

94th Congress
2d Session

Mr. Tsongas

A B I L L

To amend the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 to establish an Office of Youth Employment in the Department of Labor to administer youth programs under that Act, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
That this Act may be cited as the "Youth Counseling and Employment Act of 1975".

Sec. 2. Section 304 of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 is amended to read as follows:

"Office of Youth Employment; Youth Programs

"Sec. 304. (a) There is hereby established within the Department of Labor a Youth Employment Office (hereinafter

in this title referred to as the "Office"). There shall be at the head of the Office a Director who shall be appointed by the President (after consultation with the Secretaries of Labor and of Health, Education, and Welfare), by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who shall be compensated at the rate provided for level V of the Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. 5316).

"(b) The Director may provide financial assistance through grants and contracts in urban and rural areas, including areas having large concentrations or proportions of low-income, unemployed persons, and rural areas having substantial outmigration to urban areas, for comprehensive work and training programs, and necessary supportive and follow-up services, including the following:

"(1) programs to provide part-time employment, on-the-job training, and useful work experience for students from low-income families who are in the ninth through twelfth grades of school (or are of an age equivalent to that of students in such grades) and who are in need of the earnings to permit them to resume or maintain attendance in school;

(2) programs to provide unemployed, under-employed, or low-income persons (aged sixteen and over) with useful work and training (which must include sufficient basic education and institutional or on-the-job training) designed to assist those persons to develop their maximum occupational potential and to obtain regular competitive employment;

"(3) jobs, including those in recreation and related programs, for economically-disadvantaged youths during the summer months; and

"(4) programs to provide in-school guidance and counseling to students to promote educational choices advantageous to future employment possibilities, and to assist students in seeking and obtaining such employment.

"(c) To the maximum extent feasible, programs or components of programs conducted under this section shall be linked to comprehensive work and training programs conducted by prime sponsors under title I of this Act, but the Director may provide financial assistance to a public agency or private

organization other than a prime sponsor to carry out one or more component programs described in subsection (b) when he determines, after soliciting and considering comments of the appropriate prime sponsor, if any, that such assistance would enhance program effectiveness. In the case of programs under subsections (b)(1) and (4) of this section, financial assistance may be provided directly to local or State education agencies, after consultation with the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, for the operation of such programs.

"(d)(1) Assistance provided under this section shall, to the extent feasible, be made available for a minimum of three years.

"(2) The Director of the Office shall conduct or have conducted such studies or analyses as may be necessary to assess the effectiveness of programs conducted pursuant to this section and shall keep the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare of the Senate fully and currently informed of the results of such studies and analyses."

Sec. 3. Title 3 of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 is amended by inserting immediately after section 304 the following new section:

"Other Special Programs

"Sec. 305. (a) The Secretary may provide financial assistance in urban and rural areas, including areas having large concentrations or proportions of low-income, unemployed persons, and rural areas having substantial outmigration to urban areas, for comprehensive work and training programs, and necessary supportive and follow-up services, including the following:

"(1) special programs which involve work activities directed to the needs of those chronically unemployed poor who have poor employment prospects and are unable, because of age, lack of employment opportunity, or otherwise, to secure appropriate employment or training assistance under other programs, and which, in addition to other services provided, will enable such persons to participate in projects for the betterment, physical improvement, or beautification of the community or areas served by the program;

"(2) special programs which provide unemployed or low-income persons with jobs leading to career opportunities, including new types of careers, in programs designed to improve the physical, social, economic, or cultural condition of the community or area served;

"(3) special services, when required, for middle-aged and older men and women, including recruitment, placement, and counseling for such persons who are unemployed as a result of the closing of a plant or factory or a permanent large-scale reduction in the work force of a locality, and provide grants to or contracts with prime sponsors to assist such sponsors in securing part-time or temporary employment for middle-aged and older persons; and

"(4) other manpower programs conducted by community-based organizations.

"(b) To the maximum extent feasible, programs or components of programs conducted under this section shall be linked to comprehensive work and training programs conducted by prime sponsors under title I of this Act, but the Secretary may provide financial assistance to a public agency or private organization other than a prime sponsor to carry out one or more component programs described in subsection (a) when he determines, after soliciting and considering comments of the appropriate prime sponsor, if any, that such assistance would enhance program effectiveness."

Sec. 4. The Act of June 6, 1933 (48 Stat. 133), as amended (29 U.S.C. 49), is further amended--

(1) by inserting "and for juniors" immediately after "handicapped persons" in section 3(a); and

(2) by inserting immediately after the second sentence of section 8 the following new sentence:

"Such plans shall be amended not later than January 1, 1977, to include provision for the promotion and development of employment opportunities for juniors, for job counseling and placement of such persons, and for the designation of at least one person in each State or Federal employment office responsible for conducting such program in conformity with such

guidelines as the Director of the Youth Employment Office of the Department of Labor may provide."

Sec. 5. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.