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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish service programs dedicated to digital equity, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. KILMER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish service programs dedicated to digital equity, and for other purposes.

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 “IT Service Corps Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. STATE AND NATIONAL.**

6 (a) STATE AND NATIONAL.—Section 122(b)(2) of the
7 National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
8 12572(b)(2)) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating subparagraph (I) as sub-
2 paragraph (J); and

3 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (H) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(I) A program that—

6 “(i) is dedicated to the achievement of
7 digital equity in underserved communities,
8 including through supporting digital inclu-
9 sion activities and enhancing digital lit-
10 eracy among individuals in such commu-
11 nities;

12 “(ii) provides participants—

13 “(I) assistance in the develop-
14 ment of professional and technical
15 skills with respect to information tech-
16 nology, including—

17 “(aa) by providing and pre-
18 paring participants with suffi-
19 cient training to effectively oper-
20 ate, maintain, or otherwise adapt
21 to new technologies related to in-
22 formation technology; and

23 “(bb) to the extent prac-
24 ticable, training and financial
25 support for training that pre-

1 pares such participants to ac-
2 quire an industry recognized,
3 vendor-neutral certification in in-
4 formation technology;

5 “(II) guidance that may be used
6 in careers in information technology,
7 or in pursuing further education or
8 apprenticeships relating to informa-
9 tion technology;

10 “(III) the necessary equipment,
11 or assistance in purchasing such
12 equipment, for such program, includ-
13 ing computer devices and
14 smartphones; and

15 “(IV) with mentors who are in-
16 formation technology professionals;

17 “(iii) in recruiting participants—

18 “(I) conducts outreach and re-
19 cruitment in underserved communities
20 and other local communities; and

21 “(II) gives consideration to indi-
22 viduals who are from a marginalized
23 community or background, have been
24 dislocated from their jobs as a result
25 of the COVID–19 pandemic and sub-

1 sequent economic crisis, or have expe-
2 rienced long-term unemployment;

3 “(iv) using data available by the Cor-
4 poration, if any, with respect to partici-
5 pants, collects and reports to Congress
6 workforce information on participants, in-
7 cluding—

8 “(I) demographic data;

9 “(II) prior career background, in-
10 cluding prior career industry, role,
11 and years of experience;

12 “(III) future career intentions,
13 including desired industry and role;
14 and

15 “(IV) any job, education, or ap-
16 prenticeship placements after partici-
17 pation in the program; and

18 “(v) defines the following terms as fol-
19 lows:

20 “(I) DIGITAL EQUITY.—The term
21 ‘digital equity’ means the condition in
22 which individuals and communities
23 have the information technology ca-
24 pacity that is needed for full partici-

1 pation in the society and economy of
2 the United States.

3 “(II) DIGITAL INCLUSION.—The
4 term ‘digital inclusion’—

5 “(aa) means the activities
6 that are necessary to ensure that
7 all individuals in the United
8 States have access to, and the
9 use of, affordable information
10 and communication technologies,
11 such as—

12 “(AA) reliable fixed and
13 wireless broadband internet
14 service;

15 “(BB) internet-enabled
16 devices that meet the needs
17 of the user; and

18 “(CC) applications and
19 online content designed to
20 enable and encourage self-
21 sufficiency, participation,
22 and collaboration; and

23 “(bb) includes access to dig-
24 ital literacy training, quality
25 technical support, and basic

1 awareness of measures to ensure
2 online privacy and cybersecurity.

3 “(III) DIGITAL LITERACY.—The
4 term ‘digital literacy’ means the skills
5 associated with using technology to
6 enable users to find, evaluate, orga-
7 nize, create, and communicate infor-
8 mation.

9 “(IV) UNDERSERVED COMMU-
10 NITY.—The term ‘underserved com-
11 munity’ means a community with dig-
12 ital equity, health, financial, edu-
13 cation, or housing disparities.”.

14 (b) NATIONAL CIVILIAN COMMUNITY CORPS.—Sec-
15 tion 157(a)(1) of the National and Community Service Act
16 of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12617(a)(1)) is amended by inserting
17 before the semicolon the following: “, which may include
18 a program dedicated to digital equity described in section
19 122(b)(2)(I)”.

20 (c) VISTA.—Section 103(a) of the Domestic Volun-
21 teer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4953(a)) is amend-
22 ed—

23 (1) in paragraph (12), by striking “and” at the
24 end;

1 (2) in paragraph (13), by striking the period at
2 the end and inserting “; and”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(14) in addressing digital equity, which meets
5 the requirements of a program described in section
6 122(b)(2)(I) of the National and Community Service
7 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12572(b)(2)(I)).”.

8 (d) AMERICORPS SENIOR PROGRAMS.—Section
9 225(b)(5) of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973
10 (42 U.S.C. 5025(b)(5)) is amended by inserting before the
11 period the following: “, including a program dedicated to
12 digital equity described in section 122(b)(2)(I) of the Na-
13 tional and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
14 12572(b)(2)(I))”.