

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3465

To amend title IV of the Social Security Act to ensure funding for grants to promote responsible fatherhood and strengthen low-income families, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 27, 2017

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. CARSON of Indiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Agriculture, 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 ensure funding for grants to promote responsible fatherhood and strengthen low-income families, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Julia Carson Responsible Fatherhood and Healthy Fami-
6 lies Act of 2017”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
 2 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 Sec. 2. Findings.

TITLE I—PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD AND STRENGTHENING LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

Sec. 101. Healthy marriage promotion and responsible fatherhood programs.
 Sec. 102. Grants supporting healthy family partnerships for domestic violence
 intervention and preventions.
 Sec. 103. Procedures to address domestic violence.
 Sec. 104. Grants to States for family strengthening commissions.

TITLE II—TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

Sec. 201. TANF work participation improvements.
 Sec. 202. TANF Employment Fund.
 Sec. 203. Sense of Congress.

TITLE III—CHILD SUPPORT

Sec. 301. Full family distribution and ban on recovery of Medicaid costs for
 births.
 Sec. 302. State assessments of barriers to employment and financial support of
 children.
 Sec. 303. Public reporting on consequences for nonpayment.
 Sec. 304. Early intervention to ensure regular payment of support and prevent
 overdue support.
 Sec. 305. Improved collection and distribution of child support.
 Sec. 306. Services and activities to support noncustodial parenting time.

TITLE IV—REVENUE PROVISION

Sec. 401. Increase in credit percentage under earned income tax credit for eligi-
 ble individuals with no qualifying children.

TITLE V—SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE

Sec. 501. Collection of child support under the supplemental nutrition assist-
 ance program.

3 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress makes the following findings:

5 (1) Fathers play a significant and underappre-
 6 ciated role in the development of their children, with
 7 research demonstrating that a supportive and in-
 8 volved father strengthens a child's emotional, phys-

1 ical, intellectual, and behavioral development. Chil-
2 dren with positive relationships with fathers, even if
3 they do not live in the same household, have strong-
4 er mental health, economic success, and academic
5 achievement with lower rates of youth delinquency,
6 school dropout, and teen pregnancy.

7 (2) Economic stability also leads to positive out-
8 comes for children, including stronger emotional
9 well-being, physical health, and academic success.

10 (3) Family patterns in the United States have
11 resulted in fewer children living with their fathers.
12 The October 2016 Child Trends report on family
13 structure shows the proportion of all children who
14 have not attained the age of 18 living with both par-
15 ents has decreased over the past half century, from
16 85 percent in 1960 to 65 percent in 2015, with 23
17 percent of such children living with their mother
18 only and 4 percent of such children living with their
19 father only in 2015.

20 (4) A 2015 United States Census analysis of
21 children's living arrangements and characteristics
22 showed that a child in a father-absent home is more
23 than 5 times more likely to live in poverty than a
24 child in a married-couple family.

1 (5) Father engagement does not depend on liv-
2 ing in the same house as the child, with many non-
3 residential fathers being actively involved with their
4 children and supportive of their children's mothers.
5 However, low-income fathers experience multiple
6 challenges to contributing financially and emotion-
7 ally to their children due to limited education and
8 job skills, unstable employment opportunities, child
9 support enforcement policies, incarceration, and
10 strained relationships with the children's mothers.
11 Multiple approaches are needed to address these
12 barriers to create opportunities for fathers to sustain
13 their engagement and closeness with their children
14 and families.

15 (6) Federal programs should encourage respon-
16 sible fatherhood and healthy families by increasing
17 the upward economic mobility of custodial and non-
18 custodial parents so that they can actively partici-
19 pate in financial support and child-rearing as well as
20 maintain positive, healthy, and nonviolent relation-
21 ships with their children and coparents, including
22 improving compliance with child support obligations
23 and cooperative parenting.

1 **TITLE I—PROMOTING RESPON-**
2 **SIBLE FATHERHOOD AND**
3 **STRENGTHENING LOW-IN-**
4 **COME FAMILIES**

5 **SEC. 101. HEALTHY MARRIAGE PROMOTION AND RESPON-**
6 **SIBLE FATHERHOOD PROGRAMS.**

7 (a) VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION.—

8 (1) ASSURANCE.—Section 403(a)(2)(A)(ii)(II)
9 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
10 603(a)(2)(A)(ii)(II)) is amended—

11 (A) in item (aa), by striking “and”;

12 (B) in item (bb), by striking the period
13 and inserting a semicolon; and

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

15 “(cc) if the entity is a State
16 or an Indian tribe or tribal orga-
17 nization, to not condition the re-
18 ceipt of assistance under the pro-
19 gram funded under this part,
20 under a program funded with
21 qualified State expenditures (as
22 defined in section
23 409(a)(7)(B)(i)), or under any
24 other program funded under this

1 title, on enrollment in any such
2 programs or activities; and

3 “(dd) to permit any partici-
4 pant in a program or activity
5 funded under this paragraph, in-
6 cluding an individual whose par-
7 ticipation is specified in the indi-
8 vidual responsibility plan devel-
9 oped for the individual in accord-
10 ance with section 408(b), to
11 transfer to another such program
12 or activity upon notification to
13 the entity and the State agency
14 responsible for administering the
15 State program funded under this
16 part.”.

17 (2) PROHIBITION.—Section 408(a) of such Act
18 (42 U.S.C. 608(a)) is amended by adding at the end
19 the following:

20 “(13) BAN ON CONDITIONING RECEIPT OF
21 TANF OR CERTAIN OTHER BENEFITS ON PARTICIPA-
22 TION IN A HEALTHY MARRIAGE OR RESPONSIBLE
23 FATHERHOOD PROGRAM.—A State to which a grant
24 is made under section 403 shall not condition the re-
25 ceipt of assistance under the State program funded

1 under this part, under a program funded with quali-
 2 fied State expenditures (as defined in section
 3 409(a)(7)(B)(i)), or under any other program fund-
 4 ed under this title, on participation in a healthy
 5 marriage promotion activity (as defined in section
 6 403(a)(2)(A)(iii)) or in an activity promoting re-
 7 sponsible fatherhood (as defined in section
 8 403(a)(2)(C)(ii)).”.

9 (3) PENALTY.—Section 409(a) of such Act (42
 10 U.S.C. 609(a)) is amended by adding at the end the
 11 following:

12 “(17) PENALTY FOR CONDITIONING RECEIPT
 13 OF TANF OR CERTAIN OTHER BENEFITS ON PARTICI-
 14 PATION IN A HEALTHY MARRIAGE OR RESPONSIBLE
 15 FATHERHOOD PROGRAM.—If the Secretary deter-
 16 mines that a State has violated section 408(a)(13)
 17 during a fiscal year, the Secretary shall reduce the
 18 grant payable to the State under section 403(a)(1)
 19 for the immediately succeeding fiscal year by an
 20 amount equal to 5 percent of the State family assist-
 21 ance grant.”.

22 (b) ACTIVITIES PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE FATHER-
 23 HOOD.—Section 403(a)(2)(C)(ii) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
 24 603(a)(2)(C)(ii)) is amended—

1 (1) in subclause (I), by striking “marriage or
2 sustain marriage” and inserting “healthy relation-
3 ships and marriages or to sustain healthy relation-
4 ships or marriages”;

5 (2) in subclause (II), by inserting “educating
6 youth who are not yet parents about the economic,
7 social, and family consequences of early parenting,
8 helping participants in fatherhood programs work
9 with their own children to break the cycle of early
10 parenthood,” after “child support payments,”; and

11 (3) in subclause (III), by striking “fathers” and
12 inserting “low-income fathers and other low-income
13 noncustodial parents who are not eligible for assist-
14 ance under the State program funded under this
15 part”.

16 (c) REAUTHORIZATION.—Section 403(a)(2)(D) of
17 such Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(2)(D)) is amended—

18 (1) by striking “fiscal years 2017 and 2018”
19 and inserting “fiscal years 2017 through 2023”; and

20 (2) by striking “fiscal year 2017 or 2018” and
21 inserting “any of fiscal years 2017 through 2023”.

22 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
23 this section shall take effect on October 1, 2017.

1 **SEC. 102. GRANTS SUPPORTING HEALTHY FAMILY PART-**
2 **NERSHIPS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTER-**
3 **VENTION AND PREVENTIONS.**

4 Section 403(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
5 603(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following
6 new paragraph:

7 “(6) GRANTS SUPPORTING HEALTHY FAMILY
8 PARTNERSHIPS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTER-
9 VENTION AND PREVENTION.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
11 award grants on a competitive basis to healthy
12 family partnerships to develop and implement
13 promising practices for—

14 “(i) assessing and providing services
15 to individuals and families affected by do-
16 mestic violence, including through case-
17 worker training, the provision of technical
18 assistance to community partners, and the
19 implementation of safe visitation and ex-
20 change programs; or

21 “(ii) preventing domestic violence,
22 particularly as a barrier to economic secu-
23 rity, and fostering healthy relationships.

