

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6766

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

MAY 8, 2020

Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. BACON, Ms. BASS, 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 \$483,000,000—

9 (A) of which \$340,000,000 shall be avail-
10 able through the end of fiscal year 2021 for the
11 purpose described in section 477(a)(4) of such
12 Act; and

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

15 (2) EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHERS.—
16 The dollar amount specified in section 477(h)(2) of
17 the Social Security Act for fiscal year 2020 is
18 deemed to be \$220,000,000—

19 (A) of which \$160,000,000 is authorized to
20 be available through the end of fiscal year 2021
21 for the purpose described in section 477(a)(5)
22 of such Act; and

23 (B) the remainder of which is authorized
24 to be available as provided in such section
25 477(h)(2).

1 (b) INAPPLICABILITY OF STATE MATCHING RE-
2 QUIREMENT TO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—In making payments under
4 subsections (a)(4) and (e) of section 474 of the So-
5 cial Security Act from the additional funds, the per-
6 centage specified in subsections (a)(4)(A)(i) and
7 (e)(1) of such section are, respectively, deemed to be
8 100 percent.

9 (2) ADDITIONAL FUNDS DEFINED.—In para-
10 graph (1) of this subsection, the term “additional
11 funds” means the amounts deemed by subsection (a)
12 of this section to be specified in each of paragraphs
13 (1) and (2) of section 477(h) of the Social Security
14 Act, to the extent the amount involved exceeds the
15 amount specified in the respective paragraph without
16 regard to such subsection (a).

17 (c) FULL AND EXPEDITIOUS DISBURSEMENT OF
18 FUNDS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services
19 shall fully disburse the amounts payable to States under
20 subsections (a)(4) and (e) of section 474 of the Social Se-
21 curity Act, and the amounts payable to Indian tribes, trib-
22 al organizations, and tribal consortia under section 477(j)
23 of such Act, for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 as expedi-
24 tiously as possible.

1 (d) MAXIMUM AGE LIMITATION ON ELIGIBILITY FOR
2 ASSISTANCE.—During fiscal years 2020 and 2021, a child
3 may be eligible for services and assistance under section
4 477 of the Social Security Act until the child attains 26
5 years of age, notwithstanding any contrary certification
6 made under such section.

7 (e) WAIVER OF LIMITATIONS ON PERCENTAGE OF
8 FUNDS USED FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE; ELIGIBILITY
9 FOR FUNDS.—Notwithstanding sections 477(b)(3)(B) and
10 477(b)(3)(C) of the Social Security Act, a State may use
11 more than 30 percent of the funds paid to the State from
12 its allotment under section 477(c) of such Act for fiscal
13 year 2020 for room or board, and the funds may be used
14 for youth eligible for services under section 477 of such
15 Act who have attained 18 years of age and who experi-
16 enced foster care at 14 years of age or older.

17 (f) ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—
18 Section 477(i)(3) of the Social Security Act shall have no
19 force or effect during fiscal year 2020 or 2021.

20 **SEC. 2. MEDICAID OUTREACH.**

21 The agency of each State that is responsible for ad-
22 ministering the State plan approved under part E of title
23 IV of the Social Security Act, in consultation with such
24 other agencies as are appropriate or interested, shall es-
25 tablish and conduct an outreach program designed to in-

1 crease the enrollment of individuals who are eligible for
2 medical assistance under the State plan approved under
3 title XIX of such Act by reason of section
4 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(IX) of such Act.

5 **SEC. 3. TEMPORARY INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR HUD FAM-**
6 **ILY UNIFICATION PROGRAM.**

7 In addition to any amounts otherwise made available
8 for fiscal year 2021 for the family unification program
9 under section 8(x) of the United States Housing Act of
10 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)), there is authorized to be ap-
11 propriated for fiscal year 2021, \$20,000,000 for assist-
12 ance under such section for use only for youths eligible
13 for such assistance under paragraph (2)(B) of such sec-
14 tion.

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