Calendar No. 403

105TH CONGRESS H. R. 3433

AN ACT

To amend the Social Security Act to establish a Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program in the Social Security Administration to provide beneficiaries with disabilities meaningful opportunities to work, to extend Medicare coverage for such beneficiaries, and to make additional miscellaneous amendments relating to Social Secu-

June 9, 1998

Received; read twice and ordered to be placed on the calendar

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105TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H.R.3433

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

June 5, 1998 Received and read the first time

 $\begin{array}{c} {\rm June}~9,\,1998 \\ {\rm Read~the~second~time~and~placed~on~the~calendar} \end{array}$

AN ACT

To amend the Social Security Act to establish a Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program in the Social Security Administration to provide beneficiaries with disabilities meaningful opportunities to work, to extend Medicare coverage for such beneficiaries, and to make additional miscellaneous amendments relating to Social Security.

- 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 AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Act of 1998".
- 6 (b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents is
- 7 as follows:
 - Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
 - Sec. 2. The Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program.
 - Sec. 3. Extending Medicare coverage for OASDI disability benefit recipients who are using tickets to work and self-sufficiency.
 - Sec. 4. Technical amendments relating to drug addicts and alcoholics.
 - Sec. 5. Extension of disability insurance program demonstration project authority.
 - Sec. 6. Perfecting amendments related to withholding from Social Security benefits.
 - Sec. 7. Treatment of prisoners.
 - Sec. 8. Revocation by members of the clergy of exemption from Social Security coverage.
 - Sec. 9. Additional technical amendment relating to cooperative research or demonstration projects under titles II and XVI.
- 8 SEC. 2. THE TICKET TO WORK AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY
- 9 **PROGRAM.**
- 10 (a) In General.—Part A of title XI of the Social
- 11 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.) is amended by add-
- 12 ing at the end the following new section:
- 13 "THE TICKET TO WORK AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY
- 14 PROGRAM
- 15 "Sec. 1147. (a) In General.—The Commissioner
- 16 of Social Security shall establish a Ticket to Work and
- 17 Self-Sufficiency Program, under which a disabled bene-
- 18 ficiary may use a ticket to work and self-sufficiency issued
- 19 by the Commissioner in accordance with this section to

- 1 obtain employment services, vocational rehabilitation serv-
- 2 ices, or other support services from an employment net-
- 3 work which is of the beneficiary's choice and which is will-
- 4 ing to provide such services to such beneficiary.
- 5 "(b) Ticket System.—

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- 6 "(1) DISTRIBUTION OF TICKETS.—The Com-7 missioner of Social Security may issue a ticket to 8 work and self-sufficiency to disabled beneficiaries for 9 participation in the Program.
 - "(2) Assignment of tickets.—A disabled beneficiary holding a ticket to work and self-sufficiency may assign the ticket to any employment network of the beneficiary's choice which is serving under the Program and is willing to accept the assignment.
 - "(3) Ticket terms.—A ticket issued under paragraph (1) shall consist of a document which evidences the Commissioner's agreement to pay (as provided in paragraph (4)) an employment network, which is serving under the Program and to which such ticket is assigned by the beneficiary, for such employment services, vocational rehabilitation services, and other support services as the employment network may provide to the beneficiary.

"(4) 1 **PAYMENTS** TO **EMPLOYMENT** NET-2 works.—The Commissioner shall pay an employment network under the Program in accordance with 3 the outcome payment system under subsection 5 (h)(2) or under the outcome-milestone payment sys-6 tem under subsection (h)(3) (whichever is elected 7 pursuant to subsection (h)(1)). An employment net-8 work may not request or receive compensation for 9 such services from the beneficiary.

"(c) STATE PARTICIPATION.—

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- "(1) Periodic elections.—Each State agency administering or supervising the administration of the State plan approved under title I of the Rehabilitation act of 1973 may elect to participate in the Program (or to revoke any such election) as an employment network. The Commissioner shall provide for periodic opportunities for exercising such elections (and revocations).
- "(2) Treatment of state agencies.—Any such election (or revocation) by a State agency described in paragraph (1) taking effect during any period for which an individual residing in the State is a disabled beneficiary and a client of the State agency shall not be effective with respect to such individual to the extent that such election (or revoca-

1	tion) would result in any change in the method of
2	payment to the State agency with respect to the in-
3	dividual from the method of payment to the State
4	agency with respect to the individual in effect imme-
5	diately before such election (or revocation).
6	"(3) Effect of participation by state
7	AGENCY.—
8	"(A) STATE AGENCIES PARTICIPATING.—
9	In any case in which a State agency described
10	in paragraph (1) elects under paragraph (1) to
11	participate in the Program—
12	"(i) the employment services, voca-
13	tional rehabilitation services, and other
14	support services which, upon assignment of
15	tickets to work and self-sufficiency, are
16	provided to disabled beneficiaries by the
17	State agency acting as an employment net-
18	work shall be governed by plans for voca-
19	tional rehabilitation services approved
20	under title I of the Rehabilitation Act of
21	1973; and
22	"(ii) the provisions of section 222(d)
23	and the provisions of subsections (d) and
24	(e) of section 1615 shall not apply with re-
25	spect to such State.

1	"(B) STATE AGENCIES ADMINISTERING
2	MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES PRO-
3	GRAMS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply
4	with respect to any State agency administering
5	a program under title V of this Act.
6	"(4) Special requirements applicable to
7	CROSS-REFERRAL TO CERTAIN STATE AGENCIES.—
8	"(A) In general.—In any case in which
9	an employment network has been assigned a
10	ticket to work and self-sufficiency by a disabled
11	beneficiary, no State agency shall be deemed re-
12	quired, under this section, title I of the Reha-
13	bilitation Act of 1973, or a State plan approved
14	under such title, to accept any referral of such
15	disabled beneficiary from such employment net-
16	work unless such employment network and such
17	State agency have entered into a written agree-
18	ment that meets the requirements of subpara-
19	graph (B).
20	"(B) Terms of agreement.—An agree-
21	ment required by subparagraph (A) shall speci-
22	fy, in accordance with regulations prescribed
23	pursuant to subparagraph (C)—

1	"(i) the extent (if any) to which the
2	employment network holding the ticket will
3	provide to the State agency—
4	"(I) reimbursement for costs in-
5	curred in providing services described
6	in subparagraph (A) to the disabled
7	beneficiary; and
8	"(II) other amounts from pay-
9	ments made by the Commissioner to
10	the employment network pursuant to
11	subsection (h); and
12	"(ii) any other conditions that may be
13	required by such regulations.
14	"(C) REGULATIONS.—The Commissioner
15	of Social Security and the Secretary of Edu-
16	cation shall jointly prescribe regulations specify-
17	ing the terms of agreements required by sub-
18	paragraph (A) and otherwise necessary to carry
19	out the provisions of this paragraph.
20	"(D) Penalty.—No payment may be
21	made to an employment network pursuant to
22	subsection (h) in connection with services pro-
23	vided to any disabled beneficiary if such em-
24	ployment network makes referrals described in
25	subparagraph (A) in violation of the terms of

1	the contract required under subparagraph (A)
2	or without having entered into such a contract.
3	"(d) Responsibilities of the Commissioner of
4	SOCIAL SECURITY.—
5	"(1) Selection and qualifications of pro-
6	GRAM MANAGERS.—The Commissioner of Social Se-
7	curity shall enter into agreements with one or more
8	organizations in the private or public sector for serv-
9	ice as a program manager to assist the Commis-
10	sioner in administering the Program. Any such pro-
11	gram manager shall be selected by means of a com-
12	petitive bidding process, from among organizations
13	in the private or public sector with available exper-
14	tise and experience in the field of vocational rehabili-
15	tation or employment services.
16	"(2) Tenure, renewal, and early termi-
17	NATION.—Each agreement entered into under para-
18	graph (1) shall provide for early termination upon
19	failure to meet performance standards which shall be
20	specified in the agreement and which shall be
21	weighted to take into account any performance in
22	prior terms. Such performance standards shall in-
23	clude (but are not limited to)—
24	"(A) measures for ease of access by bene-
25	ficiaries to services; and