24 “(B) EDUCATION SERVICES.—In awarding
25 grants under subparagraph (A), the Secretary
26 shall ensure that 10 percent of the funds made

1 available under such grants are used for high
2 schools and other secondary educational institu-
3 tions and institutions of higher education to
4 provide education services on the value of
5 healthy relationships, responsible parenting,
6 and healthy marriages characterized by mutual
7 respect and nonviolence, and the importance of
8 building relationship skills such as communica-
9 tion, conflict resolution, and budgeting.

10 “(C) APPLICATION.—The respective entity
11 and organization of a healthy family partner-
12 ship entered into for purposes of receiving a
13 grant under this paragraph shall submit a joint
14 application to the Secretary, at such time and
15 in such manner as the Secretary shall specify,
16 containing—

17 “(i) a description of how the partner-
18 ship intends to carry out the activities de-
19 scribed in subparagraph (A);

20 “(ii) an assurance that funds made
21 available under the grant shall be used to
22 supplement, and not supplant, other funds
23 used by the entity or organization to carry
24 out programs, activities, or services de-
25 scribed in subparagraph (A) or (B); and

1 “(iii) such other information as the
2 Secretary may require.

3 “(D) GENERAL RULES GOVERNING USE OF
4 FUNDS.—The rules of section 404, other than
5 subsection (b) of that section, shall not apply to
6 a grant made under this paragraph.

7 “(E) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

8 “(i) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—The term
9 ‘domestic violence’ has the meaning given
10 that term in section 402(a)(7)(B).

11 “(ii) HEALTHY FAMILY PARTNER-
12 SHIP.—The term ‘healthy family partner-
13 ship’ means a partnership between—

14 “(I) an entity receiving funds
15 under a grant made under paragraph
16 (2) to promote healthy marriage or re-
17 sponsible fatherhood; and

18 “(II) an organization with dem-
19 onstrated expertise working with sur-
20 vivors of domestic violence.

21 “(F) APPROPRIATION.—Out of any money
22 in the Treasury of the United States not other-
23 wise appropriated, there are appropriated for
24 each of fiscal years 2017 through 2023,
25 \$25,000,000 to carry out this paragraph.”.

1 **SEC. 103. PROCEDURES TO ADDRESS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 403(a)(2) of the Social
3 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(2)) is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (D) and
5 (E) as subparagraphs (F) and (G), respectively; and

6 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(D) REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIPT OF
9 FUNDS.—An entity may not be awarded a grant
10 under this paragraph unless the entity, as a
11 condition of receiving funds under such a
12 grant—

13 “(i) identifies in its application for the
14 grant the domestic violence experts at the
15 local, State, or national level with whom
16 the entity will consult in the development
17 and implementation of the programs and
18 activities of the entity;

19 “(ii) on award of the grant, and in
20 consultation with such domestic violence
21 experts, develops a written protocol which
22 describes—

23 “(I) how the entity will identify
24 instances or risks of domestic violence;

25 “(II) the procedures for respond-
26 ing to such instances or risks, includ-

1 ing making service referrals and pro-
2 viding protections and appropriate as-
3 sistance for identified individuals and
4 families;

5 “(III) how confidentiality issues
6 will be addressed; and

7 “(IV) the domestic violence train-
8 ing that will be provided to ensure ef-
9 fective and consistent implementation
10 of the protocol; and

11 “(iii) in an annual report to the Sec-
12 retary, includes a description of the domes-
13 tic violence protocols, and a description of
14 any implementation issues identified with
15 respect to domestic violence and how the
16 issues were addressed.

17 “(E) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEFINED.—In
18 this paragraph, the term ‘domestic violence’ has
19 the meaning given the term in section
20 402(a)(7)(B).”.

21 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 403(a)(2)
22 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(2)), as amended by sub-
23 section (a)(1) of this section, is amended—

24 (1) in subparagraph (A)(i)—

1 (A) by striking “and (E)” and inserting
 2 “(D), and (G)”; and

3 (B) by striking “(D)” and inserting “(F)”;
 4 and

5 (2) in subparagraphs (B)(i) and (C)(i), by
 6 striking “(D)” each place it appears and inserting
 7 “(F)”.

8 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 9 this section shall apply with respect to fiscal years begin-
 10 ning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

11 **SEC. 104. GRANTS TO STATES FOR FAMILY STRENGTH-**
 12 **ENING COMMISSIONS.**

13 Part D of title IV of the Social Security Act (42
 14 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the
 15 following:

16 **“SEC. 469C. GRANTS TO STATES FOR FAMILY STRENGTH-**
 17 **ENING COMMISSIONS.**

18 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
 19 Human Services shall make grants to States under this
 20 section to enable States to establish and support commis-
 21 sions to identify methods of expanding access to family
 22 strengthening services.

23 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—In this section, the term
 24 ‘State’ means any State, Indian tribe, or tribal organiza-
 25 tion (as defined in subsections (e) and (l) of section 4 of

1 the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
2 Act (25 U.S.C. 450b)), having in effect a plan approved
3 under this part.

4 “(c) APPLICATION.—In order to be eligible for a
5 grant under this section, a State shall submit an applica-
6 tion to the Secretary at such time and in such manner
7 as the Secretary may require.

8 “(d) FAMILY STRENGTHENING SERVICES.—The
9 commissions described in subsection (a) shall focus on pro-
10 viding family strengthening services that include—

11 “(1) family and relationship counseling;

12 “(2) relationship and parenting education; and

13 “(3) assistance with developing and imple-
14 menting parenting time arrangements.

15 “(e) FAMILIES SERVED.—The commissions described
16 in subsection (a) shall focus on serving varying types of
17 families, including—

18 “(1) families seeking to preserve a marriage or
19 other adult relationship;

20 “(2) families seeking a divorce or separation
21 and working to maintain coparenting and parent-
22 child relationships;

23 “(3) families seeking to maintain or rebuild
24 family relationships affected by incarceration;

1 “(4) families seeking to build a support system
2 around a child who has experienced trauma, includ-
3 ing—

4 “(A) witnessing violence;

5 “(B) experiencing sexual or physical abuse;

6 or

7 “(C) having a parent who is experiencing
8 challenges with mental health or substance
9 abuse; and

10 “(5) families below 250 percent of poverty
11 guidelines applicable to a family of the size involved.

12 “(f) MEMBERSHIP.—A State seeking a grant under
13 this section shall demonstrate that a family strengthening
14 commission funded by such grant will consist of relevant
15 government and private actors, including—

16 “(1) State government agency officials from de-
17 partments of health, human services, child support,
18 education, youth services, or corrections;

19 “(2) local government agency officials from de-
20 partments of health, human services, child support,
21 education, youth services, or corrections;

22 “(3) access to Justice Commissions, bar asso-
23 ciations, judicial associations, courts, or other rep-
24 resentatives of the legal system;

1 “(4) associations of social workers, counselors,
2 psychologists, and other mental health professionals;

3 “(5) associations of mediators and others who
4 deliver alternative dispute resolution services;

5 “(6) healthy marriage and responsible father-
6 hood programs;

7 “(7) youth-serving programs; and

8 “(8) academics and researchers.

9 “(g) DUTIES.—A commission funded by a grant
10 under this section shall—

11 “(1) identify the need for potential policy
12 changes;

13 “(2) determine methods of leveraging existing
14 resources and growing new resources; and

15 “(3) explore methods of improving service deliv-
16 ery, including the training of service providers.

17 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
18 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of
19 Health and Human Services to carry out this section
20 \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2020.”.

