

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-

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OFFERED BY M . _____

Page 72, insert after line 3 the following (and redesignate the succeeding provisions accordingly):

1 TITLE IV—CONTINUING EDU-
2 CATION FOR ELECTION OFFI-
3 CIALS

4 SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.

5 This title may be cited as the “Invest in Our Democ-
6 racy Act of 2019”.

7 SEC. 402. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

8 It is the sense of Congress that—

9 (1) free and fair elections are central to our de-
10 mocracy;

11 (2) protecting our elections from foreign adver-
12 saries is a national security priority;

13 (3) the States conduct elections and it is impor-
14 tant to maintain State leadership in election admin-
15 istration;

16 (4) the States deserve Federal support to se-
17 cure our elections from interference by foreign na-
18 tions; and

1 (5) election security in the United States will
2 benefit from continued education and investment in
3 the individuals that administer our elections.

4 **SEC. 403. SUPPORTING CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR**
5 **ELECTION OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES.**

6 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY AND METHOD OF DIS-
7 TRIBUTION.—The Election Assistance Commission (in
8 this section referred to as the “Commission”) shall estab-
9 lish a program under which the Commission pays to each
10 eligible institution such sums as may be necessary to pay
11 to each eligible certificate program enrollee (as defined in
12 subsection (b)) for each academic year during which that
13 enrollee is enrolled in an accredited certificate program in
14 election administration or cybersecurity in the amount for
15 which that enrollee is eligible, as determined pursuant to
16 subsection (c). Not less than 85 percent of such sums shall
17 be advanced to eligible institutions prior to the start of
18 each payment period and shall be based upon an amount
19 requested by the institution as needed to pay eligible cer-
20 tificate program enrollees until such time as the Commis-
21 sion determines an alternative payment system that pro-
22 vides payments to institutions in an accurate and timely
23 manner, except that this sentence shall not be construed
24 to limit the authority of the Commission to place an insti-
25 tution on a reimbursement system of payment.

1 (b) ELIGIBLE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM ENROLLEE.—

2 In this section, the term “eligible certificate program en-
3 rollee” means an individual who—

4 (1) is a State or local election official, an em-
5 ployee of a State or local election official, or an em-
6 ployee of the Commission;

7 (2) certifies to the Commission their enrollment
8 in an accredited certificate program in election ad-
9 ministration or cybersecurity; and

10 (3) submits to the Commission—

11 (A) a receipt or other verification deter-
12 mined appropriate by the Commission of the
13 tuition amount for such certificate program;
14 and

15 (B) an application at such time, in such
16 manner, and containing such information as the
17 Commission may require.

18 (c) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—The amount of a grant
19 for an eligible certificate program enrollee under this sec-
20 tion for a year shall be an amount equal to 75 percent
21 of the tuition amount for the accredited certificate pro-
22 gram in election administration or cybersecurity for the
23 year.

24 (d) ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) ACCREDITED CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN
2 ELECTION ADMINISTRATION OR CYBERSECURITY.—

3 The term “accredited certificate program in election
4 administration or cybersecurity” means a program
5 in election administration or cybersecurity that leads
6 to a certificate, or other nondegree recognized cre-
7 dential, at an eligible institution.

8 (2) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term “eligi-
9 ble institution” means an institution of higher edu-
10 cation (as defined under section 101 of the Higher
11 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that—

12 (A) offers an accredited certificate pro-
13 gram in election administration or cybersecu-
14 rity; and

15 (B) elects to participate in the program es-
16 tablished under this section.

17 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
18 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

19 (1) \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2021; and

20 (2) such sums as may be necessary for each of
21 fiscal years 2022 through 2028.

