

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3150

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide bonus grants to high performance States based on certain criteria and to collect data to evaluate the outcome of welfare reform, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 26, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. STARK, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CONYERS, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. GREEN of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide bonus grants to high performance States based on certain criteria and to collect data to evaluate the outcome of welfare reform, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. EVALUATION OF OUTCOME OF WELFARE RE-**
 2 **FORM AND FORMULA FOR BONUSES TO HIGH**
 3 **PERFORMANCE STATES.**

4 (a) ADDITIONAL MEASURES OF STATE PERFORM-
 5 ANCE.—Section 403(a)(4)(C) of the Social Security Act
 6 (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(4)(C)) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “Not later” and inserting the
 8 following:

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later”;

10 (2) by inserting “The formula shall provide for
 11 the awarding of grants under this paragraph based
 12 on criteria contained in clause (ii) and in accordance
 13 with clauses (iii) and (iv).” after the period; and

14 (3) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(ii) FORMULA CRITERIA.—The
 16 grants awarded under this paragraph shall
 17 be based on the following:

18 “(I) EMPLOYMENT-RELATED
 19 MEASURES.—Employment-related
 20 measures, including work force en-
 21 tries, job retention, increases in earn-
 22 ings of recipients and former recipi-
 23 ents of assistance under the State
 24 program funded under this part.

25 “(II) FOOD STAMPS MEAS-
 26 URES.—The change since 1995 in the

1 proportion of children in working poor
2 families that receive food stamps to
3 the total number of children in the
4 State (or, if possible, to the estimated
5 number of children in working fami-
6 lies with incomes low enough to be eli-
7 gible for food stamps).

8 “(III) MEDICAID AND SCHIP
9 MEASURES.—The percentage of mem-
10 bers of families who are former recipi-
11 ents of assistance under the State
12 program funded under this part (who
13 have ceased to receive such assistance
14 for approximately 6 months) who cur-
15 rently receive medical assistance
16 under the State plan approved under
17 title XIX or the child health assist-
18 ance under title XXI.

19 “(IV) CHILD CARE MEASURES.—
20 In the case of a State that pays child
21 care rates that are equal to at least
22 the 75th percentile of market rates,
23 based on a market rate survey that is
24 not more than 2 years old, measures
25 of the State’s success in providing

1 child care, as measured by the per-
2 centage of children in families with in-
3 comes below 85 percent of the State’s
4 median income who receive subsidized
5 child care in the State, and by the
6 amount of public expenditures in the
7 State on child care subsidies divided
8 by the estimated number of children
9 younger than 13 in families with in-
10 comes below 85 percent of the State’s
11 median income.

12 “(V) MEASURES OF ADDRESSING
13 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—In the case of
14 a State that has adopted the option
15 under the State plan relating to do-
16 mestic violence set forth in section
17 402(a)(7) and that reports the pro-
18 portion of eligible recipients of assist-
19 ance under this part who disclose
20 their status as domestic violence vic-
21 tims or survivors, measures of the
22 State’s success in addressing domestic
23 violence as a barrier to economic self-
24 sufficiency, as measured by the pro-
25 portion of such recipients who are re-

ferred to and receive services under a service plan developed by an individual trained in domestic violence pursuant to section 260.55(c) of title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

“(VI) MEASURES OF CHANGES IN INCOME OR NUMBER OF CHILDREN BELOW HALF OF POVERTY.—For a sample of recipients of assistance under the State program funded under this part, longitudinal measures of annual changes in income (or measures of changes in the proportion of children in families with income below $\frac{1}{2}$ of the poverty line) according to the American Community Survey (ACS), including earnings and the value of benefits received under that State program and food stamps.

“(VII) DEFINITIONS.—In this clause:

“(aa) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—The term ‘domestic violence’ has the meaning given the

term ‘battered or subjected to extreme cruelty’ in section 408(a)(7)(C)(iii).

“(bb) WORKING POOR FAMILIES.—The term ‘working poor families’ means families that receive earnings at least equal to a comparable amount that would be received by an individual working a half-time position for minimum wage for a full year.

“(iii) EMPLOYMENT, EARNING, AND INCOME RELATED MEASURES.—\$100,000,000 of the amount appropriated for a fiscal year under subparagraph (F) shall be used to award grants to States under this paragraph for that fiscal year based on the measures of employment, earnings, and income described in subclauses (I) and (VI) of clause (ii), including scores for the criteria described in those subclauses.

“(iv) MEASURES OF SUPPORT FOR WORKING FAMILIES.—\$100,000,000 of the amount appropriated for a fiscal year

under subparagraph (F) shall be used to award grants to States under this paragraph for that fiscal year based on measures of support for working families, including scores for the criteria described in subclauses (II), (III), (IV), and (V) of clause (ii).

“(v) LIMITATION ON APPLYING FOR ONLY 1 BONUS.—To qualify under any one of the employment, earnings, food stamp, or health coverage criteria described in subclauses (I), (II), or (III) of clause (ii), a State must submit the data required to compete for all of the criteria described in those subclauses.