21 **TITLE II—TEMPORARY ASSIST-** 22 **ANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES**

23 **SEC. 201. TANF WORK PARTICIPATION IMPROVEMENTS.**

24 (a) ELIMINATION OF SEPARATE WORK REQUIRE-
25 MENTS FOR 2-PARENT FAMILIES.—

1 (1) WORK PARTICIPATION RATE.—Section 407
2 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 607) is amend-
3 ed—

4 (A) in subsection (a)—

5 (i) beginning in the heading, by strik-
6 ing “PARTICIPATION RATE REQUIRE-
7 MENTS” and all that follows through “A
8 State” in paragraph (1) and inserting
9 “PARTICIPATION RATE REQUIREMENTS.—
10 A State”; and

11 (ii) by striking paragraph (2); and

12 (B) in subsection (b)—

13 (i) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking
14 “subsection (a)(1)” and inserting “sub-
15 section (a)”;

16 (ii) by striking paragraph (2) and re-
17 designating paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) as
18 paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively;

19 (iii) in paragraph (3) (as so redesign-
20 ated), by striking “paragraphs (1)(B) and
21 (2)(B)” and inserting “determining month-
22 ly participation rates under paragraph
23 (1)(B)”;

1 (iv) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), by striking “rates” and inserting
 2 “rate”.
 3

4 (2) MINIMUM WEEKLY HOURS REQUIREMENT.—Section 407(c)(1) of the Social Security Act
 5 (42 U.S.C. 607(c)(1)) is amended—
 6

7 (A) by striking “GENERAL RULES” and all
 8 that follows through “For purposes of” in subparagraph (A) and inserting “GENERAL
 9 RULES.—For purposes of”; and
 10

11 (B) by striking subparagraph (B).

12 (3) LIMITATION ON PENALTY IMPOSITION.—In
 13 applying section 409(a)(3) of the Social Security Act
 14 for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2007
 15 and ending with the fiscal year in which occurs the
 16 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary
 17 of Health and Human Services shall disregard the
 18 requirement imposed by section 407(a)(2) of the Social Security Act.
 19

20 (b) ELIMINATION OF DISTINCTION BETWEEN CORE
 21 AND OTHER WORK ACTIVITIES.—Section 407(c)(1) of
 22 such Act (42 U.S.C. 607(c)(1)), as amended by subsection
 23 (a)(2) of this section, is further amended by striking “not
 24 fewer than” and all that follows through “subsection (d),”.

1 (c) ELIMINATION OF SPECIAL WORK PARTICIPATION
 2 RULE FOR TEENS ATTENDING SECONDARY SCHOOL.—
 3 Section 407(c)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 607(c)(2)) is
 4 amended by striking subparagraph (C).

5 (d) ELIMINATION OF CAP ON TREATING VOCATIONAL
 6 EDUCATIONAL TRAINING AS WORK PARTICIPATION.—
 7 Section 407(c)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 607(c)(2)), as
 8 amended by subsection (c) of this section, is further
 9 amended by striking subparagraph (D).

10 (e) INCREASE IN MONTHS OF EDUCATIONAL VOCA-
 11 TIONAL TRAINING THAT MAY BE COUNTED AS WORK
 12 PARTICIPATION.—Section 407(d)(8) of such Act (42
 13 U.S.C. 607(d)(8)) is amended by striking “12 months”
 14 and inserting “24 months”.

15 (f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 16 this section shall take effect on October 1 of the first fiscal
 17 year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act
 18 and shall apply to the determination of minimum partici-
 19 pation rates for months beginning on or after that date.

20 **SEC. 202. TANF EMPLOYMENT FUND.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 403(b) of the Social Secu-
 22 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 603(b)) is amended to read as follows:

23 “(b) EMPLOYMENT FUND.—

24 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby estab-
 25 lished in the Treasury of the United States a fund

1 which shall be known as the Employment Fund for
2 Needy Families (in this subsection referred to as the
3 ‘Fund’).

4 “(2) DEPOSITS INTO FUND.—Out of any money
5 in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise
6 appropriated, there are appropriated for each of fis-
7 cal years 2017 through 2023, \$608,000,000 for pay-
8 ment to the Fund, which shall remain available until
9 expended.

10 “(3) GRANTS.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For each of fiscal
12 years 2017 through 2023, the Secretary shall
13 make grants, on a competitive basis, to quali-
14 fying entities as provided in this paragraph.

15 “(B) QUALIFYING ENTITY.—For purposes
16 of this paragraph, a qualifying entity for a fis-
17 cal year is a State, territory, Indian tribe, or
18 tribal organization, operating a State program
19 funded under this part (or any other State pro-
20 gram funded with qualified State expenditures
21 (as defined in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i))), that
22 submits to the Secretary an application for a
23 grant under this paragraph for the fiscal year,
24 in such manner and at such time as the Sec-
25 retary may require.

1 “(C) ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.—

2 “(i) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The
3 Secretary shall reserve \$10,000,000 out of
4 the amounts made available under para-
5 graph (2) for each fiscal year to provide
6 technical assistance to qualifying entities
7 receiving a grant under this paragraph for
8 the fiscal year.

9 “(ii) TERRITORIES AND INDIAN
10 TRIBES.—The Secretary shall reserve,
11 from the amount made available under
12 paragraph (2) for a fiscal year that re-
13 mains after applying clause (i), 3 percent
14 for grants under this paragraph for the fis-
15 cal year to qualifying entities that are ter-
16 ritories and 1 percent for grants under this
17 paragraph for the fiscal year to qualifying
18 entities that are Indian tribes or tribal or-
19 ganizations, to be allotted in a manner the
20 Secretary determines to be appropriate.

21 “(iii) STATES.—

22 “(I) IN GENERAL.—The amount
23 of a grant under this paragraph pay-
24 able for a fiscal year to a qualifying
25 entity that is a State shall be the

1 amount that bears the same ratio to
2 the aggregate amount as the number
3 of individuals residing in the State
4 who have attained 18 years of age but
5 have not attained 67 years of age who
6 are not employed or underemployed
7 (such as involuntarily working part-
8 time), as determined by the Secretary,
9 bears to the total number of such in-
10 dividuals residing in all qualifying en-
11 tities that are States.

12 “(II) AGGREGATE AMOUNT.—For
13 purposes of this clause, the term ‘ag-
14 gregate amount’ means the amount
15 made available for a fiscal year under
16 paragraph (2) that remains after ap-
17 plying clauses (i) and (ii).

18 “(iv) UNUSED FUNDS.—

19 “(I) REASONABLE LIMITS ON
20 CARRYING OVER FUNDS.—The Sec-
21 retary shall set reasonable limits on
22 the amount of funds a State receiving
23 a grant under this paragraph may
24 carry over for expenditure in fiscal

1 years after the fiscal year for which
2 the grant is awarded.

3 “(II) REDISTRIBUTION OF UN-
4 USED FUNDS.—Any portion of the
5 amount of a grant made to a State
6 under clause (iii) that the Secretary
7 determines will not be used by the
8 State shall be redistributed among the
9 States that the Secretary determines
10 will not have such an unused amount,
11 using the rules specified in clause (iii).
12 Any amount so redistributed to a
13 State is deemed part of the grant
14 made to the State under the preceding
15 provisions of this paragraph.

16 “(D) USE OF FUNDS.—

17 “(i) EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS.—

18 “(I) SUBSIDIZED EMPLOY-
19 MENT.—A qualifying entity awarded a
20 grant under this paragraph shall use
21 the grant funds to conduct a sub-
22 sidized employment program to assist
23 recipients of TANF cash assistance
24 and TANF-eligible individuals who

1 are not recipients of cash assistance
2 in obtaining paid employment.

3 “(II) SECTORAL SKILLS TRAIN-
4 ING.—A qualifying entity may use not
5 more than 15 percent of funds award-
6 ed to the entity under this paragraph
7 for a fiscal year to conduct a sectoral
8 skills training program to provide sec-
9 toral skills training to recipients of
10 TANF cash assistance and TANF-eli-
11 gible individuals who are not recipi-
12 ents of cash assistance.

13 “(ii) ALLOWABLE EXPENSES.—A
14 qualifying entity may use funds awarded
15 under this paragraph to carry out clause
16 (i), including the following activities:

17 “(I) Administrative expenses.

18 “(II) Supportive services, includ-
19 ing transportation and childcare, to
20 enable individuals to participate in a
21 program described in clause (i).

22 “(III) Wages and associated pay-
23 roll costs for individuals participating
24 in the subsidized employment program
25 described in clause (i)(I).

1 “(iii) ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSIST-
2 ANCE.—

3 “(I) REQUIREMENT TO USE 75
4 PERCENT OF FUNDS TO ASSIST RE-
5 CIPIENTS OF TANF CASH ASSIST-
6 ANCE.—A qualifying entity shall use
7 not less than 75 percent of funds
8 awarded to the entity under this para-
9 graph to assist under the program de-
10 scribed in clause (i)(I) (and, if the en-
11 tity so elects, the program described
12 in clause (i)(II)) recipients of TANF
13 cash assistance and may use the re-
14 mainder of the funds to assist TANF-
15 eligible individuals who are not recipi-
16 ents of cash assistance.

