

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1797

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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”.

6 **SEC. 2. COVERAGE CONTINUITY FOR FORMER FOSTER**

7 **CARE CHILDREN UP TO AGE 26.**

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

1 (1) in item (bb)—

2 (A) by striking “are not described in or en-
3 rolled under” and inserting “are not described
4 in and are not enrolled under”; and

5 (B) by striking the semicolon at the end
6 and inserting “; and”;

7 (2) in item (cc), by striking “responsibility of
8 the State” and all that follows through
9 “475(8)(B)(iii); and” and inserting “responsibility
10 of a State on the date of attaining 18 years of age
11 (or such higher age as such State has elected under
12 section 475(8)(B)(iii)), or who were in such care on
13 the date of attaining 14 years of age but subse-
14 quently left such care to enter into a legal guardian-
15 ship with a kinship caregiver (without regard to
16 whether kinship guardianship payments are being
17 made on behalf of the child under this part)”; and

18 (3) by striking item (dd).

19 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
20 this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of
21 this Act.

22 **SEC. 3. OUTREACH EFFORTS FOR ENROLLMENT OF**
23 **FORMER FOSTER CHILDREN.**

24 Section 1902(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
25 1396a(a)) is amended—

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

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

5 (3) by inserting after paragraph (83) the fol-
6 lowing new paragraph:

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

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