

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6355

To temporarily modify the John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood in response to the COVID–19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 23, 2020

Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Ms. BASS, Mr. BACON, and Mr. MULLIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Financial Services, 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

A BILL

To temporarily modify the John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood in response to the COVID–19 pandemic, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. TEMPORARY MODIFICATIONS TO THE JOHN H.**
2 **CHAFEE FOSTER CARE PROGRAM FOR SUC-**
3 **CESSFUL TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD IN RE-**
4 **SPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

5 (a) INCREASE IN FUNDING.—

6 (1) GENERALLY.—The dollar amount specified
7 in section 477(h)(1) of the Social Security Act for
8 fiscal year 2020 is deemed to be \$283,000,000—

9 (A) of which \$140,000,000 shall be avail-
10 able for the purpose described in section
11 477(a)(4) of such Act; and

12 (B) the remainder of which shall be avail-
13 able as provided in such section 477(h)(1).

14 (2) EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHERS.—
15 The dollar amount specified in section 477(h)(2) of
16 the Social Security Act for fiscal year 2020 is
17 deemed to be \$120,000,000—

18 (A) of which \$60,000,000 shall be avail-
19 able for the purpose described in section
20 477(a)(5) of such Act; and

21 (B) the remainder of which shall be avail-
22 able as provided in such section 477(h)(2).

23 (b) INAPPLICABILITY OF STATE MATCHING RE-
24 QUIREMENT TO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—

25 (1) IN GENERAL.—In making payments under
26 section 474(a)(4) of the Social Security Act from the

1 additional funds, the percentage specified in section
2 474(a)(4)(A)(i) of such Act is deemed to be 100 per-
3 cent.

4 (2) ADDITIONAL FUNDS DEFINED.—In para-
5 graph (1) of this subsection, the term “additional
6 funds” means the amounts deemed by subsection (a)
7 to be specified in each of paragraphs (1) and (2) of
8 section 477(h) of the Social Security Act, to the ex-
9 tent the amount involved exceeds the amount speci-
10 fied in the respective paragraph without regard to
11 subsection (a) of this section.

12 (c) FULL AND EXPEDITIOUS DISBURSEMENT OF
13 FUNDS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services
14 shall fully disburse the amounts payable to States under
15 section 474(a)(4) of the Social Security Act, and the
16 amounts payable to Indian tribes, tribal organizations,
17 and tribal consortia under section 477(j) of such Act, for
18 fiscal year 2020 as expeditiously as possible.

19 (d) MAXIMUM AGE LIMITATION ON ELIGIBILITY FOR
20 ASSISTANCE.—During fiscal year 2020, a child may be eli-
21 gible for services and assistance under section 477 of the
22 Social Security Act until the child attains 26 years of age,
23 notwithstanding any contrary certification made under
24 such section.

1 (e) ELIMINATION OF LIMITATION ON HOUSING EX-
 2 PENDITURES.—Section 477(b)(3)(B) of the Social Secu-
 3 rity Act shall have no force or effect with respect to fiscal
 4 year 2020.

5 (f) ELIMINATION OF VOUCHER WORK AND EDU-
 6 CATION REQUIREMENTS AND TIME LIMIT.—Section
 7 477(i)(3) of the Social Security Act shall have no force
 8 or effect during fiscal year 2020.

9 **SEC. 2. MEDICAID OUTREACH.**

10 The agency of each State that is responsible for ad-
 11 ministering the State plan approved under part E of title
 12 IV of the Social Security Act, in consultation with such
 13 other agencies as are appropriate or interested, shall es-
 14 tablish and conduct an outreach program designed to in-
 15 crease the enrollment of individuals who are eligible for
 16 medical assistance under the State plan approved under
 17 title XIX of such Act by reason of section
 18 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(IX) of such Act.

19 **SEC. 3. TEMPORARY INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR HUD FAM-**
 20 **ILY UNIFICATION PROGRAM.**

21 In addition to any amounts otherwise made available
 22 for fiscal year 2020 for the family unification program
 23 under section 8(x) of the United States Housing Act of
 24 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)), there is authorized to be ap-

1 appropriated for fiscal year 2020, \$20,000,000 for assist-
2 ance under such section.

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