17 “(II) RECIPIENT OF TANF CASH
18 ASSISTANCE.—In this subparagraph,
19 the term ‘recipient of TANF cash as-
20 sistance’ means an individual who—

21 “(aa) has attained 18 years
22 of age and has not attained 67
23 years of age; and

24 “(bb) is not employed and is
25 determined by the qualifying en-

1 tity to have been unsuccessful at
2 obtaining paid employment after
3 participating in a job search pro-
4 gram; and—

5 “(AA) is a member of a
6 family that receives cash as-
7 sistance under the State
8 program funded under this
9 part or any other State pro-
10 gram funded with qualified
11 State expenditures (as de-
12 fined in section
13 409(a)(7)(B)(i)); or

14 “(BB) is a noncustodial
15 parent of a minor child re-
16 siding with a family de-
17 scribed in subitem (AA), in
18 a case in which the parent is
19 not considered by the State
20 to be a member of the fam-
21 ily.

22 “(III) TANF-ELIGIBLE INDI-
23 VIDUAL WHO IS NOT A RECIPIENT OF
24 CASH ASSISTANCE.—In this subpara-
25 graph, the term ‘TANF-eligible indi-

vidual who is not a recipient of cash assistance’ means an individual who—

“(aa) has attained 18 years of age and has not attained 67 years of age;

“(bb) is not employed and is determined by the qualifying entity to have been unsuccessful at obtaining paid employment after participating in a job search program;

“(cc) is not an individual described in subitems (AA) or (BB) of subclause (II)(bb); and

“(dd) is a member of a family that includes a minor child residing with the family (including a noncustodial parent of the child) if the family has an income that is less than the poverty line (as defined in section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, including any revision required by such section,

1 applicable to a family of the size
2 involved).

3 “(E) ANNUAL REPORT.—

4 “(i) SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT.—For
5 each fiscal year for which a qualifying enti-
6 ty receives a grant under this paragraph,
7 the entity shall submit to the Secretary,
8 within 6 months after the end of the fiscal
9 year, a report on the subsidized employ-
10 ment program described in subparagraph
11 (D)(i)(I), which shall—

12 “(I) describe the structure of the
13 activities of the entity to use the grant
14 funds to subsidize employment for in-
15 dividuals participating in the program
16 (in this clause referred to as ‘sub-
17 sidized employees’), including the
18 amount and duration of the subsidies
19 provided;

20 “(II) for each month of the fiscal
21 year, specify the number of individ-
22 uals whose employment is subsidized
23 with these funds and the percentage
24 of such individuals whose employment

1 is in an area that matches their pre-
2 vious training and work experience;

3 “(III) describe the qualifying en-
4 tity’s policies in effect during the fis-
5 cal year—

6 “(aa) to ensure nondisplace-
7 ment as required under para-
8 graph (4)(A); and

9 “(bb) to implement griev-
10 ance procedures as required in
11 (4)(B), including information on
12 the number of grievance claims
13 filed in the preceding fiscal year
14 and the aggregate results of
15 those claims;

16 “(IV) describe requirements im-
17 posed on employers by the State as a
18 condition of participating in the pro-
19 gram;

20 “(V) describe the types of jobs in
21 which subsidized employees are
22 placed;

23 “(VI) provide demographic infor-
24 mation for subsidized employees and

1 for the target population the entity
2 seeks to assist under the program;

3 “(VII) specify the average num-
4 ber of hours worked per week by a
5 subsidized employee;

6 “(VIII) specify the average
7 length of time for which a subsidized
8 employee participates in the program;

9 “(IX) describe the employment
10 outcomes for subsidized employees
11 after participating in the program, in-
12 cluding the number of individuals
13 hired by an employer with which the
14 individual was placed during the pro-
15 gram and the number of individuals
16 hired by other employers;

17 “(X) specify the percentage of
18 subsidized employees who are in un-
19 subsidized employment during the sec-
20 ond quarter after the subsidy ended;

21 “(XI) specify the percentage of
22 subsidized employees who are in un-
23 subsidized employment during the
24 fourth quarter after the subsidy
25 ended;

1 “(XII) specify the median earn-
2 ings of subsidized employees who are
3 in unsubsidized employment during
4 the second quarter after the subsidy
5 ended; and

6 “(XIII) specify the number of
7 subsidized employees who concurrently
8 received other Federal or State
9 means-tested benefits during their
10 subsidized employment.

11 “(ii) SECTORAL SKILLS TRAINING.—If
12 a qualifying entity elects to conduct a sec-
13 toral skills training program described in
14 subparagraph (D)(i)(II), the report re-
15 quired under clause (i) of this subpara-
16 graph shall also include a description of—

17 “(I) the design of the program;

18 “(II) the industries in which indi-
19 viduals receiving assistance under the
20 program (in this clause referred to as
21 ‘trainees’) receive training;

22 “(III) demographic information
23 for trainees and for the target popu-
24 lation the entity seeks to assist under
25 the program;

1 “(IV) the total number of train-
2 ees participating in the program dur-
3 ing the fiscal year;

4 “(V) the average number of
5 hours per week for which a trainee re-
6 ceives training;

7 “(VI) the average length of time
8 for which a trainee participates in the
9 program; and

10 “(VII) the employment outcomes
11 for trainees after participating in the
12 program.

13 “(F) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall
14 establish and implement a rigorous system for
15 evaluating the success of subsidized employment
16 programs and sectoral training programs con-
17 ducted pursuant to this paragraph.

18 “(4) LIMITATIONS.—

19 “(A) NONDISPLACEMENT.—A State to
20 which a grant is made under this subsection
21 shall ensure that no participant in a subsidized
22 job program funded in whole or in part under
23 this subsection is employed or assigned to a job
24 under the program—

1 “(i) when any other individual is on
2 layoff from the same or any substantially
3 equivalent job; or

4 “(ii) if the employer has terminated
5 the employment of any regular employee or
6 otherwise caused an involuntary reduction
7 of its workforce in order to fill the vacancy
8 so created with a participant in such sub-
9 sidized job program.

10 “(B) GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE.—A State
11 with a program funded under this subsection
12 shall establish and maintain a grievance proce-
13 dure for resolving complaints of alleged viola-
14 tions of subparagraph (A).

15 “(C) NO PREEMPTION.—Nothing in this
16 paragraph shall preempt or supersede any pro-
17 vision of State or local law that provides greater
18 protection for employees from displacement.

19 “(5) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

20 “(A) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZA-
21 TION.—The terms ‘Indian tribe’ and ‘tribal or-
22 ganization’ have the meaning given such terms
23 in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination
24 and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.
25 450b).

1 “(B) SECTORAL SKILLS TRAINING.—The
2 term ‘sectoral skills training’ means training
3 that implements a sectoral skills training strat-
4 egy established by an industry or sector part-
5 nership (as defined in section 3(26) of the
6 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act).

7 “(C) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means
8 each of the 50 States of the United States and
9 the District of Columbia.

10 “(D) TERRITORIES.—The term ‘territories’
11 means Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States
12 Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands,
13 and American Samoa.”.

14 (b) PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS COUNTED TOWARD
15 WORK PARTICIPATION RATE.—Section 407(b) of such Act
16 (42 U.S.C. 607(b)), as amended by section 201(a)(1)(B)
17 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the
18 following:

19 “(5) STATE OPTION TO INCLUDE SUBSIDIZED
20 EMPLOYMENT AND SECTORAL SKILLS TRAINING
21 PARTICIPANTS.—If an individual who is not a recipi-
22 ent of assistance under the State program funded
23 under this part (or any other State program funded
24 with qualified State expenditures (as defined in sec-
25 tion 409(a)(7)(B)(i))) participates in work activities

1 for not less than the minimum average number of
 2 hours per week specified in the table in subsection
 3 (c)(1) of this section during a month as part of a
 4 State’s subsidized employment or sectoral skills
 5 training program funded under section 403(b), the
 6 State may count the individual as a family that in-
 7 cludes an adult or a minor child head of household
 8 who is engaged in work for the month for purposes
 9 of paragraph (1)(B) of this subsection.”.

10 (c) STATE PLAN REQUIRED TO INCLUDE DESCRIP-
 11 TION OF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS.—Section
 12 402(a)(1)(B) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 602(a)(1)(B)) is
 13 amended by adding at the end the following:

14 “(vi) The document shall indicate
 15 whether the State intends to apply for a
 16 grant to conduct a subsidized employment
 17 program and, if the State so chooses, a
 18 sectoral skills training program, under sec-
 19 tion 403(b). If so, the document shall in-
 20 clude a description of the program or pro-
 21 grams the State intends to conduct using
 22 the grant funds and a description of how
 23 the program or programs will serve non-
 24 custodial parents of minor children.”.