1	"(B) measures for determining the extent
2	to which failures in obtaining services for bene-
3	ficiaries fall within acceptable parameters, as
4	determined by the Commissioner.
5	"(3) Preclusion from direct participa-
6	TION IN DELIVERY OF SERVICES IN OWN SERVICE
7	AREA.—Agreements under paragraph (1) shall pre-
8	clude—
9	"(A) direct participation by a program
10	manager in the delivery of employment services,
11	vocational rehabilitation services, or other sup-
12	port services to beneficiaries in the service area
13	covered by the program manager's agreement;
14	and
15	"(B) the holding by a program manager of
16	a financial interest in an employment network
17	or service provider which provides services in a
18	geographic area covered under the program
19	manager's agreement.
20	"(4) Selection of employment net-
21	works.—The Commissioner shall select and enter
22	into agreements with employment networks for serv-
23	ice under the Program. Such employment networks

shall be in addition to State agencies serving as em-

- ployment networks pursuant to elections under subsection (c).
- 3 "(5) TERMINATION OF AGREEMENTS WITH EM4 PLOYMENT NETWORKS.—The Commissioner shall
 5 terminate agreements with employment networks for
 6 inadequate performance, as determined by the Commissioner.
 - "(6) QUALITY ASSURANCE.—The Commissioner shall provide for such periodic reviews as are necessary to provide for effective quality assurance in the provision of services by employment networks. The Commissioner shall take into account the views of consumers and the program manager under which the employment networks serve and shall consult with providers of services to develop performance measurements. The Commissioner shall ensure that the results of the periodic reviews are made available to beneficiaries who are prospective service recipients as they select employment networks. The Commissioner shall ensure the performance of periodic surveys of beneficiaries receiving services under the Program designed to measure customer service satisfaction.
 - "(7) DISPUTE RESOLUTION.—The Commissioner shall provide for a mechanism for resolving

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disputes between beneficiaries and employment networks and between program managers and employment networks. The Commissioner shall afford a party to such a dispute a reasonable opportunity for a full and fair review of the matter in dispute.

"(e) Program Managers.—

- "(1) IN GENERAL.—A program manager shall conduct tasks appropriate to assist the Commissioner in carrying out the Commissioner's duties in administering the Program.
- "(2) Recruitment of employment networks.—A program manager shall recruit, and recommend for selection by the Commissioner, employment networks for service under the Program. The program manager shall carry out such recruitment and provide such recommendations, and shall monitor all employment networks serving in the Program in the geographic area covered under the program manager's agreement, to the extent necessary and appropriate to ensure that adequate choices of services are made available to beneficiaries. Employment networks may serve under the Program only pursuant to an agreement entered into with the Commissioner under the Program incorporating the applicable provisions of this section and regulations there-

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under, and the program manager shall provide and maintain assurances to the Commissioner that payment by the Commissioner to employment networks pursuant to this section is warranted based on compliance by such employment networks with the terms of such agreement and this section. The program manager shall not impose numerical limits on the number of employment networks to be recommended pursuant to this paragraph.

"(3) Facilitation of access BYBENE-FICIARIES TO EMPLOYMENT NETWORKS.—A program manager shall facilitate access by beneficiaries to employment networks. The program manager shall ensure that each beneficiary is allowed changes in employment networks for good cause, as determined by the Commissioner, without being deemed to have rejected services under the Program. The program manager shall establish and maintain lists of employment networks available to beneficiaries and shall make such lists generally available to the public. The program manager shall ensure that all information provided to disabled beneficiaries pursuant to this paragraph is provided in accessible format.

1 "(4) Ensuring availability of adequate 2 Services.—The program manager shall ensure that 3 employment services, vocational rehabilitation serv-4 ices, and other support services are provided to 5 beneficiaries throughout the geographic area covered 6 under the program manager's agreement, including 7 rural areas.

"(5) Reasonable access to services.—The program manager shall take such measures as are necessary to ensure that sufficient employment networks are available and that each beneficiary receiving services under the Program has reasonable access to employment services, vocational rehabilitation services, and other support services. Such services may include case management, benefits counseling, supported employment, career planning, career plan development, vocational assessment, job training, placement, follow-up services, and such other services as may be specified by the Commissioner under the Program. The program manager shall ensure that such services are coordinated.

"(f) Employment Networks.—

"(1) QUALIFICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT NET-WORKS.—Each employment network serving under the Program shall consist of an agency or instru-

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mentality of a State (or a political subdivision thereof) or a private entity, which assumes responsibility for the coordination and delivery of services under the Program to individuals assigning to the employment network tickets to work and self-sufficiency issued under subsection (b). No employment network may serve under the Program unless it demonstrates to the Commissioner substantial expertise and experience in the field of employment services, vocational rehabilitation services, or other support services for individuals with disabilities and provides an array of such services. An employment network shall consist of either a single provider of such services or of an association of such providers organized so as to combine their resources into a single entity. An employment network may meet the requirements of subsection (e)(4) by providing services directly, or by entering into agreements with other individuals or entities providing appropriate employment services, vocational rehabilitation services, or other support services.

"(2) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO PROVISION
OF SERVICES.—Each employment network serving
under the Program shall be required under the
terms of its agreement with the Commissioner to—

1	"(A) serve prescribed service areas;
2	"(B) meet, and maintain compliance with,
3	both general selection criteria (such as profes-
4	sional and governmental certification and edu-
5	cational credentials) and specific selection cri-
6	teria (such as the extent of work experience by
7	the provider with specific populations); and
8	"(C) take such measures as are necessary
9	to ensure that employment services, vocational
10	rehabilitation services, and other support serv-
11	ices provided under the Program by, or under
12	agreements entered into with, the employment
13	network are provided under appropriate individ-
14	ual work plans meeting the requirements of
15	subsection (g).
16	"(3) Annual financial reporting.—Each
17	employment network shall meet financial reporting
18	requirements as prescribed by the Commissioner.
19	"(4) Periodic outcomes reporting.—Each
20	employment network shall prepare periodic reports,
21	on at least an annual basis, itemizing for the covered
22	period specific outcomes achieved with respect to
23	specific services provided by the employment net-
24	work. Such reports shall conform to a national

model prescribed under this section. Each employ-

ment network shall provide a copy of the latest report issued by the employment network pursuant to this paragraph to each beneficiary upon enrollment under the Program for services to be received through such employment network. Upon issuance of each report to each beneficiary, a copy of the report shall be maintained in the files of the employment network pertaining to the beneficiary. The program manager shall ensure that copies of all such reports issued under this paragraph are made available to the public under reasonable terms.

"(g) Individual Work Plans.—

"(1) In general.—Each employment network shall—

"(A) take such measures as are necessary to ensure that employment services, vocational rehabilitation services, and other support services provided under the Program by, or under agreements entered into with, the employment network are provided under appropriate individual work plans as defined by the Commissioner; and

"(B) develop and implement each such individual work plan, in the case of each beneficiary receiving such services, in a manner that

1	affords such beneficiary the opportunity to ex-
2	ercise informed choice in selecting an employ-
3	ment goal and specific services needed to
4	achieve that employment goal.
5	A beneficiary's individual work plan shall take effect
6	upon approval by the beneficiary.
7	"(2) Vocational evaluation.—In devising
8	the work plan, the employment network shall under-
9	take a vocational evaluation with respect to the ben-
10	eficiary. Each vocational evaluation shall set forth in
11	writing such elements and shall be in such format as
12	the Commissioner shall prescribe. The Commissioner
13	may provide for waiver by the beneficiary of such a
14	vocational evaluation, subject to regulations which
15	shall be prescribed by the Commissioner providing
16	for the permissible timing of, and the circumstances
17	permitting, such a waiver.
18	"(h) Employment Network Payment Systems.—
19	"(1) Election of payment system by em-
20	PLOYMENT NETWORKS.—
21	"(A) In General.—The Program shall
22	provide for payment authorized by the Commis-
23	sioner to employment networks under either an
24	outcome payment system or an outcome-mile-

stone payment system. Each employment net-

work shall elect which payment system will be utilized by the employment network, and, for such period of time as such election remains in effect, the payment system so elected shall be utilized exclusively in connection with such employment network (except as provided in subparagraph (B)).

"(B) METHOD OF PAYMENT TO EMPLOYMENT NETWORKS.—Any such election by an
employment network taking effect during any
period for which a disabled beneficiary is receiving services from such employment network
shall not be effective with respect to such beneficiary to the extent that such election would result in any change in the method of payment to
the employment network with respect to services provided to such beneficiary from the method of payment to the employment network with
respect to services provided to such beneficiary
as of immediately before such election.

