

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6458

To amend title IV of the Social Security Act to prohibit a State from requiring individuals to submit to drug testing as a condition of assistance under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance to needy families, to amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 to prohibit a public housing agency from requiring individuals to submit to drug testing as a condition of assistance under the Housing Choice Voucher Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 7, 2016

Mr. VEASEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title IV of the Social Security Act to prohibit a State from requiring individuals to submit to drug testing as a condition of assistance under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance to needy families, to amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 to prohibit a public housing agency from requiring individuals to submit to drug testing as a condition of assistance under the Housing Choice Voucher Program, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Help our Neediest
5 Families Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON DRUG TESTING FOR THE PRO-**
7 **GRAM OF BLOCK GRANTS TO STATES FOR**
8 **TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMI-**
9 **LIES.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(a) of the Social Secu-
11 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)) is amended by adding at the
12 end the following:

13 “(13) PROHIBITION ON DRUG TESTING AS A
14 CONDITION ON THE RECEIPT OF ASSISTANCE.—A
15 State to which a grant is made under section 403
16 shall not—

17 “(A) use any part of the grant to conduct
18 drug testing on any applicant for assistance
19 under the State program funded under this
20 part or any recipient of such assistance; or

21 “(B) require any individual to submit to
22 drug testing as a condition for such assist-
23 ance.”.

1 (b) PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.—Section
 2 409(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 609(a)) is amended by add-
 3 ing at the end the following:

4 “(17) PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH
 5 PROHIBITION ON DRUG TESTING.—If the Secretary
 6 determines that a State to which a grant is made
 7 under section 403 for a fiscal year has violated sec-
 8 tion 408(a)(13) during the fiscal year, the Secretary
 9 shall reduce the grant payable to the State under
 10 section 403(a)(1) for the immediately succeeding fis-
 11 cal year by an amount equal to not more than 1 per-
 12 cent of the State family assistance grant.”.

13 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 14 this section shall take effect on the first day of the first
 15 calendar quarter that begins on or after the date that is
 16 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

17 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON DRUG TESTING FOR HOUSING**
 18 **CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM.**

19 Section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of
 20 1937 (42 USC 1437f) is amended by adding at the end
 21 the following new paragraph:

22 “(20) PROHIBITION ON DRUG TESTING.—A
 23 public housing agency assisted under this subsection
 24 may not require any individual receiving assistance
 25 under this subsection to submit to drug testing as

- 1 a condition for receipt of assistance under this sub-
- 2 section.”.