1 (d) GRANTS EXEMPTED FROM TERRITORIAL PAY-
 2 MENT CEILING.—Section 1108(a)(2) of such Act (42
 3 U.S.C. 1308(a)(2)) is amended by inserting “403(b),”
 4 after “403(a)(5),”.

5 (e) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO RETAIN DEFINI-
 6 TION OF A NEEDY STATE.—

7 (1) NUMBER OF WEEKS FOR WHICH JOB
 8 SEARCH COUNTS AS WORK.—Section 407(c)(2)(A) of
 9 such Act (42 U.S.C. 607(c)(2)(A)) is amended—

10 (A) in clause (i), by striking “section
 11 409(a)(7)(B)(i))” and inserting “clause (iii)”;
 12 and

13 (B) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(iii) NEEDY STATE.—For purposes
 15 of clause (i), a State is a needy State for
 16 a month if—

17 “(I) the average rate of—

18 “(aa) total unemployment in
 19 such State (seasonally adjusted)
 20 for the period consisting of the
 21 most recent 3 months for which
 22 data for all States are published
 23 equals or exceeds 6.5 percent;
 24 and

1 “(bb) total unemployment in
2 such State (seasonally adjusted)
3 for the 3-month period equals or
4 exceeds 110 percent of such aver-
5 age rate for either (or both) of
6 the corresponding 3-month peri-
7 ods ending in the 2 preceding
8 calendar years; or

9 “(II) as determined by the Sec-
10 retary of Agriculture (in the discretion
11 of the Secretary of Agriculture), the
12 monthly average number of individ-
13 uals (as of the last day of each
14 month) participating in the supple-
15 mental nutrition assistance program
16 in the State in the then most recently
17 concluded 3-month period for which
18 data are available exceeds by not less
19 than 10 percent the lesser of—

20 “(aa) the monthly average
21 number of individuals (as of the
22 last day of each month) in the
23 State that would have partici-
24 pated in the supplemental nutri-
25 tion assistance program in the

1 corresponding 3-month period in
2 fiscal year 1994 if the amend-
3 ments made by titles IV and VIII
4 of the Personal Responsibility
5 and Work Opportunity Reconcili-
6 ation Act of 1996 had been in ef-
7 fect throughout fiscal year 1994;
8 or

9 “(bb) the monthly average
10 number of individuals (as of the
11 last day of each month) in the
12 State that would have partici-
13 pated in the supplemental nutri-
14 tion assistance program in the
15 corresponding 3-month period in
16 fiscal year 1995 if the amend-
17 ments made by titles IV and VIII
18 of the Personal Responsibility
19 and Work Opportunity Reconcili-
20 ation Act of 1996 had been in ef-
21 fect throughout fiscal year
22 1995.”.

23 (2) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO REDUCE
24 WORK PARTICIPATION RATE PENALTY DUE TO CIR-
25 CUMSTANCES THAT CAUSED STATE TO BECOME

1 NEEDY STATE.—Section 409(a)(3)(C) of such Act
 2 (42 U.S.C. 609(a)(3)(C)) is amended by striking
 3 “section 403(b)(5)” and inserting “section
 4 407(c)(2)(A)(iii)”.

5 (f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 6 this section shall apply with respect to fiscal years begin-
 7 ning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

8 **SEC. 203. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

9 It is the sense of the Congress that a State to which
 10 a grant is made under section 403 of the Social Security
 11 Act should consider a noncustodial parent of a minor
 12 child, if the child is a recipient of assistance under a State
 13 program funded under part A of title IV of such Act (or
 14 under any other State program funded with qualified
 15 State expenditures (as defined in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)
 16 of such Act)), to be a member of the family of the child
 17 for purposes of providing assistance to the family, the
 18 child, and the noncustodial parent under the program.

19 **TITLE III—CHILD SUPPORT**

20 **SEC. 301. FULL FAMILY DISTRIBUTION AND BAN ON RECOV-**
 21 **ERY OF MEDICAID COSTS FOR BIRTHS.**

22 (a) BAN ON RECOVERY.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 454 of the Social
 24 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 654) is amended—

1 (A) by striking “and” at the end of para-
2 graph (33);

3 (B) by striking the period at the end of
4 paragraph (34) and inserting “; and”; and

5 (C) by inserting after paragraph (34) the
6 following:

7 “(35) provide that, except as provided in sec-
8 tion 1902(a)(25)(F)(ii), the State shall not use the
9 State program operated under this part to collect
10 any amount owed to the State by reason of costs in-
11 curred under the State plan approved under title
12 XIX for the birth of a child for whom support rights
13 have been assigned pursuant to section 1912.”.

14 (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in sec-
15 tion 454(35) of such Act, as added by paragraph
16 (1), shall be construed as affecting the application of
17 section 1902(a)(25) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
18 1396a(a)(25)) with respect to a State (relating to
19 the State Medicaid plan requirement for the State to
20 take all reasonable measures to ascertain the legal li-
21 ability of third parties to pay for care and services
22 available under the plan).

23 (b) CLARIFICATION THAT BAN ON RECOVERY DOES
24 NOT APPLY WITH RESPECT TO INSURANCE OF A PARENT
25 WITH AN OBLIGATION TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT.—Clause

1 (ii) of section 1902(a)(25)(F) of the Social Security Act
2 (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(25)(F)) is amended by inserting
3 “only if such third-party liability is derived through insur-
4 ance,” before “seek”.

5 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
7 graph (2), the amendments made by this section
8 take effect on October 1, 2017.

9 (2) EXTENSION OF EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
10 STATE LAW AMENDMENT.—In the case of a State
11 plan under title XIX of the Social Security Act
12 which the Secretary of Health and Human Services
13 determines requires State legislation in order for the
14 plan to meet the additional requirements imposed by
15 the amendments made by this section, the State
16 plan shall not be regarded as failing to comply with
17 the requirements of such title solely on the basis of
18 its failure to meet these additional requirements be-
19 fore the first day of the first calendar quarter begin-
20 ning after the close of the first regular session of the
21 State legislature that begins after the date of enact-
22 ment of this Act. For purposes of the previous sen-
23 tence, in the case of a State that has a 2-year legis-
24 lative session, each year of the session is considered

1 to be a separate regular session of the State legisla-
2 ture.

3 **SEC. 302. STATE ASSESSMENTS OF BARRIERS TO EMPLOY-**
4 **MENT AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF CHIL-**
5 **DREN.**

6 (a) STATE ASSESSMENTS AND REPORTS.—As a con-
7 dition of the continued approval of a State plan under part
8 D of title IV of the Social Security Act, each State with
9 such an approved plan, acting through the appropriate
10 State agencies, shall assess the State policies with respect
11 to the issues described in subsection (b) that affect the
12 ability of parents to pay child support, and shall submit
13 a report to the Secretary of Health and Human Services
14 on the results of the assessment not later than two years
15 after the date of the enactment of this section.

16 (b) ISSUES DESCRIBED.—The issues described in
17 this subsection are the following:

18 (1) The effect of State criminal laws and law
19 enforcement practices on the employment acquisi-
20 tion, retention, and advancement prospects of an in-
21 dividual who is a parent of a minor child following
22 arrest, conviction, or imprisonment, including—

23 (A) any efforts, including counseling or
24 employment support, to assist individuals re-
25 leased from custody with reentry to a commu-

1 nity and successful reunification with their fam-
2 ilies; and

3 (B) an assessment of any efforts to seal or
4 expunge arrest and conviction records and any
5 efforts to grant certificates or other acknowl-
6 edgments of rehabilitation to parents returning
7 from incarceration, and to examine State occu-
8 pational licensing and certification procedures.

9 (2) An assessment of State practices related to
10 the collection of debts owed by individuals to the
11 State, including criminal justice fees and fines and
12 child support debt.

13 (3) An assessment of State practices related to
14 providing parents returning from incarceration with
15 valid identification documents upon release from
16 prison.

17 (4) Identification of any other barriers to
18 healthy family formation, family reunification, copar-
19 enting, or sustainable economic opportunity for cus-
20 todial and noncustodial parents that are created or
21 exacerbated by Federal or State laws, policies, or
22 procedures, including an examination of the rules of
23 Federal and State means-tested programs, the oper-
24 ation of the State workforce system, the availability
25 of financial education services, and the availability of

1 domestic violence services and child support proce-
2 dures to help victims of domestic violence stay safe
3 and obtain the child support they are owed.