"(2) Outcome payment system.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The outcome payment system shall consist of a payment structure governing employment networks electing such sys-

1	tem under paragraph (1)(A) which meets the
2	requirements of this paragraph.
3	"(B) Payments made during outcome
4	PAYMENT PERIOD.—The outcome payment sys-
5	tem shall provide for a schedule of payments to
6	an employment network, in connection with
7	each individual who is a beneficiary, for each
8	month, during the individual's outcome pay-
9	ment period, for which benefits (described in
10	paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (k)) are
11	not payable to such individual.
12	"(C) Computation of payments to em-
13	PLOYMENT NETWORK.—The payment schedule
14	of the outcome payment system shall be de-
15	signed so that—
16	"(i) the payment for each of the 60
17	months during the outcome payment pe-
18	riod for which benefits (described in para-
19	graphs (2) and (3) of subsection (k)) are
20	not payable is equal to a fixed percentage
21	of the payment calculation base for the cal-
22	endar year in which such month occurs;

and

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1	"(ii) such fixed percentage is set at a
2	percentage which does not exceed 40 per-
3	cent.
4	"(3) Outcome-milestone payment sys-
5	TEM.—
6	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The outcome-mile-
7	stone payment system shall consist of a pay-
8	ment structure governing employment networks
9	electing such system under paragraph (1)(A)
10	which meets the requirements of this para-
11	graph.
12	"(B) Early payments upon attain-
13	MENT OF MILESTONES IN ADVANCE OF OUT-

MENT OF MILESTONES IN ADVANCE OF OUT COME PAYMENT PERIODS.—The outcome-milestone payment system shall provide for one or more milestones, with respect to beneficiaries receiving services from an employment network under the Program, which are directed toward the goal of permanent employment. Such milestones shall form a part of a payment structure which provides, in addition to payments made during outcome payment periods, payments made prior to outcome payment periods in amounts based on the attainment of such milestones.

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1	"(C) Limitation on total payments to
2	EMPLOYMENT NETWORK.—The payment sched-
3	ule of the outcome milestone payment system
4	shall be designed so that the total of the pay-
5	ments to the employment network with respect
6	to each beneficiary is less than, on a net
7	present value basis (using an interest rate de-
8	termined by the Commissioner that appro-
9	priately reflects the cost of funds faced by pro-
10	viders), the total amount to which payments to
11	the employment network with respect to the
12	beneficiary would be limited if the employment
13	network were paid under the outcome payment
14	system.
15	"(4) Definitions.—For purposes of this sub-
16	section—
17	"(A) PAYMENT CALCULATION BASE.—The
18	term 'payment calculation base' means, for any
19	calendar year—
20	"(i) in connection with a title II dis-
21	ability beneficiary, the average disability
22	insurance benefit payable under section
23	223 for all beneficiaries for months during
24	the preceding calendar year; and

1	"(ii) in connection with a title XVI
2	disability beneficiary (who is not concur-
3	rently a title II disability beneficiary), the
4	average payment of supplemental security
5	income benefits based on disability payable
6	under title XVI (excluding State sup-
7	plementation) for months during the pre-
8	ceding calendar year to all beneficiaries
9	who have attained at least 18 years of age.
10	"(B) OUTCOME PAYMENT PERIOD.—The
11	term 'outcome payment period' means, in con-
12	nection with any individual who had assigned a
13	ticket to work and self-sufficiency to an employ-
14	ment network under the Program, a period—
15	"(i) beginning with the first month,
16	ending after the date on which such ticket
17	was assigned to the employment network,
18	for which benefits (described in paragraphs
19	(2) and (3) of subsection (k)) are not pay-
20	able to such individual by reason of en-
21	gagement in work activity; and
22	"(ii) ending with the 60th month
23	(consecutive or otherwise), ending after
24	such date, for which such benefits are not

1	payable to such individual by reason of en-
2	gagement in work activity.
3	"(5) Periodic review and alterations of

"(5) Periodic review and alterations of Prescribed schedules.—

"(A) Percentages and Periods.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall periodically review the percentage specified in paragraph (2)(C), the total payments permissible under paragraph (3)(C), and the period of time specified in paragraph (4)(B) to determine whether such percentages, such permissible payments, and such period provide an adequate incentive for employment networks to assist beneficiaries to enter the workforce, while providing for appropriate economies. The Commissioner may alter such percentage, such total permissible payments, or such period of time to the extent that the Commissioner determines, on the basis of the Commissioner's review under this paragraph, that such an alteration would better provide the incentive and economies described in the preceding sentence.

"(B) Number and amount of milestone payments.—The Commissioner shall periodically review the number and amounts of

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milestone payments established by the Commissioner pursuant to this section to determine whether they provide an adequate incentive for employment networks to assist beneficiaries to enter the workforce, taking into account information provided to the Commissioner by program managers, the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Advisory Panel, and other reliable sources. The Commissioner may from time to time alter the number and amounts of milestone payments initially established by the Commissioner pursuant to this section to the extent that the Commissioner determines that such an alteration would allow an adequate incentive for employment networks to assist beneficiaries to enter the workforce. Such alteration shall be based on information provided to the Commissioner by program managers, the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Advisory Panel, or other reliable sources.

"(i) Suspension of Disability Reviews.—During any period for which an individual is using a ticket to work and self-sufficiency issued under this section, the Commissioner (and any applicable State agency) may not initiate a continuing disability review or other review under section

- 1 221 of whether the individual is or is not under a disability
- 2 or a review under title XVI similar to any such review
- 3 under section 221.
- 4 "(j) AUTHORIZATIONS.—
- "(1) TITLE II DISABILITY BENEFICIARIES.— 6 There are authorized to be transferred from the 7 Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust 8 Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust 9 Fund each fiscal year such sums as may be nec-10 essary to carry out the provisions of this section 11 with respect to title II disability beneficiaries. Money 12 paid from the Trust Funds under this section with 13 respect to title II disability beneficiaries who are en-14 titled to benefits under section 223 or who are enti-15 tled to benefits under section 202(d) on the basis of 16 the wages and self-employment income of such bene-17 ficiaries, shall be charged to the Federal Disability 18 Insurance Trust Fund, and all other money paid 19 from the Trust Funds under this section shall be 20 charged to the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insur-21 ance Trust Fund. The Commissioner of Social Secu-22 rity shall determine according to such methods and

procedures as shall be prescribed under this sec-

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tion—

1	"(A) the total amount to be paid to pro-
2	gram managers and employment networks
3	under this section; and
4	"(B) subject to the provisions of the pre-
5	ceding sentence, the amount which should be
6	charged to each of the Trust Funds.
7	"(2) Title XVI disability beneficiaries.—
8	Amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Social
9	Security Administration under section 1601 (as in
10	effect pursuant to the amendments made by section
11	301 of the Social Security Amendments of 1972)
12	shall include amounts necessary to carry out the
13	provisions of this section with respect to title XVI
14	disability beneficiaries.
15	"(k) Definitions.—For purposes of this section—
16	"(1) DISABLED BENEFICIARY.—The term 'dis-
17	abled beneficiary' means a title II disability bene-
18	ficiary or a title XVI disability beneficiary.
19	"(2) TITLE II DISABILITY BENEFICIARY.—The
20	term 'title II disability beneficiary' means an individ-
21	ual entitled to disability insurance benefits under
22	section 223 or to monthly insurance benefits under
23	section 202 based on such individual's disability (as

defined in section 223(d)). An individual is a title Π

1	disability beneficiary for each month for which such
2	individual is entitled to such benefits.
3	"(3) Title XVI disability beneficiary.—
4	The term 'title XVI disability beneficiary' means an
5	individual eligible for supplemental security income
6	benefits under title XVI on the basis of blindness
7	(within the meaning of section 1614(a)(2)) or dis-
8	ability (within the meaning of section 1614(a)(3)).
9	An individual is a title XVI disability beneficiary for
10	each month for which such individual is eligible for
11	such benefits.
12	"(4) Supplemental security income bene-
13	FIT.—The term 'supplemental security income bene-
14	fit under title XVI' means a cash benefit under sec-
15	tion 1611 or 1619(a), and does not include a State
16	supplementary payment, administered federally or
17	otherwise.
18	"(l) Regulations.—The Commissioner of Social Se-
19	curity shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary to
20	carry out the provisions of this section.".
21	(b) Conforming Amendments.—
22	(1) Amendments to title II.—
23	(A) Section 221(c) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
24	421(c)) is amended by adding at the end the
25	following new paragraph:

1	"(4) For suspension of reviews under this subsection
2	in the case of an individual using a ticket to work and
3	self-sufficiency, see section 1147(i).".
4	(B) Section 222(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
5	422(a)) is repealed.
6	(C) Section 222(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
7	422(b)) is repealed.
8	(D) Section $225(b)(1)$ of such Act (42)
9	U.S.C. 425(b)(1)) is amended by striking "a
10	program of vocational rehabilitation services"
11	and inserting "a program consisting of the
12	Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program
13	under section 1147 or another program of voca-
14	tional rehabilitation services, employment serv-
15	ices, or other support services".
16	(2) Amendments to title XVI.—
17	(A) Section 1615(a) of such Act (42
18	U.S.C. 1382d(a)) is amended to read as follows:
19	"Sec. 1615. (a) In the case of any blind or disabled
20	individual who—
21	"(1) has not attained age 16; and
22	"(2) with respect to whom benefits are paid
23	under this title,

the Commissioner of Social Security shall make provision for referral of such individual to the appropriate State 3 agency administering the State program under title V.". 4 (B) Section 1615(c) of such Act (42)5 $U.S.C.\ 1382d(c)$) is repealed. 6 (C) Section 1631(a)(6)(A) of such Act (42) 7 U.S.C. 1383(a)(6)(A)) is amended by striking "a program of vocational rehabilitation serv-8 9 ices" and inserting "a program consisting of the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Pro-10 11 gram under section 1147 or another program of 12 vocational rehabilitation services, employment 13 services, or other support services". 14 (D) Section 1633(c) of such Act (42) 15 U.S.C. 1383b(c)) is amended— (i) by inserting "(1)" after "(c)"; and 16 17 (ii) by adding at the end the following 18 new paragraph: 19 "(2) For suspension of continuing disability reviews and other reviews under this title similar to reviews under 20 21 section 221 in the case of an individual using a ticket to 22 work and self-sufficiency, see section 1147(i).". 23 (c) Effective Date.—Subject to subsection (d), the amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall

1 take effect with the first month following one year after

2 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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(d) Graduated Implementation of Program.—

(1) In General.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Social Security shall commence implementation of the amendments made by this section (other than paragraphs (1)(C) and (2)(B) of subsection (b)) in graduated phases at phase-in sites selected by the Commissioner. Such phase-in sites shall be selected so as to ensure, prior to full implementation of the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program, the development and refinement of referral processes, payment systems, computer linkages, management information systems, and administrative processes necessary to provide for full implementation of such amendments. Subsection (c) shall apply with respect to paragraphs (1)(C) and (2)(B) of subsection (b) without regard to this subsection.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Implementation of the Program at each phase-in site shall be carried out on a wide enough scale to permit a thorough evaluation of the alternative methods under consideration, so as to ensure that the most efficacious methods

are determined and in place for full implementation
 of the Program on a timely basis.

(3) Full implementation.—The Commissioner shall ensure that the Program is fully implemented as soon as practicable on or after the effective date specified in subsection (c) but not later than six years after such date.

(4) Ongoing evaluation of program.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner shall design and conduct a series of evaluations to assess the cost-effectiveness of activities carried out under this section and the amendments made thereby, as well as the effects of this section and the amendments made thereby on work outcomes for beneficiaries receiving tickets to work and self-sufficiency under the Program.

(B) Methodology.—

(i) Design and implementation.—
The Commissioner shall design the series of evaluations after receiving relevant advice from experts in the fields of disability, vocational rehabilitation, and program evaluation and individuals using tickets to work and self-sufficiency under the Program. In designing and carrying out such

1	evaluations, the Commissioner shall consult
2	with the Comptroller General of the United
3	States and other agencies of the Federal
4	Government and with private organizations
5	with appropriate expertise. Before provi-
6	sion of services begins under any phase of
7	Program implementation, the Commis-
8	sioner shall ensure that plans for such
9	evaluations and data collection methods
10	are in place and ready for implementation.
11	(ii) Specific matters to be ad-
12	DRESSED.—Each such evaluation shall ad-
13	dress (but is not limited to):
14	(I) the annual cost (including net
15	cost) of the Program and the annual
16	cost (including net cost) that would
17	have been incurred in the absence of
18	the Program;
19	(II) the determinants of return to
20	work, including the characteristics of
21	beneficiaries in receipt of tickets
22	under the Program;
23	(III) the types of employment
24	services, vocational rehabilitation serv-
25	ices, and other support services fur-

1	nished to beneficiaries in receipt of
2	tickets under the Program who return
3	to work and to those who do not re-
4	turn to work;
5	(IV) the duration of employment
6	services, vocational rehabilitation serv-
7	ices, and other support services fur-
8	nished to beneficiaries in receipt of
9	tickets under the Program who return
10	to work and the duration of such serv-
11	ices furnished to those who do not re-
12	turn to work and the cost to employ-
13	ment networks of furnishing such
14	services;
15	(V) the employment outcomes,
16	including wages, occupations, benefits,
17	and hours worked, of beneficiaries
18	who return to work after receiving
19	tickets under the Program and those
20	who return to work without receiving
21	such tickets;
22	(VI) the characteristics of provid-
23	ers whose services are provided within
24	an employment network under the
25	Program;

1	(VII) the extent (if any) to which
2	employment networks display a great-
3	er willingness to provide services to
4	disabled beneficiaries;
5	(VIII) the characteristics (includ-
6	ing employment outcomes) of those
7	beneficiaries who receive services
8	under the outcome payment system
9	and of those beneficiaries who receive
10	services under the outcome-milestone
11	payment system;
12	(IX) measures of satisfaction
13	among beneficiaries in receipt of tick-
14	ets under the Program; and
15	(X) reasons for (including com-
16	ments solicited from beneficiaries re-
17	garding) their choice not to use their
18	tickets or their inability to return to
19	work despite the use of thier tickets.
20	(C) Periodic evaluation reports.—
21	Following the close of the third and fifth fiscal
22	years ending after the effective date under sub-
23	section (c), and prior to the close of the seventh
24	fiscal year ending after such date, the Commis-
25	sioner shall transmit to the Committee on Ways

1 and Means of the House of Representatives and 2 the Committee on Finance of the Senate a re-3 port containing the Commissioner's evaluation of the progress of activities conducted under the provisions of this section and the amendments 6 made thereby. Each such report shall set forth 7 the Commissioner's evaluation of the extent to 8 which the Program has been successful and the 9 Commissioner's conclusions on whether or how 10 the Program should be modified. Each such re-11 port shall include such data, findings, materials, 12 and recommendations as the Commissioner may 13 consider appropriate. 14 (5) Extent of state's right of first re-15 FUSAL IN ADVANCE OF FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF 16 AMENDMENTS IN SUCH STATE.— 17 (A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any 18 State in which the amendments made by sub-19 section (a) have not been fully implemented 20 pursuant to this subsection, the Commissioner 21 shall determine by regulation the extent to 22 which-

(i) the requirement under section 222(a) of the Social Security Act for prompt referrals to a State agency; and

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1	(ii) the authority of the Commissioner
2	under section 222(d)(2) of such Act to
3	provide vocational rehabilitation services in
4	such State by agreement or contract with
5	other public or private agencies, organiza-
6	tions, institutions, or individuals,
7	shall apply in such State.
8	(B) Existing agreements.—Nothing in
9	subparagraph (A) or the amendments made by
10	subsection (a) shall be construed to limit, im-
11	pede, or otherwise affect any agreement entered
12	into pursuant to section 222(d)(2) of the Social
13	Security Act before the date of the enactment
14	of this Act with respect to services provided
15	pursuant to such agreement to beneficiaries re-
16	ceiving services under such agreement as of
17	such date, except with respect to services (if
18	any) to be provided after six years after the ef-
19	fective date provided in subsection (c).
20	(e) The Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency
21	Advisory Panel.—
22	(1) Establishment.—There is established in
23	the executive branch a panel to be known as the
24	"Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Advisory

1	Panel" (in this subsection referred to as the
2	"Panel").
3	(2) Duties of Panel.—It shall be the duty of
4	the Panel to—
5	(A) advise the Commissioner of Social Se-
6	curity on establishing phase-in sites for the
7	Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program
8	and on fully implementing the Program there-
9	after;
10	(B) advise the Commissioner with respect
11	to the refinement of access of disabled bene-
12	ficiaries to employment networks, payment sys-
13	tems, and management information systems
14	and advise the Commissioner whether such
15	measures are being taken to the extent nec-
16	essary to ensure the success of the Program;
17	(C) advise the Commissioner regarding the
18	most effective designs for research and dem-
19	onstration projects associated with the Program
20	or conducted pursuant to subsection (h);
21	(D) advise the Commissioner on the devel-
22	opment of performance measurements relating
23	to quality assurance under section 1147(d)(6)
24	of the Social Security Act; and

