

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1027

To expand the purposes of the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families to include poverty reduction, and to make grants available under the program for that purpose.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 13, 2001

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. WELLSTONE) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To expand the purposes of the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families to include poverty reduction, and to make grants available under the program for that purpose.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Child Poverty Reduc-
5 tion Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL PURPOSE OF PROGRAM OF BLOCK**
 2 **GRANTS TO STATES FOR TEMPORARY ASSIST-**
 3 **ANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES.**

4 Section 401(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 5 601(a)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph
 7 (3);

8 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
 9 graph (4) and inserting “; and”; and

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

11 “(5) reduce poverty of families with children in
 12 the United States.”.

13 **SEC. 3. ADDITION OF CHILD POVERTY REDUCTION BONUS**
 14 **GRANTS TO TANF PROGRAM.**

15 Section 403(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 16 603(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

17 “(6) BONUS TO REWARD STATES THAT REDUCE
 18 CHILD POVERTY.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning with fiscal
 20 year 2003, the Secretary shall make a grant
 21 pursuant to this paragraph to each State for
 22 each fiscal year for which the State is a quali-
 23 fied child poverty reduction State.

24 “(B) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—

25 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to this
 26 subparagraph, the amount of the grant to

1 be made to a qualified child poverty reduc-
2 tion State for a fiscal year shall be an
3 amount equal to—

4 “(I) the number of children who
5 had not attained 18 years of age by
6 the end of the then most recently
7 completed calendar year and who re-
8 sided in the State as of the end of
9 such calendar year, divided by the
10 number of such children who resided
11 in the United States as of the end of
12 such calendar year; multiplied by

13 “(II) the amount appropriated
14 pursuant to subparagraph (F) for the
15 fiscal year.

16 “(ii) LIMITATIONS.—

17 “(I) MINIMUM GRANT.—The
18 amount of the grant to be made to a
19 qualified child poverty reduction State
20 for a fiscal year shall be not less than
21 \$1,000,000.

22 “(II) MAXIMUM GRANT.—The
23 amount of the grant to be made to a
24 qualified child poverty reduction State
25 for a fiscal year shall not exceed an

1 amount equal to 5 percent of the
2 State family assistance grant for the
3 fiscal year.

4 “(iii) PRO RATA INCREASE.—If the
5 amount available for grants under this
6 paragraph for a fiscal year is greater than
7 the total amount of payments otherwise re-
8 quired to be made under this paragraph
9 for the fiscal year, then the amount other-
10 wise payable to any State for the fiscal
11 year under this paragraph shall, subject to
12 clause (ii)(II), be increased by such equal
13 percentage as may be necessary to ensure
14 that the total of the amounts payable for
15 the fiscal year under this paragraph equals
16 the amount available for the grants.

17 “(iv) PRO RATA REDUCTION.—If the
18 amount available for grants under this
19 paragraph for a fiscal year is less than the
20 total amount of payments otherwise re-
21 quired to be made under this paragraph
22 for the fiscal year, then the amount other-
23 wise payable to any State for the fiscal
24 year under this paragraph shall, subject to
25 clause (ii)(I), be reduced by such equal

1 percentage as may be necessary to ensure
2 that the total of the amounts payable for
3 the fiscal year under this paragraph equals
4 the amount available for the grants.

5 “(C) USE OF GRANT.—A State to which a
6 grant is made under this paragraph shall use
7 the grant for any purpose for which a grant
8 made under this part may be used.

9 “(D) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

10 “(i) QUALIFIED CHILD POVERTY RE-
11 Duction STATE.—The term ‘qualified
12 child poverty reduction State’ means, with
13 respect to a fiscal year, a State if—

14 “(I) the child poverty rate
15 achieved by the State for the then
16 most recently completed calendar year
17 for which such information is avail-
18 able is less than the lowest child pov-
19 erty rate achieved by the State during
20 the applicable period; and

21 “(II) the average depth of child
22 poverty in the State for the then most
23 recently completed calendar year for
24 which such information is available is
25 not greater than the average depth of

1 child poverty in the State for the cal-
 2 endar year that precedes such then
 3 most recently completed calendar
 4 year.

5 “(ii) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—In clause
 6 (i), the term ‘applicable period’ means,
 7 with respect to a State and the calendar
 8 year referred to in clause (i)(I), the period
 9 that—

10 “(I) begins with the calendar
 11 year that, as of October 1, 2002, pre-
 12 cedes the then most recently com-
 13 pleted calendar year for which such
 14 information is available; and

15 “(II) ends with the calendar year
 16 that precedes the calendar year re-
 17 ferred to clause (i)(I).

18 “(iii) CHILD POVERTY RATE.—The
 19 term ‘child poverty rate’ means, with re-
 20 spect to a State and a calendar year, the
 21 percentage of children residing in the State
 22 during the calendar year whose family in-
 23 come for the calendar year is less than the
 24 poverty line then applicable to the family.

1 “(iv) AVERAGE DEPTH OF CHILD POV-
2 ERTY.—The term ‘average depth of child
3 poverty’ means with respect to a State and
4 a calendar year, the average dollar amount
5 by which family income is exceeded by the
6 poverty line, among children in the State
7 whose family income for the calendar year
8 is less than the applicable poverty line.

9 “(v) POVERTY LINE.—The term ‘pov-
10 erty line’ has the meaning given the term
11 in section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget
12 Reconciliation Act of 1981, including any
13 revision required by such section applicable
14 to a family of the size involved.

15 “(E) FAMILY INCOME DETERMINATIONS.—
16 For purposes of this paragraph, family income
17 includes cash income, child support payments,
18 government cash payments, and benefits under
19 the Food Stamp Act of 1977 that are received
20 by any family member, and family income shall
21 be determined after payment of all taxes and
22 receipt of any tax refund or rebate by any fam-
23 ily member.

24 “(F) APPROPRIATIONS.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Out of any money
2 in the Treasury of the United States not
3 otherwise appropriated, there are appro-
4 priated for fiscal year 2003 and each fiscal
5 year thereafter \$150,000,000 for grants
6 under this paragraph.

7 “(ii) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts made
8 available under clause (i) shall remain
9 available until expended.”.

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