

HR 3689

HELP Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Labor and Employment

Introduced: Oct 6, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections. (Mar 23, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3689>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McKinley, David B. [R-WV-1]

Party: Republican • **State:** WV • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Oct 6, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 23, 2016
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 23, 2016
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 6, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Healthy Employee Loss Prevention Act of 2015 or the HELP Act

Authorizes the following groups to petition for eligibility to apply for adjustment assistance to the Critical Employment Advisory Commission (established by this Act) and the governor of a state:

- a group of adversely affected workers;
- the certified or recognized union or other duly authorized representative of such workers; or
- employers of such workers, one-stop operators or one-stop partners, including state employment security agencies, or the state dislocated worker unit, on their behalf.

Defines "adversely affected worker" to mean an individual who, because of lack of work in adversely affected employment, has been totally or partially separated from such employment, or has been totally separated from employment with the company in a subdivision of which adversely affected employment exists.

Directs the Commission to certify a group of adversely affected workers as eligible for adjustment assistance if:

- they were coal miners, coal utility workers, or other workers in the coal industry or a coal-dependent industry;
- a significant number of the company's workers have become, or are threatened to become, totally or partially separated or have experienced, or are threatened to experience, a significant reduction in wages; and
- the company's sales or production, or both, have caused a shift contributing to the worker's separation or threat of separation.

Requires any complete or partial separation or reduction in wages to be directly attributable to:

- actions by the federal government,
- the low-cost of other forms of energy,
- the existence of state-to-state electricity market competition, or
- other reasons the Commission determines.

Requires the payment of a readjustment allowance to an adversely affected worker covered by an eligibility certification who files an application for any week of unemployment, provided certain conditions have been met.

Requires the Commission to:

- make available employment and case management services, directly or through state agreements, to adversely affected workers as well as adversely affected incumbent workers; and
- approve training for such workers in cases where suitable employment is not available.

Authorizes states to use certain funds for adversely affected workers for payment of job search and relocation allowances.

Establishes the Commission and the Transition Adjustment Assistance Fund to carry out this Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 23, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.
- **Mar 23, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.
- **Oct 6, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 6, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.