1	(E) furnish progress reports on the Pro-
2	gram to the President and each House of the
3	Congress.
4	(3) Membership.—
5	(A) Number and appointment.—The
6	Panel shall be composed of six members as fol-
7	lows:
8	(i) one member appointed by the
9	Chairman of the Committee on Ways and
10	Means of the House of Representatives;
11	(ii) one member appointed by the
12	ranking minority member of the Commit-
13	tee on Ways and Means of the House of
14	Representatives;
15	(iii) one member appointed by the
16	Chairman of the Committee on Finance of
17	the Senate;
18	(iv) one member appointed by the
19	ranking minority member of the Commit-
20	tee on Finance of the Senate; and
21	(v) two members appointed by the
22	President, who may not be of the same po-
23	litical party.
24	(B) Representation.—Of the members
25	appointed under subparagraph (A), at least

1	four shall have experience or expert knowledge
2	as a recipient, provider, employer, or employee
3	in the fields of, or related to, employment serv-
4	ices, vocational rehabilitation services, and
5	other support services, of whom—
6	(i) at least one shall represent the in-
7	terests of recipients of employment serv-
8	ices, vocational rehabilitation services, and
9	other support services;
10	(ii) at least one shall represent the in-
11	terests of providers of employment serv-
12	ices, vocational rehabilitation services, and
13	other support services;
14	(iii) at least one shall represent the
15	interests of private employers;
16	(iv) at least one shall represent the in-
17	terests of employees; and
18	(v) at least one shall be an individual
19	who is or has been a recipient of benefits
20	under title II or title XVI based on disabil-
21	ity.
22	(C) Terms.—
23	(i) In general.—Each member shall
24	be appointed for a term of 4 years (or, if
25	less, for the remaining life of the Panel).

1 except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii)
The initial members shall be appointed no
later than 90 days after the date of the en
4 actment of this Act.
5 (ii) Terms of initial ap
6 Pointees.—As designated by the Presi
dent at the time of appointment, of th
8 members first appointed—
9 (I) three of the members ap
pointed under subparagraph (A) sha
be appointed for a term of 2 years
2 and
3 (II) three of the members ap
4 pointed under subparagraph (A) sha
5 be appointed for a term of 4 years.
6 (iii) Vacancies.—Any member ap
pointed to fill a vacancy occurring before
8 the expiration of the term for which th
9 member's predecessor was appointed shall
0 be appointed only for the remainder of tha
term. A member may serve after the expi
2 ration of that member's term until a suc
3 cessor has taken office. A vacancy in th
4 Panel shall be filled in the manner is
5 which the original appointment was made

1	(D) Basic pay.—Members shall each be
2	paid at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of
3	the rate of basic pay for level 4 of the Senior
4	Executive Service, as in effect from time to
5	time under section 5382 of title 5, United
6	States Code, for each day (including travel
7	time) during which they are engaged in the ac-
8	tual performance of duties vested in the Panel
9	(E) Travel expenses.—Each member
10	shall receive travel expenses, including per diem
11	in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sec-
12	tions 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States
13	Code.
14	(F) Quorum.—Four members of the
15	Panel shall constitute a quorum but a lesser
16	number may hold hearings.
17	(G) Chairperson.—The Chairperson of
18	the Panel shall be designated by the President
19	The term of office of the Chairperson shall be
20	4 years.
21	(H) Meetings.—The Panel shall meet at
22	least quarterly and at other times at the call of
23	the Chairperson or a majority of its members.
24	(4) Director and staff of panel; experts
25	AND CONSULTANTS.—

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1	(A) DIRECTOR.—The Panel shall have a
2	Director who shall be appointed by the Panel.
3	The Director shall be paid at a rate not to ex-
4	ceed the maximum rate of pay payable for GS-
5	15 of the General Schedule.
6	(B) Staff.—Subject to rules prescribed
7	by the Panel, the Director may appoint and fix
8	the pay of additional personnel as the Director
9	considers appropriate.
10	(C) Experts and consultants.—Sub-
11	ject to rules prescribed by the Panel, the Direc-
12	tor may procure temporary and intermittent
13	services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United
14	States Code.
15	(D) STAFF OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.—
16	Upon request of the Panel, the head of any
17	Federal department or agency may detail, on a
18	reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of that
19	department or agency to the Panel to assist it
20	in carrying out its duties under this Act.
21	(5) Powers of Panel.—
22	(A) Hearings and sessions.—The Panel
23	may, for the purpose of carrying out its duties
24	under this subsection, hold such hearings, sit

and act at such times and places, and take such

1	testimony and evidence as the Panel considers
2	appropriate.
3	(B) Powers of members and agents.—
4	Any member or agent of the Panel may, if au-
5	thorized by the Panel, take any action which
6	the Panel is authorized to take by this section.
7	(C) Mails.—The Panel may use the
8	United States mails in the same manner and
9	under the same conditions as other departments
10	and agencies of the United States.
11	(D) Administrative support serv-
12	ICES.—Upon the request of the Panel, the Ad-
13	ministrator of General Services shall provide to
14	the Panel, on a reimbursable basis, the admin-
15	istrative support services necessary for the
16	Panel to carry out its duties under this sub-
17	section.
18	(6) Reports.—
19	(A) Interim reports.—The Panel shall
20	submit to the President and the Congress in-
21	terim reports at least annually.
22	(B) FINAL REPORT.—The Panel shall
23	transmit a final report to the President and the
24	Congress not later than eight years after the

date of the enactment of this Act. The final re-

- port shall contain a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the Panel, together with its recommendations for legislation and administrative actions which the Panel considers appropriate.
 - (7) TERMINATION.—The Panel shall terminate 30 days after the date of the submission of its final report under paragraph (6)(B).
 - (8) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
 There are authorized to be appropriated from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund, the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, and the general fund of the Treasury, as appropriate, such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection.

(f) Specific Regulations Required.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary to implement the amendments made by this section.
- (2) Specific matters to be included in Regulations.—The matters which shall be addressed in such regulations shall include (but are not limited to)—

1	(A) the form and manner in which tickets
2	to work and self-sufficiency may be distributed
3	to beneficiaries pursuant to section $1147(b)(1)$
4	of such Act;
5	(B) the format and wording of such tick-
6	ets, which shall incorporate by reference any
7	contractual terms governing service by employ-
8	ment networks under the Program;
9	(C) the form and manner in which State
10	agencies may elect participation in the Ticket to
11	Work and Self-Sufficiency Program (and revoke
12	such an election) pursuant to section
13	1147(e)(1) of such Act and provision for peri-
14	odic opportunities for exercising such elections
15	(and revocations);
16	(D) the status of State agencies under sec-
17	tion 1147(c)(2) at the time that State agencies
18	exercise elections (and revocations) under such
19	section $1147(c)(1)$;
20	(E) the terms of agreements to be entered
21	into with program managers pursuant to sec-
22	tion 1147(d) of such Act, including (but not
23	limited to)—
24	(i) the terms by which program man-
25	agers are precluded from direct participa-

1	tion in the delivery of services pursuant to
2	section 1147(d)(3) of such Act;
3	(ii) standards which must be met by
4	quality assurance measures referred to in
5	paragraph (6) of section 1147(d) and
6	methods of recruitment of employment net-
7	works utilized pursuant to paragraph (2)
8	of section 1147(e); and
9	(iii) the format under which dispute
10	resolution will operate under section
11	1147(d)(7).
12	(F) the terms of agreements to be entered
13	into with employment networks pursuant to sec-
14	tion 1147(d)(4) of such Act, including (but not
15	limited to)—
16	(i) the manner in which service areas
17	are specified pursuant to section
18	1147(f)(2)(A) of such Act;
19	(ii) the general selection criteria and
20	the specific selection criteria which are ap-
21	plicable to employment networks under
22	section 1147(f)(2)(B) of such Act in select-
23	ing service providers;
24	(iii) specific requirements relating to
25	annual financial reporting by employment

