

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XIX, §1948, as added Pub. L. 118-42, div. G, title I, §202, Mar. 9, 2024, 138 Stat. 399.)

SUBCHAPTER XX—BLOCK GRANTS AND PROGRAMS FOR SOCIAL SERVICES AND ELDER JUSTICE

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

2018—Pub. L. 115-123, div. E, title VIII, §50802(1), Feb. 9, 2018, 132 Stat. 269, substituted “AND PROGRAMS” for “TO STATES” in subchapter heading.

Pub. L. 111-148, title VI, §6703(a)(1)(A), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 782, inserted “AND ELDER JUSTICE” after “SOCIAL SERVICES” in subchapter heading.

Division A—Block Grants to States for Social Services

§ 1397. Purposes of division; authorization of appropriations

For the purposes of consolidating Federal assistance to States for social services into a single grant, increasing State flexibility in using social service grants, and encouraging each State, as far as practicable under the conditions in that State, to furnish services directed at the goals of—

- (1) achieving or maintaining economic self-support to prevent, reduce, or eliminate dependency;
- (2) achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency;
- (3) preventing or remedying neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children and adults unable to protect their own interests, or preserving, rehabilitating or reuniting families;
- (4) preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing for community-based care, home-based care, or other forms of less intensive care; and
- (5) securing referral or admission for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate, or providing services to individuals in institutions,

there are authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this division.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XX, §2001, as added Pub. L. 97-35, title XXIII, §2352(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 867; amended Pub. L. 111-148, title VI, §6703(d)(1), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 803.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1397, act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XX, §2001, as added Jan. 4, 1975, Pub. L. 93-647, §2, 88 Stat. 2337; amended June 17, 1980, Pub. L. 96-272, title II, §207(b), 94 Stat. 526, authorized appropriations to carry out former provisions of this subchapter, prior to the general revision of this subchapter by section 2352(a) of Pub. L. 97-35.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-148, §6703(d)(1)(B), which directed substitution of “this division” for “this subchapter” wherever appearing in subtitle 1 of title XX of act Aug. 14, 1935, was executed to the concluding provisions of

this section, which is in subtitle A of title XX of act Aug. 14, 1935, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Pub. L. 111-148, §6703(d)(1)(A), substituted “division” for “subchapter” in section catchline.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 97-35, title XXIII, §2354, Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 874, provided that: “Except as otherwise explicitly provided, the provisions of this subtitle [subtitle C (§§2351-2355) of title XXIII of Pub. L. 97-35, see Short Title of 1981 Amendment note set out under section 1305 of this title] and the repeals and amendments made by this subtitle, shall become effective on October 1, 1981.”

STUDY OF STATE SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS; REPORT TO CONGRESS

Pub. L. 97-35, title XXIII, §2355, Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 874, required Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study to identify criteria and mechanisms which may be useful for States in assessing effectiveness and efficiency of State social service programs carried out with funds made available under this subchapter, such study to include consideration of Federal incentive payments as an option in rewarding States having high performance social service programs, and to report results of such study to Congress within one year after Aug. 13, 1981.

§ 1397a. Payments to States

(a) Amount; covered services

(1) Each State shall be entitled to payment under this division for each fiscal year in an amount equal to its allotment for such fiscal year, to be used by such State for services directed at the goals set forth in section 1397 of this title, subject to the requirements of this division.

(2) For purposes of paragraph (1)—

(A) services which are directed at the goals set forth in section 1397 of this title include, but are not limited to, child care services, protective services for children and adults, services for children and adults in foster care, services related to the management and maintenance of the home, day care services for adults, transportation services, family planning services, training and related services, employment services, information, referral, and counseling services, the preparation and delivery of meals, health support services and appropriate combinations of services designed to meet the special needs of children, the aged, the mentally retarded, the blind, the emotionally disturbed, the physically handicapped, and alcoholics and drug addicts; and

(B) expenditures for such services may include expenditures for—

(i) administration (including planning and evaluation);

(ii) personnel training and retraining directly related to the provision of those services (including both short- and long-term training at educational institutions through grants to such institutions or by direct financial assistance to students enrolled in such institutions); and

(iii) conferences or workshops, and training or retraining through grants to non-profit organizations within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or to individuals with social

services expertise, or through financial assistance to individuals participating in such conferences, workshops, and training or retraining (and this clause shall apply with respect to all persons involved in the delivery of such services).

