

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2968

To provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to provide coordinated case management services for TANF recipients.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to provide coordinated case management services for TANF recipients.

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 “Coordinating Assist-
5 ance for TANF Recipients Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. COORDINATED CASE MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRA-**
7 **TION PROJECTS.**

8 Section 403 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
9 603) is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(c) COORDINATED CASE MANAGEMENT DEM-
2 ONSTRATION PROJECTS.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make
4 grants to States to conduct demonstration projects
5 designed to implement and evaluate strategies to
6 provide coordinated case management to help indi-
7 viduals receiving assistance under a State program
8 funded under this part or any other State program
9 funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined
10 in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)) increase their employ-
11 ment and self-sufficiency.

12 “(2) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
13 retary shall require each State that applies for a
14 grant under this paragraph to do the following:

15 “(A) Describe how, using the funds pro-
16 vided under this paragraph, the State will de-
17 velop an individual responsibility plan in accord-
18 ance with section 408(b) for each recipient re-
19 ferred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

20 “(B) Describe how the State will coordi-
21 nate the development of this plan with other
22 programs and agencies providing benefits and
23 services to the individual to help the recipient
24 increase the employment and self-sufficiency of
25 the recipient.

1 “(C) Describe how the State will coordi-
2 nate the delivery of the benefits and services to
3 the recipient (which may include the use of
4 home visiting models).

5 “(D) Describe how the State will meet
6 with the recipient at least monthly to review the
7 employment status of the recipient and status
8 of the participation of the recipient in other ac-
9 tivities, the benefits and services the recipient is
10 receiving, and the progress of the recipient to-
11 ward meeting the goals specified in the indi-
12 vidual responsibility plan of the recipient.

13 “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—A State to which a grant
14 is made under this subsection may use the grant for
15 the following purposes:

16 “(A) To support coordinated case man-
17 agers in completing the activities specified in
18 paragraph (2).

19 “(B) To provide short-term transitional
20 benefits and services to individuals who, due to
21 increased employment or earnings, may face
22 disincentives to increasing work or earnings due
23 to the phase-out or loss of certain benefits.

24 “(C) To ensure that recipients of services
25 under the demonstration project have a choice

1 between 2 or more coordinated case manage-
2 ment service providers.

3 “(D) To improve coordination between pro-
4 grams serving recipients who are part of the
5 demonstration project.

6 “(E) To improve coordination between in-
7 formation technology and other systems to de-
8 liver better benefits or services to the recipient,
9 except that not more than 10 percent of the
10 grant amount may be used for this purpose.

11 “(4) EVALUATION.—The Secretary, in consulta-
12 tion with each State conducting a demonstration
13 project under this subsection, shall conduct a high-
14 quality evaluation of the demonstration project in
15 accordance with the following:

16 “(A) EVALUATOR QUALIFICATIONS.—The
17 Secretary may not enter into a contract with an
18 evaluator unless the evaluator has demonstrated
19 experience in conducting rigorous evaluations of
20 program effectiveness including, where available
21 and appropriate, well-implemented randomized
22 controlled trials.

23 “(B) METHODOLOGIES TO BE USED.—The
24 evaluation of a demonstration project shall use
25 experimental designs using random assignment

1 or other reliable, evidence-based research meth-
2 odologies that allow for the strongest possible
3 causal inferences when random assignment is
4 not feasible.

5 “(C) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.—The Secretary
6 shall publish the results of the evaluation on the
7 website of the Department of Health and
8 Human Services in a location easily accessible
9 by the public.

10 “(D) LIMITATION ON COST OF EVALUA-
11 TIONS.—For evaluations under this paragraph,
12 the Secretary may not obligate more than 20
13 percent of the funds reserved under paragraph
14 (6) for each fiscal year.

15 “(5) RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS.—The
16 Secretary shall submit recommendations to the Con-
17 gress on ways to improve case management and bet-
18 ter coordinate benefits and services across programs.

19 “(6) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made avail-
20 able to carry out subsection (b) for fiscal year 2016
21 and each succeeding fiscal year, the Secretary shall
22 reserve \$300,000,000 to carry out this subsection.

23 “(7) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds pro-
24 vided to a State under this subsection for a fiscal

1 year shall be expended by the State in the fiscal year
2 or in the succeeding fiscal year.”.

3 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

4 The amendment made by this Act shall take effect
5 on October 1, 2015.

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