

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5828

To require States to temporarily disregard income earned through participation in certain apprenticeship programs, in making eligibility and benefit determinations under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2018

Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself and Mr. POCAN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To require States to temporarily disregard income earned through participation in certain apprenticeship programs, in making eligibility and benefit determinations under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families.

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 “Encouraging Appren-
5 ticeships, Spurring Employment Act” or the “EASE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TEMPORARY DISREGARD OF INCOME EARNED**
2 **THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN CERTAIN AP-**
3 **PRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS, UNDER THE**
4 **TANF PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(a) of the Social Secu-
6 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)) is amended by adding at the
7 end the following:

8 “(13) REQUIREMENT TO TEMPORARILY DIS-
9 REGARD INCOME EARNED THROUGH PARTICIPATION
10 IN CERTAIN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In determining the
12 eligibility of an individual for assistance under
13 the State program funded under this part, or
14 the amount of assistance to be provided to an
15 individual under the program, a State to which
16 a grant is made under section 403 shall dis-
17 regard any income earned by the individual in
18 a qualified apprenticeship program during the
19 12-month period that begins with the later of—

20 “(i) the date the recipient commenced
21 the participation; or

22 “(ii) the date of the enactment of this
23 paragraph.

24 “(B) QUALIFIED APPRENTICESHIP PRO-
25 GRAM.—In subparagraph (A), the term ‘quali-
26 fied apprenticeship program’ means—

1 “(i) a program registered under the
2 National Apprenticeship Act; or

3 “(ii) a pre-apprenticeship program
4 that has a documented partnership with a
5 program referred to in clause (i).”.

6 (b) PENALTY.—Section 409(a) of such Act (42
7 U.S.C. 609(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(17) FAILURE TO TEMPORARILY DISREGARD
10 INCOME EARNED THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN CER-
11 TAIN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—If the Secretary
12 determines that a State to which a grant is made
13 under section 403 for a fiscal year has failed to com-
14 ply with section 408(a)(13) for the fiscal year, the
15 Secretary may reduce the grant payable to the State
16 under section 403(a)(1) for the immediately suc-
17 ceeding fiscal year by an amount equal to the total
18 amount that the State would have had to expend to
19 so comply.”.

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