1	networks pursuant to section $1147(f)(3)$ of
2	such Act; and
3	(iv) the national model to which peri-
4	odic outcomes reporting by employment
5	networks must conform under section
6	1147(f)(4) of such Act;
7	(G) standards which must be met by indi-
8	vidual work plans pursuant to section 1147(g)
9	of such Act;
10	(H) standards which must be met by pay-
11	ment systems required under section 1147(h) of
12	such Act, including (but not limited to)—
13	(i) the form and manner in which
14	elections by employment networks of pay-
15	ment systems are to be exercised pursuant
16	to section $1147(h)(1)(A)$;
17	(ii) the terms which must be met by
18	an outcome payment system under section
19	1147(h)(2);
20	(iii) the terms which must be met by
21	an outcome-milestone payment system
22	under section 1147(h)(3);
23	(iv) any revision of the percentage
24	specified in paragraph (2)(C) of section
25	1147(h) of such Act or the period of time

1	specified in paragraph (4)(B) of such sec-
2	tion 1147(h); and
3	(v) annual oversight procedures for
4	such systems; and
5	(I) procedures for effective oversight of the
6	Program by the Commissioner of Social Secu-
7	rity, including periodic reviews and reporting
8	requirements.
9	(g) Work Incentive Specialists.—The Commis-
10	sioner shall establish a corps of trained, accessible, and
11	responsive work incentive specialists to specialize in title
12	II and title XVI disability work incentives for the purpose
13	of disseminating accurate information to disabled bene-
14	ficiaries (as defined in section $1147(k)(1)$ of the Social
15	Security Act as amended by this Act) with respect to in-
16	quiries and issues relating to work incentives.
17	(h) Demonstration Projects Providing for Re-
18	DUCTIONS IN DISABILITY INSURANCE BENEFITS BASED
19	on Earnings. —
20	(1) Authority.—The Commissioner shall con-
21	duct demonstration projects for the purpose of eval-
22	uating, through the collection of data, a program for
23	title II disability beneficiaries (as defined in section
24	1147(k)(2) of the Social Security Act, as amended
25	by this Act) under which each \$1 of benefits payable

under section 223, or under section 202 based on the beneficiary's disability, is reduced for each \$2 of such beneficiary's earnings that is above a level to be determined by the Commissioner. Such projects shall be conducted at a number of localities which the Commissioner shall determine is sufficient to adequately evaluate the appropriateness of national implementation of such a program. Such projects shall identify reductions in Federal expenditures that may result from the permanent implementation of such a program.

- (2) Scope and scale and matters to be determined.—
 - (A) IN GENERAL.—The demonstration projects developed under paragraph (1) shall be of sufficient duration, shall be of sufficient scope, and shall be carried out on a wide enough scale to permit a thorough evaluation of the project to determine—
 - (i) the effects, if any, of induced entry and reduced exit;
 - (ii) the extent, if any, to which the project being tested is affected by whether it is in operation in a locality within an area under the administration of the Tick-

1	et to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program;
2	and
3	(iii) the savings that accrue to the
4	Trust Funds and other Federal programs
5	under the project being tested.
6	The Commissioner shall take into account ad-
7	vice provided by the Ticket to Work and Self-
8	Sufficiency Advisory Panel pursuant to sub-
9	section $(e)(2)(C)$.
10	(B) Additional matters.—The Commis-
11	sioner shall also determine with respect to each
12	project—
13	(i) the annual cost (including net
14	cost) of the project and the annual cost
15	(including net cost) that would have been
16	incurred in the absence of the project;
17	(ii) the determinants of return to
18	work, including the characteristics of the
19	beneficiaries who participate in the project;
20	and
21	(iii) the employment outcomes, includ-
22	ing wages, occupations, benefits, and hours
23	worked, of beneficiaries who return to work
24	as a result of participation in the project.

The Commissioner may include within the matters evaluated under the project the merits of trial work periods and periods of extended eligibility.

> (3) Waivers.—The Commissioner may waive compliance with the benefit provisions of title II of the Social Security Act, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services may waive compliance with the benefit requirements of title XVIII of such Act, in so far as is necessary for a thorough evaluation of the alternative methods under consideration. No such project shall be actually placed in operation unless at least 90 days prior thereto a written report, prepared for purposes of notification and information only and containing a full and complete description thereof, has been transmitted by the Commissioner to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and to the Committee on Finance of the Senate. Periodic reports on the progress of such projects shall be submitted by the Commissioner to such committees. When appropriate, such reports shall include detailed recommendations for changes in administration or law, or both, to carry out the objectives stated in paragraph (1).

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- 1 (4) INTERIM REPORTS.—On or before June 9
 2 in 2000 and each of the succeeding years thereafter,
 3 the Commissioner shall submit to the Congress an
 4 interim report on the progress of the demonstration
 5 projects carried out under this subsection together
 6 with any related data and materials which the Commissioner may consider appropriate.
 - (5) Final Report.—The Commissioner shall submit to the Congress a final report with respect to all demonstration projects carried out under this section no later than one year after their completion.
 - (6) Expenditures.—Expenditures made for demonstration projects under this subsection shall be made from the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund, as determined appropriate by the Commissioner, and from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, as determined appropriate by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to the extent provided in advance in appropriation Acts.
- 23 (i) Study by General Accounting Office of 24 Existing Disability-Related Employment Incen-25 tives.—

- 1 (1) Study.—As soon as practicable after the 2 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller 3 General of the United States shall undertake a study to assess existing tax credits and other disability-related employment incentives under the Americans 6 with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other Federal 7 laws. In such study, the Comptroller General shall 8 specifically address the extent to which such credits 9 and other incentives would encourage employers to 10 hire and retain individuals with disabilities under the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program.
 - (2) Report.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall transmit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a written report presenting the results of the Comptroller General's study conducted pursuant to this subsection, together with such recommendations for legislative or administrative changes as the Comptroller General may determine to be appropriate.
- 22 (j) STUDY BY GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE OF
- EXISTING COORDINATION OF THE DI AND SSI PROGRAMS
- AS THEY RELATE TO INDIVIDUALS ENTERING OR LEAV-
- ING CONCURRENT ENTITLEMENT.—

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(1) Study.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall undertake a study to evaluate the coordination under current law of the disability insurance program under title II of the Social Security Act and the supplemental security income program under title XVI of such Act, as such programs relate to individuals entering or leaving concurrent entitlement under such programs. In such study, the Comptroller General shall specifically address the effectiveness of work incentives under such programs with respect to such individuals and the effectiveness of coverage of such individuals under titles XVIII and XIX of such Act.

(2) Report.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall transmit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a written report presenting the results of the Comptroller General's study conducted pursuant to this subsection, together with such recommendations for legislative or administrative changes as the Comptroller General may determine to be appropriate.

1	SEC. 3. EXTENDING MEDICARE COVERAGE FOR OASDI DIS-
2	ABILITY BENEFIT RECIPIENTS WHO ARE
3	USING TICKETS TO WORK AND SELF-SUFFI-
4	CIENCY.
5	(a) In General.—The next to last sentence of sec-
6	tion 226(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 426)
7	is amended—
8	(1) by striking "throughout all of which" and
9	inserting "throughout the first 24 months of which";
10	and
11	(2) by inserting after "but not in excess of 24
12	such months" the following: "(plus 24 additional
13	such months in the case of an individual who the
14	Commissioner determines is using a ticket to work
15	and self-sufficiency issued under section 1147, but
16	only for additional months that occur in the 7-year
17	period beginning on the date of the enactment of the
18	Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Act of 1998)".
19	(b) Report.—Not later than 6 months prior to the
20	end of the 7-year period beginning on the date of the en-
21	actment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human
22	Services and the Commissioner of Social Security shall
23	submit in writing to each House of the Congress their rec-
24	ommendations for further legislative action with respect
25	to the amendments made by subsection (a), taking into
26	account experience derived from efforts to achieve full im-

1	plementation of the Ticket to Work and Self Sufficiency
2	Program under section 1147 of the Social Security Act.
3	SEC. 4. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS RELATING TO DRUG AD-
4	DICTS AND ALCOHOLICS.
5	(a) Clarification Relating to the Effective
6	DATE OF THE DENIAL OF SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY
7	BENEFITS TO DRUG ADDICTS AND ALCOHOLICS.—Sec-
8	tion 105(a)(5) of the Contract with America Advancement
9	Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–121; 110 Stat. 853) is
10	amended—
11	(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "by the
12	Commissioner of Social Security" and "by the Com-
13	missioner"; and
14	(2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
15	paragraphs:
16	"(D) For purposes of this paragraph, an
17	individual's claim, with respect to benefits
18	under title II of the Social Security Act based
19	on disability, which has been denied in whole
20	before the date of the enactment of this Act,
21	may not be considered to be finally adjudicated
22	before such date if, on or after such date—
23	"(i) there is pending a request for ei-
24	ther administrative or judicial review with
25	respect to such claim; or

1 "(ii) there is pending, with respect to
2 such claim, a readjudication by the Com3 missioner of Social Security pursuant to
4 relief in a class action or implementation
5 by the Commissioner of a court remand
6 order.