(b) Funding requirements

The Secretary shall make payments in accordance with section 6503 of title 31 to each State from its allotment for use under this division.

(c) Expenditure of funds

Payments to a State from its allotment for any fiscal year must be expended by the State in such fiscal year or in the succeeding fiscal year.

(d) Transfers of funds

A State may transfer up to 10 percent of its allotment under section 1397b of this title for any fiscal year for its use for that year under other provisions of Federal law providing block grants for support of health services, health promotion and disease prevention activities, or low-income home energy assistance (or any combination of those activities). Amounts allotted to a State under any provisions of Federal law referred to in the preceding sentence and transferred by a State for use in carrying out the purposes of this division shall be treated as if they were paid to the State under this division but shall not affect the computation of the State's allotment under this division. The State shall inform the Secretary of any such transfer of funds.

(e) Use of portion of funds

A State may use a portion of the amounts described in subsection (a) for the purpose of purchasing technical assistance from public or private entities if the State determines that such assistance is required in developing, implementing, or administering programs funded under this division.

(f) Authority to use vouchers

A State may use funds provided under this division to provide vouchers, for services directed at the goals set forth in section 1397 of this title, to families, including—

(1) families who have become ineligible for assistance under a State program funded under part A of subchapter IV by reason of a durational limit on the provision of such assistance; and

(2) families denied cash assistance under the State program funded under part A of subchapter IV for a child who is born to a member of the family who is—

(A) a recipient of assistance under the program; or

(B) a person who received such assistance at any time during the 10-month period ending with the birth of the child.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XX, §2002, as added Pub. L. 97-35, title XXIII, §2352(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 867; amended Pub. L. 98-369, div. B, title VI, §2663(h)(1), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1169; Pub. L. 99-514, §2, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2095; Pub. L. 104-193, title IX, §908(b), Aug. 22, 1996, 110 Stat. 2351; Pub. L. 111-148, title VI, §6703(d)(1)(B), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 803.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, referred to in subsec. (a)(2)(B)(iii), is classified to section 501 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1397a, acts Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XX, §2002, as added Jan. 4, 1975, Pub. L. 93-647, §2, 88 Stat. 2337; amended Oct. 21, 1975, Pub. L. 94-120, §4(b), 89 Stat. 609; Sept. 7, 1976, Pub. L. 94-401, §§1(a)-(c), 5(a), 90 Stat. 1215, 1218; June 30, 1977, Pub. L. 95-59, §5, 91 Stat. 255; Oct. 25, 1977, Pub. L. 95-142, §§3(d)(2), 8(d), 91 Stat. 1179, 1195; Nov. 6, 1978, Pub. L. 95-600, title VIII, §801(a), 92 Stat. 2944; Oct. 17, 1979, Pub. L. 96-88, title V, §509(b), 93 Stat. 695; Jan. 2, 1980, Pub. L. 96-178, §4(a), (c), 93 Stat. 1296, 1297; June 17, 1980, Pub. L. 96-272, title I, §103(e), title II, §§201-204(a), 205(a), 206(e), 207(a), 94 Stat. 521-525; Dec. 5, 1980, Pub. L. 96-499, title X, §1001(a), 94 Stat. 2655, related to payments to States and computation of amounts, prior to the general revision of this subchapter by section 2352(a) of Pub. L. 97-35.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-148, which directed substitution of “this division” for “this subchapter” wherever appearing in subtitle 1 of title XX of act Aug. 14, 1935, was executed by making the substitution wherever appearing in this section, which is in subtitle A of title XX of act Aug. 14, 1935, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

1996—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 104-193 added subsec. (f).
1986—Subsec. (a)(2)(B)(iii). Pub. L. 99-514 substituted “Internal Revenue Code of 1986” for “Internal Revenue Code of 1954”.

