

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4819

To require the Secretary of Education to disclose information about career and technical education and funding under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, and require FAFSA applications to include a career and technical education acknowledgment.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 2023

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself and Ms. PEREZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Education to disclose information about career and technical education and funding under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, and require FAFSA applications to include a career and technical education acknowledgment.

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 “Student Debt Alter-  
5 native and CTE Awareness Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Career and technical education provides in-  
2           dividuals with a rigorous academic alternative to a  
3           costly 4-year degree, and prepares individuals with  
4           employable and occupation-specific skills.

5           (2) Career and technical education programs—

6                   (A) offer 16 different high-skilled, high-de-  
7                   mand career fields of study; and

8                   (B) can take between 6 months and 2  
9                   years to complete, compared to a traditional 4-  
10                  year bachelor's degree.

11          (3) The average cost for a career and technical  
12          education program is \$3,000 to \$6,000 per year,  
13          while the average cost for an in-State, public 4-year  
14          institution is over \$25,000 per year.

15 **SEC. 3. DISCLOSURE ON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
16 **WEBSITE.**

17          The Secretary of Education (acting through the Of-  
18          fice of Federal Student Aid) shall—

19               (1) not later than 60 days after the date of en-  
20               actment of this Act, publish on the public website of  
21               the Office of Federal Student Aid of the Department  
22               of Education information on—

23                   (A) career and technical education pro-  
24                   grams, including average completion time, pro-

1           gram cost, and post-graduation employment  
2           rate; and

3           (B) opportunities in each State—

4           (i) to pursue such programs; and

5           (ii) for funding to pursue such pro-  
6           grams under the Carl D. Perkins Career  
7           and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20  
8           U.S.C. 2301 et seq.); and

9           (2) continuously update and maintain the infor-  
10          mation published under paragraph (1) to ensure  
11          that such information continues to be relevant.

12 **SEC. 4. DISCLOSURE ON FAFSA APPLICATION.**

13          Section 494(a)(1)(A) of the Higher Education Act of  
14          1965 (20 U.S.C. 1098h(a)(1)(A)) is amended—

15          (1) in clause (i)(II), by striking “and” at the  
16          end; and

17          (2) by adding at the end the following:

18                 “(iii) career and technical education  
19                 programs (as defined in section 3 of the  
20                 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical  
21                 Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302))  
22                 are a viable alternative to a 4-year degree,  
23                 and include, to ensure such individuals are  
24                 made aware of such programs and related

1 career paths at the beginning of the appli-  
2 cation—

3 “(I) a one-page summary of the  
4 most recent information provided  
5 under section 3(1) of the Student  
6 Debt Alternative and CTE Awareness  
7 Act; and

8 “(II) an acknowledgment signa-  
9 ture box; and”.

10 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

11 The terms “career and technical education” and  
12 “State” have the meanings given the terms in section 3  
13 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education  
14 Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

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