(b) DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING.—Section 411(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 611(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(8) REPORT ON OUTCOME OF WELFARE REFORM FOR STATES NOT PARTICIPATING IN BONUS GRANTS UNDER SECTION 403(a)(4).—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a State which does not participate in the procedure for awarding grants under section 403(a)(4) pursuant to regulations prescribed by the Secretary,

1 the report required by paragraph (1) for a fis-
2 cal quarter shall include data regarding the
3 characteristics and well-being of former recipi-
4 ents of assistance under the State program
5 funded under this part for 6 months after such
6 recipient has ceased receiving such assistance.

7 “(B) CONTENTS.—The data required
8 under subparagraph (A) shall consist of infor-
9 mation regarding former recipients, including—

10 “(i) employment status;

11 “(ii) job retention;

12 “(iii) changes in income;

13 “(iv) poverty status, including the
14 number of children in families of such
15 former recipients with income below $\frac{1}{2}$ of
16 the poverty line;

17 “(v) receipt of food stamps, medical
18 assistance under the State plan approved
19 under title XIX or child health assistance
20 under title XXI, or subsidized child care;

21 “(vi) accessibility of child care and
22 child care cost;

23 “(vii) the percentage of families in
24 poverty receiving child care subsidies;

1 “(viii) measures of hardship, including
2 lack of medical insurance and difficulty
3 purchasing food; and

4 “(ix) the availability of the option
5 under the State plan in section 402(a)(7)
6 (relating to domestic violence) and the dif-
7 ficulty accessing services for victims of do-
8 mestic violence.

9 “(C) SAMPLING.—A State may comply
10 with this paragraph by using a scientifically ac-
11 ceptable sampling method approved by the Sec-
12 retary.

13 “(D) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall
14 prescribe such regulations as may be necessary
15 to ensure that—

16 “(i) data reported under this para-
17 graph are in such a form as to promote
18 comparison of data among States;

19 “(ii) a State reports, for each meas-
20 ure, changes in data over time and com-
21 parisons in data between such former re-
22 cipients and comparable groups of current
23 recipients; and

24 “(iii) a State that is already con-
25 ducting a scientifically acceptable study of

1 former recipients that provides sufficient
2 data required under subparagraph (A) may
3 use the results of such study to satisfy the
4 requirements of this paragraph.”.

5 (c) REPORT OF CURRENTLY COLLECTED DATA.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than July 1, 2000,
7 and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Health and
8 Human Services shall transmit to Congress a report
9 regarding characteristics of former and current re-
10 cipients of assistance under State programs funded
11 under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act,
12 based on information currently being received from
13 States.

14 (2) CHARACTERISTICS.—For purposes of para-
15 graph (1), the characteristics shall include earnings,
16 employment, and, to the extent possible, income (in-
17 cluding earnings, the value of benefits received
18 under the State program funded under part A of
19 title IV of the Social Security Act, and food stamps),
20 the ratio of income to poverty, receipt of food
21 stamps, and other family resources.

22 (3) BASIS OF REPORT.—The report under para-
23 graph (1) shall be based on longitudinal data of em-
24 ployer reported earnings for a sample of States,
25 which represents at least 80 percent of the popu-

1 lation of the United States, including separate data
2 for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2000
3 regarding—

4 (A) a sample of former recipients of assist-
5 ance under State programs funded under part
6 A of title IV of the Social Security Act;

7 (B) a sample of current recipients of such
8 assistance; and

9 (C) a sample of food stamp recipients.

10 (d) REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT OF MEASURES.—The
11 Secretary of Health and Human Services shall transmit
12 to Congress—

13 (1) not later than July 1, 2000, a report re-
14 garding the development of measures required under
15 section 403(a)(4)(C)(ii)(IV) of the Social Security
16 Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(4)(C)(ii)(IV)), as added by
17 this Act, regarding subsidized child care and
18 changes in income; and

19 (2) not later than January 1, 2001, a report,
20 prepared in consultation with the Secretary of Labor
21 and domestic violence organizations, regarding the
22 domestic violence criteria required under subclause
23 (V) of such section.

24 (e) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

1 (1) ADDITIONAL MEASURES OF STATE PER-
2 FORMANCE.—The amendments made by subsection
3 (a) of this section shall take effect on July 1, 2000,
4 except that subclauses (IV) and (V) of section
5 403(a)(4)(C)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42
6 U.S.C. 603(a)(4)(C)(ii)(IV) and (V)), as added by
7 this Act, shall not apply to grants awarded under
8 section 403(a)(4) of the Social Security Act (42
9 U.S.C. 603(a)(4)) before July 1, 2001, and shall
10 have no force or effect before the report required by
11 subsection (d)(2) of this section is made.

12 (2) DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING.—The
13 amendment made by subsection (b) shall apply to re-
14 ports submitted in fiscal years beginning with fiscal
15 year 2001.

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