1984—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 98-369 substituted “section 6503 of title 31” for “section 203 of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4213)”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-369 effective July 18, 1984, but not to be construed as changing or affecting any right, liability, status, or interpretation which existed (under the provisions of law involved) before that date, see section 2664(b) of Pub. L. 98-369, set out as a note under section 401 of this title.

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF CHILD DAY CARE SERVICES REQUIREMENTS

Pub. L. 96-499, title X, §1001(b), Dec. 5, 1980, 94 Stat. 2655, provided that the provisions of Pub. L. 93-647, §3(f), Jan. 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2349, set out as a note below, not apply with respect to child day care services provided after June 30, 1980, and prior to July 1, 1981, which met applicable standards of State and local law.

REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENDITURES FOR SOCIAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY STATES PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1, 1975; AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO PAYMENT OF UNPAID CLAIMS OF STATES

Pub. L. 95-291, June 12, 1978, 92 Stat. 304, authorized appropriations for payments to States in settlement of unpaid claims of States against the United States for reimbursement of expenditures made by States prior to Oct. 1, 1975, for services and administrative costs under a State plan pursuant to specific subchapters of this chapter, provided schedules for payment of a claim asserted prior to the ninety-first day after June 12, 1978, depending on when the claim was asserted, barred other claims and certain claims of the United States for recovery, provided for review of determinations, barred

judicial review, and provided for allotment of appropriations for claims.

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR FISCAL PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 1, 1976, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1976, AND FISCAL YEARS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1977, 1978, AND 1979, COMPUTATION AMOUNTS, LIMITATIONS, ETC.

Pub. L. 94-401, §3, Sept. 7, 1976, 90 Stat. 1215, as amended by Pub. L. 95-171, §1(a), Nov. 12, 1977, 91 Stat. 1353; Pub. L. 95-600, title VIII, §801(b), Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2944; Pub. L. 96-178, §3(b)-(f), Jan. 2, 1980, 93 Stat. 1296, provided for computation of amounts of payments to States under this subchapter for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending Sept. 30, 1976, and fiscal years ending Sept. 30, 1977, 1978, and 1979, limitations on such amounts, and a limit on the total amount of Federal payments made to States in any such fiscal year under this subchapter.

REQUIREMENTS OF CHILD DAY CARE SERVICES

Pub. L. 93-647, §3(f), Jan. 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2349, which provided for requirements of child day care services, was repealed by Pub. L. 97-35, title XXIII, §2353(s), Aug. 13, 1981, 97 Stat. 874.

§ 1397b. Allotments

(a) Computation of amounts for jurisdictions of Puerto Rico, Guam, etc.

The allotment for any fiscal year to each of the jurisdictions of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands shall be an amount which bears the same ratio to the amount specified in subsection (c) as the amount which was specified for allocation to the particular jurisdiction involved for the fiscal year 1981 under section 1397a(a)(2)(C) of this title (as in effect prior to Aug. 13, 1981) bore to \$2,900,000,000. The allotment for fiscal year 1989 and each succeeding fiscal year to American Samoa shall be an amount which bears the same ratio to the amount allotted to the Northern Mariana Islands for that fiscal year as the population of American Samoa bears to the population of the Northern Mariana Islands determined on the basis of the most recent data available at the time such allotment is determined.

(b) Computation of amounts for each State other than jurisdictions of Puerto Rico, Guam, etc.

The allotment for any fiscal year for each State other than the jurisdictions of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands shall be an amount which bears the same ratio to—

- (1) the amount specified in subsection (c), reduced by
- (2) the total amount allotted to those jurisdictions for that fiscal year under subsection (a),

as the population of that State bears to the population of all the States (other than Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands) as determined by the Secretary (on the basis of the most recent data available from the Department of Commerce) and promulgated prior to the first day of the third month of the preceding fiscal year.