"(E) Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, with respect to any individual for whom the Commissioner of Social Security does not perform the entitlement redetermination before the date prescribed in subparagraph (C), the Commissioner shall perform such entitlement redetermination in lieu of a continuing disability review whenever the Commissioner determines that the individual's entitlement is subject to redetermination based on the preceding provisions of this paragraph, and the provisions of section 223(f) of the Social Security Act shall not apply to such redetermination.".

20 (b) Correction to Effective Date of Provi-21 sions Concerning Representative Payees and 22 Treatment Referrals of Social Security Bene-23 ficiaries Who Are Drug Addicts and Alcoholics.— 24 Section 105(a)(5)(B) of such Act (Public Law 104–121;

25 110 Stat. 853) is amended to read as follows:

1	"(B) The amendments made by para-
2	graphs (2) and (3) shall take effect on July 1,
3	1996, with respect to any individual—
4	"(i) whose claim for benefits is finally
5	adjudicated on or after the date of the en-
6	actment of this Act; or
7	"(ii) whose entitlement to benefits is
8	based upon an entitlement redetermination
9	made pursuant to subparagraph (C).".
10	(c) Effective Dates.—The amendments made by
11	this section shall take effect as if included in the enact-
12	ment of section 105 of the Contract with America Ad-
13	vancement Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–121; 110 Stat.
13 14	vancement Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–121; 110 Stat. 852 et seq.).
14	852 et seq.).
14 15	852 et seq.). SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM
14 15 16 17	852 et seq.). SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AUTHORITY.
14 15 16 17	852 et seq.). SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AUTHORITY. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505 of the Social Security
14 15 16 17 18	852 et seq.). SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AUTHORITY. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505 of the Social Security Disability Amendments of 1980 (Public Law 96–265; 94
14 15 16 17 18	852 et seq.). SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AUTHORITY. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505 of the Social Security Disability Amendments of 1980 (Public Law 96–265; 94 Stat. 473), as amended by section 12101 of the Consoli-
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	852 et seq.). SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AUTHORITY. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505 of the Social Security Disability Amendments of 1980 (Public Law 96–265; 94 Stat. 473), as amended by section 12101 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (Public
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	852 et seq.). SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AUTHORITY. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505 of the Social Security Disability Amendments of 1980 (Public Law 96–265; 94 Stat. 473), as amended by section 12101 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–272; 100 Stat. 282), section 10103 of the Omni-
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	852 et seq.). SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AUTHORITY. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505 of the Social Security Disability Amendments of 1980 (Public Law 96–265; 94 Stat. 473), as amended by section 12101 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–272; 100 Stat. 282), section 10103 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989 (Public Law 101–

- 1 rity Independence and Program Improvements Act of
- 2 1994 (Public Law 103–296; 108 Stat. 1531), is further
- 3 amended—
- 4 (1) in paragraph (1) of subsection (a), by add-
- 5 ing at the end the following new sentence: "The
- 6 Commissioner may expand the scope of any such
- 7 demonstration project to include any group of appli-
- 8 cants for benefits under such program with impair-
- 9 ments which may reasonably be presumed to be dis-
- abling for purposes of such demonstration project,
- and may limit any such demonstration project to
- any such group of applicants, subject to the terms
- of such demonstration project which shall define the
- extent of any such presumption.";
- 15 (2) in paragraph (3) of subsection (a), by strik-
- 16 ing "June 10, 1996" and inserting "June 10,
- 17 2001";
- 18 (3) in paragraph (4) of subsection (a), by in-
- serting "and on or before October 1, 2000," after
- 20 "1995,"; and
- 21 (4) in subsection (c), by striking "October 1,
- 22 1996" and inserting "October 1, 2001".
- 23 (b) Effective Date.—The amendments made by
- 24 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enact-
- 25 ment of this Act.

1	SEC. 6. PERFECTING AMENDMENTS RELATED TO WITH-
2	HOLDING FROM SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS.
3	(a) Inapplicability of Assignment Prohibi-
4	TION.—Section 207 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
5	407) is amended by adding at the end the following new
6	subsection:
7	"(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to pro-
8	hibit withholding taxes from any benefit under this title,
9	if such withholding is done pursuant to a request made
10	in accordance with section $3402(p)(1)$ of the Internal Rev-
11	enue Code of 1986 by the person entitled to such benefit
12	or such person's representative payee.".
13	(b) Proper Allocation of Costs of Withhold-
14	ING BETWEEN THE TRUST FUNDS AND THE GENERAL
15	Fund.—Section $201(g)$ of such Act $(42$ U.S.C. $401(g))$
16	is amended—
17	(1) by inserting before the period in paragraph
18	(1)(A)(ii) the following: "and the functions of the
19	Social Security Administration in connection with
20	the withholding of taxes from benefits, as described
21	in section 207(c), pursuant to requests by persons
22	entitled to such benefits or such persons' representa-
23	tive payee";
24	(2) by inserting before the period at the end of
25	paragraph (1)(A) the following: "and the functions
26	of the Social Security Administration in connection

- with the withholding of taxes from benefits, as described in section 207(c), pursuant to requests by persons entitled to such benefits or such persons' representative payee";
 - (3) in paragraph (1)(B)(i)(I), by striking "subparagraph (A))," and inserting "subparagraph (A)) and the functions of the Social Security Administration in connection with the withholding of taxes from benefits, as described in section 207(c), pursuant to requests by persons entitled to such benefits or such persons' representative payee,";
 - (4) in paragraph (1)(C)(iii), by inserting before the period the following: "and the functions of the Social Security Administration in connection with the withholding of taxes from benefits, as described in section 207(c), pursuant to requests by persons entitled to such benefits or such persons' representative payee";
 - (5) in paragraph (1)(D), by inserting after "section 232" the following: "and the functions of the Social Security Administration in connection with the withholding of taxes from benefits as described in section 207(c)"; and
 - (6) in paragraph (4), by inserting after the first sentence the following: "The Board of Trustees of

- 1 such Trust Funds shall prescribe the method of de-
- 2 termining the costs which should be borne by the
- general fund in the Treasury of carrying out the
- 4 functions of the Social Security Administration in
- 5 connection with the withholding of taxes from bene-
- 6 fits, as described in section 207(c), pursuant to re-
- 7 quests by persons entitled to such benefits or such
- 8 persons' representative payee.".
- 9 (c) Effective Date.—The amendments made by
- 10 subsection (b) shall apply to benefits paid on or after the
- 11 first day of the second month beginning after the month
- 12 in which this Act is enacted.
- 13 SEC. 7. TREATMENT OF PRISONERS.
- 14 (a) Implementation of Prohibition Against
- 15 Payment of Title II Benefits to Prisoners.—
- 16 (1) In General.—Section 202(x)(3) of the So-
- cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402(x)(3)) is amend-
- 18 ed—
- 19 (A) by inserting "(A)" after "(3)"; and
- 20 (B) by adding at the end the following new
- 21 subparagraph:
- 22 "(B)(i) The Commissioner shall enter into an agree-
- 23 ment under this subparagraph with any interested State
- 24 or local institution comprising a jail, prison, penal institu-
- 25 tion, or correctional facility, or comprising any other insti-

tution a purpose of which is to confine individuals as de-

2 scribed in paragraph (1)(A)(ii). Under such agreement—

"(I) the institution shall provide to the Commissioner, on a monthly basis and in a manner specified by the Commissioner, the names, Social Security account numbers, dates of birth, confinement commencement dates, and, to the extent available to the institution, such other identifying information concerning the individuals confined in the institution as the Commissioner may require for the purpose of carrying out paragraph (1); and

"(II) the Commissioner shall pay to the institution, with respect to information described in subclause (I) concerning each individual who is confined
therein as described in paragraph (1)(A), who receives a benefit under this title for the month preceding the first month of such confinement, and
whose benefit under this title is determined by the
Commissioner to be not payable by reason of confinement based on the information provided by the
institution, \$400 (subject to reduction under clause
(ii)) if the institution furnishes the information to
the Commissioner within 30 days after the date such
individual's confinement in such institution begins,
or \$200 (subject to reduction under clause (ii)) if

