“(B) demonstrated a willingness and commitment to improving the higher education enrollment rates of the local educational agency or State, respectively.

“(b) GRANT RECIPIENT CRITERIA.—The recipient of the grant awarded under subsection (a) shall be a non-profit organization with demonstrated expertise—

“(1) in increasing school-wide higher education enrollment rates in low-income communities nationwide by providing curriculum, training, and technical assistance to secondary school staff and student peer influencers; and

“(2) in a college transition data management system.

“PART H—DIPLOMA MILL PREVENTION

“SEC. 851. PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS.

“(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this part is to protect institutions of higher education, businesses and other employers, professional licensing boards, patients and clients of degree holders, taxpayers, and other individuals from any person claiming to possess a legitimate academic degree that in fact was issued by a fraudulent or non-existent school, by a non-educational entity posing as a school, or by any entity in violation of Federal or State law.
“(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this part:

“(1) DEGREE-GRAINING INSTITUTION.—The term ‘degree-granting institution’ means any entity that offers or confers an academic, professional, or occupational degree, diploma, or certificate, if such degree, diploma, or certificate may be used to represent to the general public that the individual possessing such degree, diploma, or certificate has completed a program of education or training beyond secondary education.

“(2) DIPLOMA MILL.—The term ‘diploma mill’ means any entity that—

“(A) lacks valid accreditation by an agency recognized by a Federal agency or a State government as a valid accrediting agency of institutions of higher education; and

“(B) offers degrees, diplomas, or certifications, for a fee, that may be used to represent to the general public that the individual possessing such a degree, diploma, or certification has completed a program of education or training beyond secondary education, but little or no education or course work is required to obtain such a degree, diploma, or certification.
“(3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—

The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given such term in section 102.

“SEC. 852. RECOGNIZED ACCREDITING AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS.

“(a) LISTS MAINTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this part, the Secretary of Education shall make available (in a regularly updated, electronic format) to the Secretary of Homeland Security and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, a list of—

“(1) accrediting agencies and associations, recognized by the Secretary of Education under section 496, or, at the discretion of the Secretary, other organizations involved in accreditation;

“(2) eligible institutions, as defined under section 435(a); and

“(3) to the extent practicable, foreign degree-granting institutions that—

“(A) have degree-granting authority, as granted by the appropriate agency or ministry of jurisdiction in the home country of such institution;

“(B) issue degrees that are accepted for professional licensure, public employment, and
admission into graduate programs of degree-
granting institutions in the home country (as
determined by the Secretary of State);

“(C) are determined by the Secretary of
Education to be academically equivalent to an
eligible institution, as defined in section 435(a);

and

“(D) are located in a home country that is
capable of performing an effective academic
evaluation of the degree-granting institutions to
which it issues degree-granting authority, as de-
termined by the Secretary of State, in consulta-
tion with the Secretary of Education,

for the purposes of allowing the Secretary of Homeland
Security and the heads of such Federal agencies to deter-
mine, for immigration and Federal employment and hiring
purposes, the legitimacy of degree-granting institutions
and degrees issued by such institutions.

“(b) REVISIONS TO LISTS.—The Secretary of Edu-
cation shall modify and maintain the lists described in
subsection (a) as necessary to ensure that the lists and
the information contained in the lists are accurate and up-
to-date, based on the most recent information available to
the Secretary.
(c) Notice of Recognition.—To be eligible to receive funds under title IV, each eligible institution described in subsection (a)(2) shall, not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this part, prominently display on the institution’s Internet website a notice indicating that the institution is recognized by the Secretary of Education as a legitimate institution for immigration and Federal employment and hiring purposes. If the Secretary of Education determines that an institution no longer qualifies as a legitimate degree-granting institutions described in subsection (a)(2), and removes the institution from the list maintained under such subsection, the institution shall, not later than 15 days after the removal of the institution from such list, delete the notice required by this subsection from the institution’s Internet website.

“SEC. 853. ACCREDITING AGENCIES.