4 **SEC. 303. PUBLIC REPORTING ON CONSEQUENCES FOR**
5 **NONPAYMENT.**

6 (a) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Section 452(a)(10) of
7 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 652(a)(10)) is amend-
8 ed—

9 (1) in subparagraph (H), by striking “and” at
10 the end; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(J) the number of cases, by State, in
13 which each of the following consequences for
14 nonpayment of support was incurred by an obli-
15 gor:

16 “(i) a loss of liberty due to a criminal
17 conviction or finding of civil contempt;

18 “(ii) a suspension of a driver’s license;

19 “(iii) a suspension of a professional,
20 occupational, or recreational license;

21 “(iv) withholding of a passport; or

22 “(v) late payment fees, interest
23 charged (including the amount and rate of
24 interest), and other financial sanctions;
25 and”.

1 (b) STATE PLAN.—Section 454 of such Act (42
2 U.S.C. 654), as amended by section 301(a)(1) of this Act,
3 is further amended—

4 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph
5 (34);

6 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
7 graph (35) and inserting “; and”; and

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

9 “(36) provide that the State will maintain a full
10 record of child support enforcement activities, in-
11 cluding the consequences incurred by obligors as de-
12 scribed in section 452(a)(10)(J).”.

13 (c) COLLECTION AND REPORTING OF CHILD SUP-
14 PORT ENFORCEMENT DATA.—Section 469 of such Act
15 (42 U.S.C. 669) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(e) CONSEQUENCES FOR NONPAYMENT.—The Sec-
18 retary shall collect and maintain up-to-date statistics, by
19 State, and on a fiscal year basis, on the number of cases
20 in which each consequence for nonpayment of support de-
21 scribed in section 452(a)(10)(J) was incurred by an obli-
22 gor.”.

1 **SEC. 304. EARLY INTERVENTION TO ENSURE REGULAR**
2 **PAYMENT OF SUPPORT AND PREVENT OVER-**
3 **DUE SUPPORT.**

4 (a) PROCEDURES TO PROVIDE JOB SERVICES FOR
5 NONCUSTODIAL PARENTS.—Section 466(a) of the Social
6 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 666(a)) is amended by inserting
7 after paragraph (19) the following:

8 “(20) PROCEDURES TO INTERVENE EARLY TO
9 ENSURE REGULAR PAYMENT OF SUPPORT AND PRE-
10 VENT OVERDUE SUPPORT.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If the State elects to
12 provide job services to noncustodial parents (as
13 described in the State plan pursuant to section
14 454(37)), procedures—

15 “(i) under which the State shall
16 prioritize early intervention efforts and
17 make such services available on a vol-
18 untary basis prior to a determination that
19 the individual owes overdue support as
20 specified in paragraph (15);

21 “(ii) under which the State shall es-
22 tablish criteria for eligibility to receive
23 such services, which shall restrict eligibility
24 to noncustodial parents—

25 “(I) with respect to whom there
26 is an open child support case under

1 the State program funded under this
2 part;

3 “(II) who are unemployed or un-
4 deremployed;

5 “(III) who are not making reg-
6 ular child support payments;

7 “(IV) who do not receive assist-
8 ance under a State program funded
9 under part A (or under any other
10 State program funded with qualified
11 State expenditures (as defined in sec-
12 tion 409(a)(7)(B)(i)));

13 “(V) who do not participate in an
14 employment and training program
15 under section 6(d)(4) of the Food and
16 Nutrition Act of 2008 (but who may
17 receive supplemental nutrition assist-
18 ance benefits under such Act); and

19 “(VI) who do not receive the
20 same job services under the Workforce
21 Innovation and Opportunity Act;

22 “(iii) under which the State agency
23 administering a program under a State
24 plan approved under this part shall pro-
25 vide, including through contract or cooper-

1 ative agreement, job services that may in-
2 clude—

3 “(I) job search assistance;

4 “(II) job readiness training;

5 “(III) job development and job
6 placement services;

7 “(IV) skills assessments to facili-
8 tate job placement;

9 “(V) job retention services;

10 “(VI) certificate programs and
11 other skills training directly related to
12 employment, which may include activi-
13 ties to improve literacy and basic
14 skills, such as programs to complete
15 high school or a General Education
16 Development (GED) certificate, as
17 long as such activities and programs
18 are included in the State job services
19 plan pursuant to section 454(37);

20 “(VII) long-term and short-term
21 subsidized employment or public-pri-
22 vate career pathway partnerships;

23 “(VIII) substance abuse treat-
24 ment;

25 “(IX) mental health services;

1 “(X) occupational skills training,
2 including college credit programs; and

3 “(XI) work supports, such as
4 transportation assistance, uniforms,
5 and tools; and

6 “(iv) under which the State shall en-
7 sure that participation in any such services
8 is voluntary and shall inform potential par-
9 ticipants that such participation is vol-
10 untary.

11 “(B) DEFINITION.—An Indian tribe or
12 tribal organization (as defined in subsections
13 (e) and (l) of section 4 of the Indian Self-Deter-
14 mination and Education Assistance Act (25
15 U.S.C. 450b)) operating a child support en-
16 forcement program funded by a grant under
17 this part may elect, as part of such program, to
18 provide job services to noncustodial parents,
19 consistent with the requirements of this para-
20 graph and section 455(f).”.

21 (b) PERFORMANCE TRACKING.—Section 452(a) of
22 such Act (42 U.S.C. 652(a)) is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at the
24 end;

1 (2) in paragraph (11), by striking the period at
2 the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

4 “(12)(A) consult with States, Indian tribes, and
5 tribal organizations (as defined in subsections (e)
6 and (l) of section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination
7 and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b)),
8 with a plan approved under this part, to develop
9 data elements to ensure that the child support agen-
10 cy of any State, Indian tribe, or tribal organization
11 administering a voluntary job services program
12 under section 466(a)(20) demonstrates a plan for
13 implementing measures to track the performance of
14 such program with respect to meeting the goals of
15 quality job placement, long-term unsubsidized job re-
16 tention, increasing child support payments, decreas-
17 ing child support arrearages, and increasing the in-
18 volvement of low-income noncustodial parents with
19 their children; and

20 “(B) in carrying out section 466(a), collaborate
21 with the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of
22 Agriculture to identify best practices and minimize
23 duplication of services under employment and train-
24 ing programs for noncustodial parents administered

1 by the Departments of Health and Human Services,
2 Labor, and Agriculture.”.

3 (c) STATE PLAN.—Section 454 of such Act (42
4 U.S.C. 654), as amended by sections 301(a)(1) and
5 303(b) of this Act, is further amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (35), by striking “and” at the
7 end;

8 (2) in paragraph (36), by striking the period at
9 the end and inserting “; and”; and

10 (3) by inserting after paragraph (36) the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(37) include—

13 “(A) a description of work activities in
14 which the State requires noncustodial parents
15 to participate pursuant to section 466(a)(15);

16 “(B) a description of any job services the
17 State elects to provide to noncustodial parents,
18 and criteria for eligibility to receive such serv-
19 ices, under section 466(a)(20), or an expla-
20 nation of why the State elects not to provide
21 such services;

22 “(C) an explanation of how the State will
23 coordinate job services and work activities pro-
24 vided under this title with the State workforce
25 development system (as such term is defined in

section 3(67) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act), local responsible fatherhood programs (including such programs funded by a grant awarded under section 403(a)(2)), local prisoner reentry programs, and other local employment and training programs; and

“(D) if applicable, a description of the State plan for implementing measures for tracking the successful performance of the State voluntary job services program consistent with section 452(a)(12)(A).”.

(d) PAYMENTS TO STATES.—Section 455(a)(1)(A) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 655(a)(1)(A)) is amended by adding at the end “including public and private non-Federal funds,”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this section.

SEC. 305. IMPROVED COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD SUPPORT.

(a) DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD SUPPORT.—

(1) FULL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTED; REFORM OF RULES FOR DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTED ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 457 of the So-
2 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 657) is amended—

3 (i) by amending subsection (a) to read
4 as follows:

5 “(a) FULL DISTRIBUTION OF AMOUNTS COLLECTED
6 ON BEHALF OF ANY FAMILY.—Subject to subsections (b)
7 and (c), the entire amount of support collected by a State
8 on behalf of any family receiving services pursuant to a
9 plan approved under this part shall be paid to the family
10 in accordance with this section.”;

11 (ii) by amending subsection (b) to
12 read as follows:

13 “(b) CONTINUATION OF ASSIGNMENTS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Any rights to support obli-
15 gations that are assigned to a State under this part
16 on behalf of a family receiving assistance and in ef-
17 fect before the implementation date of this section
18 may remain assigned after such date and distributed
19 under the provisions and limitations of the Deficit
20 Reduction Act of 2005.

