

## HR 594

### WORKER Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Labor and Employment

**Introduced:** Jan 28, 2021

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife. (Mar 23, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/594>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** OH • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Feb 1, 2021
Rep. Wild, Susan [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Feb 1, 2021
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 5, 2021

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 28, 2021
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 29, 2021
Financial Services Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 28, 2021
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 28, 2021
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 22, 2021
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 23, 2021
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 28, 2021
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 28, 2021
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 4, 2021
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 28, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 342	Related bill	Feb 22, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## **Working On Rewarding and Keeping Employees Resilient Act or the WORKER Act**

This bill addresses workforce development by advancing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, revising and implementing certain worker training, retention, and advancement programs, establishing the Distressed Community Investment Agency, and renaming the Department of Commerce as the Department of Innovation and Investment.

The bill requires (1) the Department of Education (ED) to award grants to eligible entities to implement certain formal and informal engineering education programs in elementary and secondary schools, and (2) the use of certain career and technical education program funds for supporting a hands-on learning approach.

The bill establishes in the Department of Labor an Office of Apprenticeship, including a National Advisory Committee on Apprenticeships, to promote apprenticeship programs.

Labor and ED must establish a voluntary Registered Apprenticeship-College Collaborative consisting of the sponsors carrying out registered apprenticeship programs, two- or four-year post secondary educational institutions, and organizations that represent such programs or institutions.

The bill requires states to provide a Labor-approved reemployment bonus program for individuals currently receiving unemployment benefits. It also allows states to use workforce development funds for a wage insurance program for individuals age 50 and over (age 45 and over for individuals in economically distressed communities) and establishes a training voucher program to assist workers in obtaining job skills training.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 23, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.
- **Mar 22, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law.
- **Feb 4, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.
- **Jan 29, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce.
- **Jan 28, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 28, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, Financial Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, Science, Space, and Technology, Natural Resources, Oversight and Reform, Foreign Affairs, and the Judiciary, 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.
- **Jan 28, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Worker and Family Support.