“No accrediting agency or association may be considered to be a reliable authority as to the quality of education or training offered by a degree-granting institution for any purpose related to immigration, Federal employment and hiring practices, or for any other Federal purposes, unless the agency or association is on the list of accrediting agencies and associations recognized by the Secretary of Education and provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security under section 852. The Secretary may
consult with other organizations, such as the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, for such purposes.

"SEC. 854. TASK FORCE.

“(a) Task Force Established.—The Secretary of Education shall establish within the Department of Education the Diploma Mill Task Force (referred to in this part as the ‘Task Force’).

“(b) Membership.—

“(1) Number and Appointment.—The Task Force shall, if practicable, be composed of 19 members, as follows:

“(A) The Assistant Secretary of Education for Postsecondary Education.

“(B) A representative of the Department of Education with experience related to the determination of the legitimacy and quality of degrees from foreign institutions of higher education, selected by the Secretary of Education.

“(C) A representative of the Department of Justice, selected by the Attorney General.

“(D) A representative of the Federal Trade Commission, selected by the Chairman of such agency.
“(E) A representative of the Secret Service, selected by the Director of the Secret Service.

“(F) A representative of the Department of State, selected by the Secretary of State.


“(H) A representative of the Office of Personnel Management, selected by the Director of such Office.

“(I) A representative of a national accreditation association.

“(J) A representative of a national organization representing collegiate registrars and admissions officers.

“(K) Two representatives of State degree approval agencies, selected by agreement of at least 3 of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Majority Leader, the House Minority Leader, and the Senate Minority Leader.

“(L) Two representatives from regionally accredited institutions of higher education, selected by agreement of at least 3 of the Speaker
of the House of Representatives, the Senate Majority Leader, the House Minority Leader, and the Senate Minority Leader.

“(M) One representative from a nationally accredited institution of higher education, selected by agreement of at least 3 of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Majority Leader, the House Minority Leader, and the Senate Minority Leader.

“(N) Four individuals from the general population with experience in higher education, the detection of fraudulent degrees and degree-granting institutions, or law enforcement related to credential fraud, selected as follows:

“(i) One individual selected by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

“(ii) One individual selected by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

“(iii) One individual selected by the Majority Leader of the Senate.

“(iv) One individual selected by the Minority Leader of the Senate.

“(2) CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP.—All members of the Task Force shall be persons who are es-
especially qualified to serve on the Task Force by virtue of their education, training, or experience, particularly in the fields of higher education, accreditation of institutions of higher education, foreign higher education standards, State regulation of institutions of higher education, immigration, Federal employment requirements and hiring practices, or fraud prevention, detection, or enforcement.

“(3) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for the life of the Task Force.

“(4) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Task Force shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

“(5) CHAIR.—At the first meeting of the Task Force, the members of the Task Force shall elect a member of the Task Force to serve as Chair.

“(c) DUTIES.—

“(1) GUIDELINES.—The Task Force shall develop guidelines, to be used for the development of Federal legislation, to identify degree-granting institutions as legitimate or fraudulent degree-granting institutions for Federal purposes. In developing such guidelines, the Task Force shall consider—
“(A) characteristics of degree-granting institutions that help determine the legitimacy of the institution, such as whether an entity—

“(i) offers or confers degrees, diplomas, or certificates—

“(I) for little or no meaningful academic work;

“(II) without requiring an appropriate level of academic achievement for the attainment of such degrees, diplomas, or certificates; or

“(III) without imposing academic or other requirements for admittance into the institutions or programs offering such degrees, diplomas, or certificates;

“(ii) has fiscal and administrative structures and capacity appropriate to the specified scale of educational operations;

“(iii) has resources to support claims as a degree-granting institution, including curricula, qualified faculty, facilities, equipment, and supplies, student support services, objectives of the degrees or credentials offered, admissions practices, aca-
demic calendars and catalogs, and a grading system; and