- 1 the institution furnishes the information after 30
- 2 days after such date but within 90 days after such
- date.
- 4 "(ii) The dollar amounts specified in clause (i)(II)
- 5 shall be reduced by 50 percent if the Commissioner is also
- 6 required to make a payment to the institution with respect
- 7 to the same individual under an agreement entered into
- 8 under section 1611(e)(1)(I).
- 9 "(iii) The provisions of section 552a of title 5, United
- 10 States Code, shall not apply to any agreement entered into
- 11 under clause (i) or to information exchanged pursuant to
- 12 such agreement.
- 13 "(iv) There is authorized to be transferred from the
- 14 Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and
- 15 the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, as appro-
- 16 priate, such sums as may be necessary to enable the Com-
- 17 missioner to make payments to institutions required by
- 18 clause (i)(II).
- 19 "(v) The Commissioner is authorized to provide, on
- 20 a reimbursable basis, information obtained pursuant to
- 21 agreements entered into under clause (i) to any agency
- 22 administering a Federal or federally-assisted cash, food,
- 23 or medical assistance program for eligibility purposes.".
- 24 (2) Effective date.—The amendments made
- by this subsection shall apply to individuals whose

1	period of confinement in an institution commences
2	on or after the first day of the fourth month begin-
3	ning after the month in which this Act is enacted.
4	(b) Elimination of Title II Requirement That
5	CONFINEMENT STEM FROM CRIME PUNISHABLE BY IM-
6	PRISONMENT FOR MORE THAN 1 YEAR.—
7	(1) In general.—Section 202(x)(1)(A) of such
8	Act (42 U.S.C. 402(x)(1)(A)) is amended—
9	(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by
10	striking "during" and inserting "throughout";
11	(B) in clause (i), by striking "an offense
12	punishable by imprisonment for more than 1
13	year (regardless of the actual sentence im-
14	posed)" and inserting "a criminal offense"; and
15	(C) in clause (ii)(I), by striking "an of-
16	fense punishable by imprisonment for more
17	than 1 year" and inserting "a criminal of-
18	fense".
19	(2) Effective date.—The amendments made
20	by this subsection shall apply to individuals whose
21	period of confinement in an institution commences
22	on or after the first day of the fourth month begin-
23	ning after the month in which this Act is enacted.
24	(c) Conforming Title XVI Amendments.—

1	(1) Fifty percent reduction in title XVI
2	PAYMENT IN CASE INVOLVING COMPARABLE TITLE II
3	PAYMENT.—Section 1611(e)(1)(I) of the Social Se-
4	curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1382(e)(1)(I)) is amended—
5	(A) in clause (i)(II), by inserting "(subject
6	to reduction under clause (ii))" after "\$400"
7	and after "\$200";
8	(B) by redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii)
9	as clauses (iii) and (iv) respectively; and
10	(C) by inserting after clause (i) the follow-
11	ing new clause:
12	"(ii) The dollar amounts specified in clause (i)(II)
13	shall be reduced by 50 percent if the Commissioner is also
14	required to make a payment to the institution with respect
15	to the same individual under an agreement entered into
16	under section $202(x)(3)(B)$.".
17	(2) Expansion of categories of institu-
18	TIONS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH
19	THE COMMISSIONER.—Section 1611(e)(1)(I)(i) of
20	such Act (42 U.S.C. $1382(e)(1)(I)(i)$) is amended in
21	the matter preceding subclause (I) by striking "in-
22	stitution" and all that follows through "section
23	202(x)(1)(A)," and inserting "institution comprising
24	a jail, prison, penal institution, or correctional facil-
25	ity, or with any other interested State or local insti-

1	tution a purpose of which is to confine individuals
2	as described in section 202(x)(1)(A)(ii),".
3	(3) Effective date.—The amendments made
4	by this subsection shall take effect as if included in
5	the enactment of section 203(a) of the Personal Re-
6	sponsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation
7	Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–193; 110 Stat. 2186).
8	The reference to section $202(x)(1)(A)(ii)$ of the So-
9	cial Security Act in section 1611(e)(1)(I)(i) of such
10	Act as amended by paragraph (2) shall be deemed
11	a reference to such section 202(x)(1)(A)(ii) as
12	amended by subsection (b)(1)(C).
13	(d) Continued Denial of Benefits to Sex Of-
14	FENDERS REMAINING CONFINED TO PUBLIC INSTITU-
15	TIONS UPON COMPLETION OF PRISON TERM.—
16	(1) In general.—Section 202(x)(1)(A) of the
17	Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402(x)(1)(A)) is
18	amended—
19	(A) in clause (i), by striking "or" at the
20	end;
21	(B) in clause (ii)(IV), by striking the pe-
22	riod and inserting ", or"; and
23	(C) by adding at the end the following new
24	clause:

- "(iii) immediately upon completion of confinement as described in clause (i) pursuant to conviction of a criminal offense an element of which is sexual activity, is confined by court order in an institution at public expense pursuant to a finding that the
 individual is a sexually dangerous person or a sexual
 predator or a similar finding.".
- 8 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 9 202(x)(1)(B)(ii) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10 402(x)(1)(B)(ii)) is amended by striking "clause 11 (ii)" and inserting "clauses (ii) and (iii)".
- 12 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made 13 by this subsection shall apply with respect to bene-14 fits for months ending after the date of the enact-15 ment of this Act.
- 16 SEC 8. REVOCATION BY MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY OF EX-
- 17 EMPTION FROM SOCIAL SECURITY COV-
- 18 ERAGE.
- 19 (a) In General.—Notwithstanding section
- 20 1402(e)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, any ex-
- 21 emption which has been received under section 1402(e)(1)
- 22 of such Code by a duly ordained, commissioned, or li-
- 23 censed minister of a church, a member of a religious order,
- 24 or a Christian Science practitioner, and which is effective
- 25 for the taxable year in which this Act is enacted, may be

revoked by filing an application therefor (in such form and manner, and with such official, as may be prescribed in 3 regulations made under chapter 2 of such Code), if such 4 application is filed no later than the due date of the Federal income tax return (including any extension thereof) for the applicant's second taxable year beginning after De-6 cember 31, 1998. Any such revocation shall be effective 8 (for purposes of chapter 2 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and title II of the Social Security Act), as speci-10 fied in the application, either with respect to the applicant's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 12 1998, or with respect to the applicant's second taxable year beginning after such date, and for all succeeding taxable years; and the applicant for any such revocation may 14 15 not thereafter again file application for an exemption under such section 1402(e)(1). If the application is filed 16 after the due date of the applicant's Federal income tax return for a taxable year and is effective with respect to 18 19 that taxable year, it shall include or be accompanied by payment in full of an amount equal to the total of the 21 taxes that would have been imposed by section 1401 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to all of the applicant's income derived in that taxable year which would have constituted net earnings from self-employment for purposes of chapter 2 of such Code (notwithstanding

- 1 section 1402 (c)(4) or (c)(5) of such Code) except for the
- 2 exemption under section 1402(e)(1) of such Code.
- 3 (b) Effective Date.—Subsection (a) shall apply
- 4 with respect to service performed (to the extent specified
- 5 in such subsection) in taxable years beginning after De-
- 6 cember 31, 1998, and with respect to monthly insurance
- 7 benefits payable under title II of the Social Security Act
- 8 on the basis of the wages and self-employment income of
- 9 any individual for months in or after the calendar year
- 10 in which such individual's application for revocation (as
- 11 described in such subsection) is effective (and lump-sum
- 12 death payments payable under such title on the basis of
- 13 such wages and self-employment income in the case of
- 14 deaths occurring in or after such calendar year).
- 15 SEC. 9. ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL AMENDMENT RELATING
- 16 TO COOPERATIVE RESEARCH OR DEM-
- 17 ONSTRATION PROJECTS UNDER TITLES II
- 18 AND XVI.
- 19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1110(a)(3) of the Social
- 20 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1310(a)(3)) is amended by strik-
- 21 ing "title XVI" and inserting "title II or XVI".
- (b) Effective Date.—The amendment made by
- 23 subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enact-
- 24 ment of the Social Security Independence and Program

- 1 Improvements Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–296; 108
- 2 Stat. 1464).

Passed the House of Representatives June 4, 1998.

Attest:

ROBIN H. CARLE,

Clerk.