

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4819

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to expand the Senior Community Service Employment Program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to expand the Senior Community Service Employment Program.

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 “Expanding Opportuni-  
5 ties for Older Americans Act of 2010”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The downturn in the national economy has  
9 adversely affected millions of workers in all age

1 groups, but it has disproportionately burdened work-  
2 ers age 55 and older.

3 (2) During the period from 2005 through 2007,  
4 more than 900,000 workers age 55 and older lost  
5 jobs they had held for the preceding 3 years or  
6 longer. Such older workers constitute a quarter of  
7 long-tenured workers who lost their jobs during this  
8 period.

9 (3) Older workers experience substantially  
10 longer periods of unemployment than younger work-  
11 ers and are more likely to exhaust their unemploy-  
12 ment insurance benefits.

13 (4) Older workers are comparatively less suc-  
14 cessful than younger workers in finding new jobs.  
15 Only 55 percent of workers age 55 and over who  
16 had been long-tenured before losing their jobs during  
17 the period from 2005 through 2007 were reemployed  
18 in January 2008, compared to 72.6 percent of work-  
19 ers ages 25 to 54.

20 (5) Unemployed older workers who succeed in  
21 obtaining new employment are more likely than  
22 younger workers to be underemployed, holding part-  
23 time jobs that pay lower wages.

1 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EM-**  
 2 **PLOYMENT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) REDUCTION OF AGE OF ELIGIBILITY TO AGE  
 4 52.—Title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42  
 5 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) is amended by striking “age 55” each  
 6 place it appears and inserting “age 52”.

7 (b) ELIMINATION OF REQUIREMENT THAT ELIGIBLE  
 8 INDIVIDUAL BE UNEMPLOYED.—

9 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—Section  
 10 502(a)(1) of such title (42 U.S.C. 3056(a)(1)) is  
 11 amended by striking “unemployed”.

12 (2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Section 503(a)(2)(C)  
 13 of such title (42 U.S.C. 3056a(a)(2)(C)) is amended  
 14 by striking “unemployed”.

15 (3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section  
 16 518(a) of such title (42 U.S.C. 3056p(a)) is amend-  
 17 ed by striking paragraph (8).

18 (c) INCREASE IN INCOME LIMITATION FOR ELIGIBLE  
 19 INDIVIDUALS.—Section 518(a)(3)(A) of such title (42  
 20 U.S.C. 3056p(a)(3)(A)) is amended by striking “125 per-  
 21 cent of the poverty line” and inserting “200 percent of  
 22 the poverty line”.

23 (d) INCOME DEFINED.—Section 518(a)(4) of such  
 24 title (42 U.S.C. 3056p(a)(4)) is amended—

25 (1) by inserting “by an eligible individual” after  
 26 “received”;

1           (2) by striking “an eligible individual submits”  
2           and inserting “such eligible individual submits”; and  
3           (3) by adding at the end the following: “Such  
4           term does not include income received by a member  
5           of such eligible individual’s household other than  
6           such eligible individual.”.

7           (e) HOURS PER WEEK GRANTEE MAY PERMIT PAR-  
8   TICIPANT TO WORK.—

9           (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 502(b) of such title  
10          (42 U.S.C. 3056(b)) is amended by adding at the  
11          end the following new paragraph:

12               “(4) HOURS PER WEEK GRANTEE MAY PERMIT  
13          PARTICIPANT TO WORK.—No limit of fewer than 40  
14          hours per week may be placed on the number of  
15          hours per week a recipient of a grant under this title  
16          may permit a participant to work in a job assisted  
17          by this title.”.

18          (2)       CONFORMING        AMENDMENT.—Section  
19          518(a)(2) of such title (42 U.S.C. 3056p(a)(2)) is  
20          amended by striking “part-time,”.

21          (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

22               (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 517(a) of such Act  
23          (42 U.S.C. 3056o(a)) is amended by striking “2007,  
24          2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011” and inserting “2011,  
25          2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016”.

1           (2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—Section 517 of such  
2       Act (42 U.S.C. 3056o) is amended by adding at the  
3       end the following new subsection:

4       “(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
5       gress that not less than \$700,000,000 should be appro-  
6       priated to carry out this title in each of fiscal years 2011,  
7       2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016.”.

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