21 “(2) OPTION TO TERMINATE ASSIGNMENTS.—A
22 State may choose to discontinue any assignment of
23 a support obligation described in paragraph (1) and
24 may treat amounts collected pursuant to the assign-
25 ment as if the amounts had never been assigned and

1 may distribute the amounts to the family in accord-
2 ance with subsection (a).”;

3 (iii) by striking subsections (c) and
4 (d) and redesignating subsection (e) as
5 subsection (c); and

6 (iv) in subsection (c) (as so redesign-
7 nated), by striking paragraph (1) and all
8 that follows and inserting the following:

9 “(1) shall be used to provide supplemental serv-
10 ices that serve the best interests of such child in a
11 manner that best meets the future needs and edu-
12 cational, health, and employment interests of the
13 child, or be deposited in—

14 “(A) an account of the type described in
15 section 1631(a)(2)(F) of this Act;

16 “(B) an ABLE account established under
17 section 529A of the Internal Revenue Code of
18 1986;

19 “(C) an individual development account es-
20 tablished pursuant to Federal or State law; or

21 “(D) any other account in which benefits
22 for the child may be conserved in a manner
23 that the State determines, consistent with this
24 paragraph, is in the best interests of the child;
25 and

1 “(2) shall supplement and not supplant any
2 other Federal funds or programs that may be avail-
3 able for the benefit of the child.”.

4 (B) FOSTER CARE STATE PLAN AMEND-
5 MENT.—Section 471(a)(17) of such Act (42
6 U.S.C. 671(a)(17)) is amended—

7 (i) by inserting “and consistent with
8 the child’s case plan” after “where appro-
9 priate”; and

10 (ii) by striking “secure an assignment
11 to the State of any rights to support” and
12 inserting “establish paternity and estab-
13 lish, modify, and enforce child support ob-
14 ligations”.

15 (C) CHILD SUPPORT STATE PLAN AMEND-
16 MENT.—Section 454 of such Act (42 U.S.C.
17 654), as amended by sections 301(a)(1),
18 303(b), and 304(c) of this Act, is further
19 amended—

20 (i) in paragraph (36), by striking
21 “and” at the end;

22 (ii) in paragraph (37), by striking the
23 period and inserting “; and”; and

24 (iii) by inserting after paragraph (37)
25 the following:

1 “(38) provide that a State shall pay all col-
2 lected child support to the family in accordance with
3 section 457.”.

4 (D) SUPPORT PAYMENTS COLLECTED
5 PRIOR TO EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 454(5) of
6 such Act (42 U.S.C. 654(5)) is amended by
7 striking “such payments” and all that follows
8 through “support payments collected” and in-
9 serting “entered into prior to the effective date
10 of section 204 of the Julia Carson Responsible
11 Fatherhood and Healthy Families Act of 2017,
12 the individual will be notified on a monthly
13 basis of the amount of the support payments
14 collected and retained by the State under sec-
15 tion 457(a)(1)(B) (as in effect prior to the ef-
16 fective date of such section)”.

17 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

18 (A) Section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)(I)(aa) of such
19 Act (42 U.S.C. 609(a)(7)(B)(i)(I)(aa)) is
20 amended by striking “457(a)(1)(B)” and in-
21 serting “457(a)”.

22 (B) Section 454(34) of such Act (42
23 U.S.C. 654(34)) is amended by striking
24 “457(a)(2)(B)” each place it appears and in-
25 serting “457(b)”.

1 (C) Section 456(a)(1) of such Act (42
 2 U.S.C. 656(a)(1)) is amended by inserting “and
 3 shall be distributed in accordance with section
 4 457” after “local processes”.

5 (D) Section 466(a)(3)(B) of such Act (42
 6 U.S.C. 666(a)(3)(B)) is amended—

7 (i) by striking “shall be distributed in
 8 accordance with section 457 in the case of
 9 overdue support assigned to a State pursu-
 10 ant to section 408(a)(3) or 471(a)(17), or,
 11 in any other case,”; and

12 (ii) by inserting “or to the public
 13 agency responsible for supervising the
 14 placement of the child receiving foster care
 15 maintenance payments under section 472,
 16 which may use such payments in the man-
 17 ner the public agency determines will serve
 18 the best interest of the child, consistent
 19 with section 457(c)” before the semicolon.

20 (b) PROHIBITION ON CONDITIONING RECEIPT OF
 21 TANF ON ASSIGNMENT OF SUPPORT.—Section 408(a)(3)
 22 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)(3)) is amend-
 23 ed—

24 (1) in the paragraph heading, by striking “No
 25 ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES NOT” and inserting

1 “PROHIBITION ON CONDITIONING ASSISTANCE FOR
2 FAMILIES ON”;

3 (2) by inserting “not” after “shall”;

4 (3) by inserting “or under a program funded
5 with qualified State expenditures (as defined in sec-
6 tion 409(a)(7)(B)(i))” after “this part”; and

7 (4) by striking “, not exceeding the total
8 amount of assistance so paid to the family,”.

9 (c) REQUIREMENT TO DISREGARD PERCENTAGE OF
10 CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTED IN DETERMINING AMOUNT
11 AND TYPE OF TANF ASSISTANCE.—Section 408(a) of
12 such Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)), as amended by section
13 101(a)(2) of this Act and subsection (b) of this section,
14 is amended by adding at the end the following new para-
15 graph:

16 “(14) REQUIREMENT TO DISREGARD PERCENT-
17 AGE OF CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTED IN DETER-
18 MINING AMOUNT AND TYPE OF TANF ASSISTANCE.—
19 A State to which a grant is made under section 403
20 shall disregard at least the same percentage of
21 amounts collected as support on behalf of a family
22 as the percentage of earned income that the State
23 disregards, in determining the amount or type of as-
24 sistance provided to the family under the State pro-
25 gram funded under this part or under a program

1 funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined
2 in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)).”.

3 (d) RESTORATION OF FEDERAL FUNDING.—Effec-
4 tive on the date of enactment of this Act, section 7309
5 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–
6 171; 120 Stat. 147) is repealed, and part D of title IV
7 of the Social Security Act shall be applied as if the amend-
8 ment made by subsection (a) of that section had not been
9 enacted.

10 (e) REPEAL OF MANDATORY FEE FOR CHILD SUP-
11 PORT COLLECTION.—Effective on the date of enactment
12 of this Act, section 7310 of the Deficit Reduction Act of
13 2005 (Public Law 109–171; 120 Stat. 147) is repealed,
14 and part D of title IV of the Social Security Act shall
15 be applied as if the amendments made by that section had
16 not been enacted.

17 (f) STUDY AND REPORT.—Not later than October 1,
18 2018, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall
19 study and submit a report to Congress regarding the fol-
20 lowing:

21 (1) The effect of age eligibility restrictions for
22 the earned income tax credit established under sec-
23 tion 32 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for in-
24 dividuals without qualifying children on—

1 (A) the ability of young parents to pay
2 child support;

3 (B) compliance with child support orders;
4 and

5 (C) the relationship between young non-
6 custodial parents and their children.

7 (2) The impact of State earned income tax
8 credit programs, especially such programs with tar-
9 geted benefits for noncustodial parents, on—

10 (A) the ability of noncustodial parents to
11 pay child support;

12 (B) compliance with child support orders;
13 and

14 (C) the relationship between noncustodial
15 parents and their children.

16 (3) The challenges faced by legal immigrants
17 and individuals for whom English is not their pri-
18 mary language in fulfilling child support and other
19 noncustodial parenting obligations.

20 (g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise pro-
22 vided in this section, the amendments made by this
23 section shall take effect on October 1, 2018, and
24 shall apply to payments under parts A and D of title
25 IV of the Social Security Act for calendar quarters

1 beginning on or after that date, without regard to
 2 whether regulations to implement the amendments
 3 are promulgated by such date.

4 (2) STATE OPTION TO ACCELERATE EFFECTIVE
 5 DATE.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a State
 6 may elect to have the amendments made by the pre-
 7 ceding provisions of this section apply to the State
 8 and to amounts collected by the State (and to pay-
 9 ments under such parts), on and after such date as
 10 the State may select that is not later than Sep-
 11 tember 30, 2018.