“(iv) has degree-granting authority issued by the States in which degrees, or instruction leading to degrees, are offered, and is recognized by such States as an approved institution of higher education;

“(B) the feasibility of defining the term ‘fraudulent degree-granting institution’ (commonly referred to as ‘diploma mills’), and if feasible, shall define such term for use in Federal laws and regulations;

“(C) issues related to—

“(i) the detection of new and existing fraudulent degree-granting institutions;

“(ii) recognition and prevention of the practices used by such fraudulent degree-granting institutions to avoid detection;

“(iii) the enforcement of laws and regulations prohibiting such fraudulent degree-granting institutions and practices and the use of fraudulent degrees; and

“(iv) the prosecution of such fraudulent degree-granting institutions and practices and the use of fraudulent degrees;
“(D) difficulties in identifying fraudulent degree-granting institutions located in foreign countries, or that claim recognition or degree-granting authority from foreign countries;

“(E) means to alert and educate the public about fraudulent degree-granting institutions and the use of fraudulent degrees;

“(F) laws, regulations, and other means used by States to address fraudulent degree-granting institutions and the use of fraudulent degrees;

“(G) the potential need for coordination and cooperation among various Federal agencies to investigate and prosecute suspected fraudulent degree-granting institutions, and the detailed recommendations of the Task Force regarding such coordination and cooperation;

“(H) the study and the report to the Task Force required under this section; and

“(I) the purposes for which various agencies of the United States need to identify fraudulent degree-granting institutions, and identify, prohibit, and prevent the use of degrees issued by such fraudulent institutions, and the ability
of such agencies to implement any guidelines
considered by the Task Force.

“(2) Development of Federal Plan.—The
Task Force shall develop a strategic diploma integ-

rity protection plan (referred to in this section as
the ‘Plan’) to address the sale and use of fraudulent
degrees for Federal purposes. The Plan shall include
the following:

“(A) Recommendations to Congress regard-
ing the implementation by Federal agencies
of the guidelines developed under paragraph
(1).

“(B) Recommendations to the Federal
Trade Commission regarding the application of
the guidelines developed under paragraph (1) to
any rulemaking under section 856 and to the
enforcement of the rules promulgated under
such section.

“(3) Submission of Report to Congress.—
Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
ment of this part, the Task Force shall submit to
the appropriate congressional committees a report,
including—

“(A) the guidelines developed under para-
graph (1);
“(B) the Plan developed under paragraph (2); and

“(C) a legislative proposal for consideration by Congress.

“SEC. 855. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING USE BY STATES OF THE FEDERAL PLAN AS GUIDELINES.

“It is the sense of the Congress that—

“(1) each State should implement a strategic diploma integrity plan similar to any such plan enacted by Congress in accordance with section 854, to the extent practicable and as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of such a plan under such section; and

“(2) States may adopt more stringent standards than those standards contained in the Federal strategic diploma integrity plan and used by agencies of the United States to identify fraudulent degree-granting institutions operating within such State, except that State law does not preempt Federal law as applied to the employment and hiring practices of Federal employees working in such State.
“SEC. 856. UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE ACTS AND PRACTICES
REGARDING DIPLOMAS AND PROFESSIONAL
CERTIFICATIONS.

“Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
of this part, the Secretary shall request in writing that
the Federal Trade Commission shall develop a plan to ad-
dress diploma mills based on section 18 of Federal Trade

“PART I—STUDENT SAFETY AND CAMPUS
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

“SEC. 861. STUDENT SAFETY AND CAMPUS EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT.

“(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amount appro-
priated to carry out this part under section 800, the
Secretary is authorized to award grants, on a com-
petitive basis, to institutions of higher education or
consortia of institutions of higher education to en-
able institutions of higher education or consortia to
pay the Federal share of the cost of carrying out the
authorized activities described in subsection (c).

“(2) CONSULTATION WITH THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL AND THE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SE-
curity.—Where appropriate, the Secretary shall
award grants under this section in consultation with