

JUNE 15, 2017

RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115-22
TEXT OF H.R. 2842, ACCELERATING INDIVIDUALS
INTO THE WORKFORCE ACT

**[Showing the text of H.R. 2842 as ordered reported by the
Committee on Ways and Means]**

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Accelerating Individ-
3 uals into the Workforce Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS TO SUPPORT SUB-**
5 **SIDIZED EMPLOYMENT FOR TANF RECIPI-**
6 **ENTS TO ENTER THE WORKFORCE.**

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

9 “(c) SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT DEMONSTRATION
10 PROJECTS.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make
12 grants to States to conduct demonstration projects,
13 at least one of which shall fund programs that offer
14 apprenticeships registered under the Act of August
15 16, 1937 (commonly known as the ‘National Ap-
16 prenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29
17 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), designed to implement and evalu-
18 ate strategies that provide wage subsidies to enable

1 low-income individuals to enter into and retain em-
2 ployment.

3 “(2) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
4 retary shall require each State that applies for a
5 grant under this subsection to do the following:

6 “(A) Describe how wage subsidies will be
7 provided (such as whether paid directly to the
8 employer or the individual), the duration of the
9 subsidies, the amount of the subsidies, the
10 structure of the subsidies, and how employers
11 will be recruited to participate in the subsidized
12 employment program.

13 “(B) Describe how the State expects those
14 participating in subsidized employment to be
15 able to retain employment after the subsidy
16 ends.

17 “(C) Describe how the State will coordi-
18 nate subsidized employment funded under this
19 subsection with other efforts to help low-income
20 individuals enter work as conducted by the
21 State.

22 “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State to which a
24 grant is made under this subsection may use
25 the grant to subsidize the wages of an eligible

1 recipient for a period not exceeding 12 months,
2 and only to the extent that the total of the
3 funds paid under this project and any other
4 Federal funds so used with respect to the re-
5 cipient does not exceed 50 percent of the
6 amount of the wages received by the recipient
7 during the period.

8 “(B) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—For purposes
9 of subparagraph (A), an eligible recipient is—

10 “(i)(I) a recipient of assistance under
11 the State program funded under this part
12 or any other State program funded with
13 qualified State expenditures (as defined in
14 section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)); or

15 “(II) a noncustodial parent of a minor
16 child who is receiving assistance referred to
17 in subclause (I);

18 “(ii) who, at the time the subsidy be-
19 gins, is unemployed; and

20 “(iii) whose income, at that time, is
21 less than 200 percent of the poverty line
22 (as defined by the Office of Management
23 and Budget, and revised annually in ac-
24 cordance with section 673(2) of the Omni-

1 bus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (42
2 U.S.C. 9902(2))).

3 “(4) LIMITATIONS.—

4 “(A) NONDISPLACEMENT.—A State to
5 which a grant is made under this subsection
6 shall ensure that no participant in a subsidized
7 job program funded in whole or in part under
8 this subsection is employed or assigned to a job
9 under the program—

10 “(i) when any other individual is on
11 layoff from the same or any substantially
12 equivalent job; or

13 “(ii) if the employer has terminated
14 the employment of any regular employee or
15 otherwise caused an involuntary reduction
16 of its workforce in order to fill the vacancy
17 so created with an adult described in para-
18 graph (1).

19 “(B) GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE.—A State
20 with a program funded under this subsection
21 shall establish and maintain a grievance proce-
22 dure for resolving complaints of alleged viola-
23 tions of subparagraph (A).

24 “(C) NO PREEMPTION.—Nothing in this
25 paragraph shall preempt or supersede any pro-

1 vision of State or local law that provides greater
2 protection for employees from displacement.

3 “(5) REPORTS.—As a condition of receiving
4 funds under this subsection for a fiscal year, a State
5 shall submit to the Secretary, within 6 months after
6 the end of the fiscal year, a report that—

7 “(A) specifies, for each month of the fiscal
8 year, the number of individuals whose employ-
9 ment is subsidized with these funds;

10 “(B) describes the structure of the State
11 activities to use the funds to subsidize employ-
12 ment, including the amount and duration of the
13 subsidies provided;

14 “(C) specifies the percentage of eligible re-
15 cipients who received a subsidy who are in un-
16 subsidized employment during the second quar-
17 ter after the subsidy ended;

18 “(D) specifies the percentage of eligible re-
19 cipients who received a subsidy who are in un-
20 subsidized employment during the fourth quar-
21 ter after the subsidy ended; and

22 “(E) specifies the median earnings of eligi-
23 ble recipients who received a subsidy who are in
24 unsubsidized employment during the second
25 quarter after the subsidy ended.

1 “(6) EVALUATION.—The Secretary, in consulta-
2 tion with each State conducting a demonstration
3 project, shall conduct a high-quality evaluation of
4 the demonstration project, and may reserve funds
5 made available under this subsection to conduct the
6 evaluation in accordance with the following:

7 “(A) EVALUATOR QUALIFICATIONS.—The
8 Secretary may not enter into a contract with an
9 evaluator unless the evaluator has demonstrated
10 experience in conducting rigorous evaluations of
11 program effectiveness including, where available
12 and appropriate, well-implemented randomized
13 controlled trials.

14 “(B) METHODOLOGIES TO BE USED.—The
15 evaluation of a demonstration project shall use
16 experimental designs using random assignment
17 or other reliable, evidence-based research meth-
18 odologies that allow for the strongest possible
19 causal inferences when random assignment is
20 not feasible.

21 “(C) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.—The Secretary
22 shall publish the results of the evaluation on the
23 website of the Department of Health and
24 Human Services in a location easily accessible
25 by the public.

1 “(7) RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS.—The
2 Secretary shall submit recommendations to the Com-
3 mittee on Ways and Means of the House of Rep-
4 resentatives and the Committee on Finance of the
5 Senate on how to increase the employment, reten-
6 tion, and advancement of individuals currently or
7 formerly 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)).

11 “(8) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made avail-
12 able to carry out subsection (b) for fiscal year 2018,
13 the Secretary shall reserve \$100,000,000 to carry
14 out this subsection.

15 “(9) USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR CAREER
16 PATHWAY PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall use 15
17 percent of the amounts reserved to carry out this
18 subsection, to fund programs that offer career path-
19 way (as defined in section 3(7) of the Workforce In-
20 novation and Opportunity Act) services.

21 “(10) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds pro-
22 vided to a State under this subsection in a fiscal
23 year shall be expended by the State in the fiscal year
24 or in the succeeding fiscal year.”.

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

2 The amendment made by this Act shall take effect
3 on October 1, 2017.