12 **SEC. 306. SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT NON-**
 13 **CUSTODIAL PARENTING TIME.**

14 (a) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Section 452(a)(10) of
 15 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 652(a)(10)), as amend-
 16 ed by section 303(a), is further amended—

17 (1) in subsection (J), by striking “and” at the
 18 end; and

19 (2) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(K) a summary of efforts by the State to
 21 provide early intervention services and activities
 22 that aim to improve the ability and willingness
 23 of noncustodial parents to support their chil-
 24 dren, including by—

1 “(i) supporting and improving pater-
2 nity establishment, child support order es-
3 tablishment, and collections outcomes; and

4 “(ii) facilitating and assisting parents
5 in accessing court processes to establish
6 parenting time arrangements, assisting ob-
7 ligors with employment needs, or providing
8 other allowable services or activities to
9 carry out the State responsibilities under
10 this part: and”.

11 (b) STATE PLAN.—Section 454 of such Act (42
12 U.S.C. 654), as amended by sections 301(a)(1), 303(b),
13 304(c), and 305(a)(1)(C) of this Act, is further amend-
14 ed—

15 (1) in paragraph (37), by striking “and” at the
16 end;

17 (2) in paragraph (38), by striking the period at
18 the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

20 “(39) describe efforts by the State to provide
21 early intervention services and activities that aim to
22 improve the ability and willingness of noncustodial
23 parents to support their children, including by—

“(A) supporting and improving paternity establishment, child support order establishment, and collections outcomes; and

“(B) facilitating and assisting parents in accessing court processes to establish parenting time arrangements, assisting obligors with employment needs, or providing other allowable services or activities to carry out the State responsibilities under this part.”.

(c) DETERMINATIONS OF COST-EFFECTIVENESS PERFORMANCE LEVEL.—Section 458(b)(6)(E) is amended—

(1) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii);

and

(2) by inserting after clause (i) the following:

“(ii) EXCEPTION FOR AMOUNT SPENT ON EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES.—For the purposes of subsection (i), the total amount expended during the fiscal year under the State plan shall be reduced by an amount equal to the amount expended by the State for the fiscal year on early intervention services and activities intended to improve the ability

1 and willingness of noncustodial parents to
2 support their children, including by—

3 “(I) improving paternity estab-
4 lishment, child support order estab-
5 lishment, and collections outcomes;
6 and

7 “(II) offering parenting time ar-
8 rangements, assisting obligors with
9 employment needs, or providing other
10 allowable services or activities to carry
11 out the State responsibilities under
12 this part,

13 except that such reduced amount may not
14 exceed 10 percent of such total amount ex-
15 pended during the fiscal year under the
16 State plan.”.

17 (d) ALLOTMENTS TO STATES FOR ACCESS AND VISI-
18 TATION PROGRAM GRANTS.—Section 469B(c)(1) of such
19 Act (42 U.S.C. 669b(c)(1)) is amended by striking
20 “\$10,000,000” and inserting “\$20,000,000”.

1 **TITLE IV—REVENUE PROVISION**

2 **SEC. 401. INCREASE IN CREDIT PERCENTAGE UNDER** 3 **EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR ELIGIBLE** 4 **INDIVIDUALS WITH NO QUALIFYING CHIL-** 5 **DREN.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The row in the table in section
 7 32(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 relating
 8 to no qualifying children is amended to read as follows:

“No qualifying children	20	7.65”.
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9 (b) INCOME PHASEOUT FOR ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS
 10 WITH NO QUALIFYING CHILDREN.—The table in section
 11 32(b)(2)(A) of such Code is amended by striking
 12 “\$5,280” and inserting “\$11,500”.

13 (c) REDUCTION OF MARRIAGE PENALTY MADE PER-
 14 MANENT.—Section 32(b)(2)(B) of such Code is amended
 15 to read as follows:

16 “(B) JOINT RETURNS.—In the case of a
 17 joint return filed by an eligible individual and
 18 such individual’s spouse, the phaseout amount
 19 determined under subparagraph (A) shall be in-
 20 creased by \$5,000.”.

21 (d) INCREASE IN AGE RANGE FOR ELIGIBLE INDIV-
 22 IDUALS WITH NO QUALIFYING CHILD.—Section
 23 32(c)(1)(A)(ii)(II) of such Code is amended—

1 (1) by striking “age 25” and inserting “age
2 21”; and

3 (2) by striking “age 65” and inserting “age
4 68”.

5 (e) TAXPAYER ELIGIBLE FOR CREDIT FOR INDIVID-
6 UALS WITH NO QUALIFYING CHILDREN IF QUALIFYING
7 CHILDREN DO NOT HAVE VALID SOCIAL SECURITY NUM-
8 BERS.—Section 32(c)(1)(F) of such Code is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 “(F) INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT INCLUDE
11 TIN, ETC., OF ANY QUALIFYING CHILD.—In the
12 case of any eligible individual who has one or
13 more qualifying children, if—

14 “(i) no qualifying child of such indi-
15 vidual is taken into account under sub-
16 section (b) by reason of paragraph (3)(D),
17 and

18 “(ii) no child of such individual is
19 taken into account for purposes of any
20 other child tax benefit under this chapter,
21 for purposes of the credit allowed under this
22 section, such individual may be considered an
23 eligible individual without a qualifying child.”.

24 (f) EXPANDING THE EITC FOR CERTAIN FORMER
25 FOSTER YOUTH.—Section 32(c)(1) of such Code, as

1 amended by subsection (e), is amended by adding at the
2 end the following:

3 “(G) FOSTER YOUTH.—

4 “(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of
5 subparagraph (A), the term ‘eligible indi-
6 vidual’ shall include an individual who is a
7 qualified foster youth.

8 “(ii) QUALIFIED FOSTER YOUTH DE-
9 FINED.—For purposes of clause (i), the
10 term ‘qualified foster youth’ means an in-
11 dividual who—

12 “(I) has attained age 18 but not
13 attained age 21 before the close of the
14 taxable year, and

15 “(II) on or after attaining the
16 age of 14 was placed in a foster fam-
17 ily home by an agency of a State or
18 a political subdivision thereof or by a
19 qualified foster care placement agency
20 (as defined by section 131(b)(3)).”.

21 (g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
22 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
23 December 31, 2017.

**TITLE V—SUPPLEMENTAL
NUTRITION ASSISTANCE**

**SEC. 501. COLLECTION OF CHILD SUPPORT UNDER THE
SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM.**

(a) ENCOURAGEMENT OF COLLECTION OF CHILD
SUPPORT.—Section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of
2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and
(6) as paragraphs (6) and (7), respectively;

(B) in paragraph (4)(B), by striking
“paragraph (6)” and inserting “paragraph
(7)”; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
following:

“(5) DEDUCTION FOR CHILD SUPPORT RE-
CEIVED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A household shall be
allowed a deduction of 20 percent of all legally
obligated child support payments received from
an identified or putative parent of a child in the
household if that parent is not a household
member.

1 “(B) ORDER OF DETERMINING DEDUC-
 2 TIONS.—A deduction under this paragraph shall
 3 be determined before the computation of the ex-
 4 cess shelter deduction under paragraph (7).”;
 5 and

6 (2) in subsection (k)(4)(B), by striking “sub-
 7 section (e)(6)” and inserting “subsection (e)(7)”.

8 (b) SIMPLIFIED VERIFICATION OF CHILD SUPPORT
 9 PAYMENTS.—Section 5(n) of the Food and Nutrition Act
 10 of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014(n)) is amended—

11 (1) in the subsection heading, by striking
 12 “STATE OPTIONS TO SIMPLIFY”, and inserting
 13 “SIMPLIFIED”; and

14 (2) by striking “Regardless of whether” and in-
 15 serting the following:

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A household that is paying
 17 legally obligated child support through the program
 18 under part D of title IV of the Social Security Act
 19 (42 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) shall receive—

20 “(A) a deduction under subsection (e)(4);
 21 or

22 “(B) an exclusion under subsection (d)(6);
 23 for child support payments made.

24 “(2) STATE OPTIONS.—Regardless of whether”.

1 (c) INCLUSION OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES PRO-
2 GRAMS IN DEFINITION OF WORK PROGRAM.—Section
3 6(o)(2) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.
4 2015(o)(2)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “or” at
6 the end;

7 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period
8 at the end and inserting “; or”; and

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

10 “(E) participate in and comply with the re-
11 quirements of a State program to provide job
12 services to noncustodial parents as provided in
13 section 466(a)(20) of the Social Security Act;”.

14 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—This section and the amend-
16 ments made by this section take effect on October
17 1, 2017.

18 (2) IMPLEMENTATION.—A State shall imple-
19 ment the amendments made by subsections (a) and
20 (b) for participating households at the 1st certifi-
21 cation, or 1st recertification, of the household that
22 occurs on or after October 1, 2017.

○