(c) Appropriations

The amount specified for purposes of subsections (a) and (b) shall be—

- (1) \$2,400,000,000 for the fiscal year 1982;
- (2) \$2,450,000,000 for the fiscal year 1983;
- (3) \$2,700,000,000 for the fiscal years 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, and 1989;
- (4) \$2,750,000,000 for the fiscal year 1988;
- (5) \$2,800,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1990 through 1995;
- (6) \$2,381,000,000 for the fiscal year 1996;
- (7) \$2,380,000,000 for the fiscal year 1997;
- (8) \$2,299,000,000 for the fiscal year 1998;
- (9) \$2,380,000,000 for the fiscal year 1999;
- (10) \$2,380,000,000 for the fiscal year 2000; and
- (11) \$1,700,000,000 for the fiscal year 2001 and each fiscal year thereafter.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XX, §2003, as added Pub. L. 97-35, title XXIII, §2352(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 868; amended Pub. L. 97-248, title I, §160(b), Sept. 3, 1982, 96 Stat. 400; Pub. L. 98-135, title II, §204, Oct. 24, 1983, 97 Stat. 861; Pub. L. 99-514, title XVIII, §1883(e)(1), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2919; Pub. L. 100-203, title IX, §§9134(a), 9135(a)(2), Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1330-315; Pub. L. 101-239, title VIII, §8016, Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2470; Pub. L. 104-193, title IX, §908(a), Aug. 22, 1996, 110 Stat. 2350; Pub. L. 105-178, title VIII, §8401(a), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 498; Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, §101(f) [title II, §214(a)], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-337, 2681-361.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1397b, act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XX, §2003, as added Jan. 4, 1975, Pub. L. 93-647, §2, 88 Stat. 2343; amended Oct. 21, 1975, Pub. L. 94-120, §4(a), 89 Stat. 609; Oct. 25, 1977, Pub. L. 95-142, §3(d)(1), 91 Stat. 1179; June 9, 1980, Pub. L. 96-265, title IV, §403(b), 94 Stat. 462; June 17, 1980, Pub. L. 96-272, title II, §206(c), (d), 94 Stat. 525; Oct. 19, 1980, Pub. L. 96-473, §6(f), 94 Stat. 2266; Dec. 5, 1980, Pub. L. 96-499, title IX, §913(e), 94 Stat. 2620, related to State programs for social services assistance, prior to the general revision of this subchapter by section 2352(a) of Pub. L. 97-35.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (c)(7). Pub. L. 105-178 added par. (7) and struck out former par. (7) which read as follows: “\$2,380,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 2002; and”.

Subsec. (c)(8). Pub. L. 105-277 added par. (8) and struck out former par. (8) which read as follows: “\$2,380,000,000 for the fiscal year 1998;”.

Pub. L. 105-178 added par. (8) and struck out former par. (8) which read as follows: “\$2,800,000,000 for the fiscal year 2003 and each succeeding fiscal year.”

Subsec. (c)(9) to (11). Pub. L. 105-178 added pars. (9) to (11).

1996—Subsec. (c)(5) to (8). Pub. L. 104-193 added pars. (5) to (8) and struck out former par. (5) which read as follows: “\$2,800,000,000 for each fiscal year after fiscal year 1989.”

1989—Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 101-239, §8016(1), substituted “1987, and 1989;” for “and 1987, and for each succeeding fiscal year other than the fiscal year 1988; and”.

Subsec. (c)(5). Pub. L. 101-239, §8016(2), (3), added par. (5).

1987—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-203, §9135(a)(2)(A), inserted at end “The allotment for fiscal year 1989 and each succeeding fiscal year to American Samoa shall be an amount which bears the same ratio to the amount allotted to the Northern Mariana Islands for that fiscal year as the population of American Samoa bears to the population of the Northern Mariana Islands determined on the basis of the most recent data available at the time such allotment is determined.”