

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 717

To encourage partnerships between community colleges and four-year colleges
and universities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 29, 2007

Mr. WU introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on Education and Labor

A BILL

To encourage partnerships between community colleges and
four-year colleges and universities.

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 “Community College
5 Partnership Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY; COLLEGE**
7 **PREPARATION PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED.**

8 Subpart 2 of part A of title IV of the Higher Edu-
9 cation Act of 1965 is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating section 407E as section
2 406E; and

3 (2) by inserting after chapter 3 (20 U.S.C.
4 1070a–31 et seq.) the following new chapter:

5 **“CHAPTER 4—COMMUNITY COLLEGE**
6 **OPPORTUNITY**

7 **“SEC. 407A. PURPOSE.**

8 “It is the purpose of this chapter to enhance opportu-
9 nities of students at community or technical colleges to
10 transfer to 4-year institutions and complete bachelor’s de-
11 grees.

12 **“SEC. 407B. ACTIVITIES.**

13 “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—From the amounts ap-
14 propriated under section 407E, the Secretary shall award
15 grants to an eligible partnership that—

16 “(1) shall include—

17 “(A) 1 or more community or technical
18 colleges that award associate’s degrees; and

19 “(B) 1 or more institutions of higher edu-
20 cation that offer a baccalaureate or post-bacca-
21 laureate degree not awarded by the institutions
22 described in subparagraph (A) with which it is
23 partnered; and

1 “(2) may include a State agency responsible for
2 the oversight or coordination of institutions of high-
3 er education.

4 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under this
5 part shall be used for—

6 “(1) the development of policies and programs
7 to expand opportunities for community or technical
8 college students to earn bachelor’s degrees, including
9 promoting the transfer of academic credits between
10 institutions and expanding articulation and guaran-
11 teed transfer agreements between institutions of
12 higher education;

13 “(2) support services to students participating
14 in the program, such as tutoring, mentoring, and
15 academic and personal counseling, as well as any
16 service that facilitates the transition of students
17 from the community or technical college to the part-
18 ner institution;

19 “(3) academic program enhancements at the
20 community or technical college that result in increas-
21 ing the quality of the program offered and the num-
22 ber of student participants in the program offered in
23 cooperation with a baccalaureate degree granting in-
24 stitution pursuant to this section; and

1 “(4) programs to identify barriers that inhibit
2 student transfers.

3 “(c) APPLICATIONS.—Any institution, or a consortia
4 or system of higher education, that desires to obtain a
5 grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an
6 application at such time, in such manner, and containing
7 such information or assurances as the Secretary may re-
8 quire.

9 “(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe
10 such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this
11 section.

12 **“SEC. 407C. DEFINITION.**

13 “For the purpose of this part, the term ‘community
14 or technical college’ means a public or nonprofit institu-
15 tion of higher education—

16 “(1) that admits as regular students persons
17 who are beyond the age of compulsory school attend-
18 ance in the State in which the institution is located
19 and who have the ability to benefit from the training
20 offered by the institution;

21 “(2) that predominately does not provide an
22 educational program for which it awards a bach-
23 elor’s degree (or an equivalent degree);

24 “(3) that—

1 “(A) provides an educational program of
2 not less than 2 years that is acceptable for full
3 credit toward such a degree; or

4 “(B) offers a 2-year program in engineer-
5 ing, mathematics, or the physical or biological
6 sciences, designed to prepare a student to work
7 as a technician or at the semiprofessional level
8 in engineering, scientific, or other technological
9 fields requiring the understanding and applica-
10 tion of basic engineering, scientific, or mathe-
11 matical principles of knowledge; and

12 “(4) that is accredited by a regional accrediting
13 agency or association recognized by the Secretary
14 under section 496.

15 **“SEC. 407D. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 “There are authorized to be appropriated
17 \$50,000,000 to carry out this chapter for fiscal year 2008
18 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 suc-
19 ceeding fiscal years.”.

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