce efforts. While the energy efficiency and renewable energy fields are important to our nation's economic growth, working outside of WIA only makes our current system more cumbersome and bureaucratic and reduces the odds that workers will be able to actually find good paying long-term jobs in these industries. We have concerns over the bill's provisions that needlessly benefit labor unions and the government bureaucracy over a business-led workforce investment system. We believe that those provisions, as well as others duplicating job training assistance currently offered, will continue to hamper our workforce investment system when, during the last Congress, we made such significant progress towards streamlining and consolidating the existing system. It is our hope that we can work toward strengthening the workforce system and ensuring the responsible use of taxpayer resources through modifications to the workforce investment system established in WIA, not through new programs that duplicate efforts already under way.

HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON.
THOMAS E. PETRI.
PETER HOEKSTRA.
MARK E. SOUDER.
JUDY BIGGERT.
TODD RUSSELL PLATTS.
RIC KELLER.
JOE WILSON.
JOHN KLINE.
KENNY MARCHANT.
LUIS G. FORTUÑO.
CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, Jr.
VIRGINIA FOXX.
JOHN R. "RANDY" KUHL, Jr.
ROB BISHOP.
DAVID DAVIS.
TIMOTHY WALBERG.
DEAN HELLER.

○