

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4998

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure health insurance coverage continuity for former foster youth.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2018

Ms. BASS (for herself, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. KENNEDY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure health insurance coverage continuity for former foster youth.

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 “Health Insurance for
5 Former Foster Youth Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COVERAGE CONTINUITY FOR FORMER FOSTER**
2 **CARE CHILDREN UP TO AGE 26.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(IX) of
4 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
5 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i)(IX)) is amended—

6 (1) in item (bb)—

7 (A) by striking “are not described in or en-
8 rolled under” and inserting “are not described
9 in and are not enrolled under”; and

10 (B) by striking the semicolon at the end
11 and inserting “; and”;

12 (2) in item (cc), by striking “responsibility of
13 the State” and all that follows through
14 “475(8)(B)(iii); and” and inserting “responsibility
15 of a State on the date of attaining 18 years of age
16 (or such higher age as such State has elected under
17 section 475(8)(B)(iii)), or who were in such care on
18 the date of attaining 14 years of age but subse-
19 quently left such care to enter into a legal guardian-
20 ship with a kinship caregiver (without regard to
21 whether kinship guardianship payments are being
22 made on behalf of the child under this part)”; and

23 (3) by striking item (dd).

24 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
25 this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of
26 this Act.

1 **SEC. 3. OUTREACH EFFORTS FOR ENROLLMENT OF**
2 **FORMER FOSTER CHILDREN.**

3 Section 1902(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
4 1396a(a)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (82), by striking “; and” and
6 inserting a semicolon;

7 (2) in paragraph (83), by striking the period at
8 the end and inserting “; and”; and

9 (3) by inserting after paragraph (83) the fol-
10 lowing new paragraph:

11 “(84) not later than January 1, 2019, establish
12 an outreach and enrollment program, in coordination
13 with the State agency responsible for administering
14 the State plan under part E of title IV and any
15 other appropriate or interested agencies, designed to
16 increase the enrollment of individuals who are eligi-
17 ble for medical assistance under the State plan
18 under paragraph (10)(A)(i)(IX) in accordance with
19 best practices established by the Secretary.”.

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