

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4540

To provide clarity regarding States' ability to manage the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) and to provide States with funding to treat drug addiction in the SNAP population.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2016

Mr. ADERHOLT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Education and the Workforce, 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 provide clarity regarding States' ability to manage the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) and to provide States with funding to treat drug addiction in the SNAP population.

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 "SNAP Empowerment
5 and Accountability Act of 2016".

1 **SEC. 2. DRUG TESTING.**

2 (a) AMENDMENT TO THE FOOD AND NUTRITION ACT
3 OF 2008.—Section 5(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act
4 of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014(b)) is amended by striking the
5 period at the end by inserting the following:
6 “but a State agency, in its sole discretion, may impose
7 a standard of eligibility based on the results of testing for
8 use of controlled substances. The Secretary shall not dis-
9 approve a plan of operation due solely to the fact that
10 a State agency imposes a standard of eligibility based on
11 the results of testing for controlled substances.”.

12 (b) AMENDMENT TO THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBI-
13 BILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT
14 OF 1996.—Section 902 of the Personal Responsibility and
15 Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (21 U.S.C.
16 862b) is amended—

17 (1) by inserting “, including supplemental nu-
18 trition assistance program benefit recipients,” after
19 “recipients” the 1st place it appears, and

20 (2) by striking “welfare” the last place it ap-
21 pears.

1 **SEC. 3. TREATMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS TESTED FOR DRUG**
2 **USE FOR ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION**
3 **UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION AS-**
4 **SISTANCE PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Sub-
6 stance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
7 shall award grants to States to defray the costs of pro-
8 viding treatment to individuals who test positive for a con-
9 trolled substance under section 5(b) of the Food and Nu-
10 trition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014(b)) and who are identi-
11 fied by the States as needing treatment for the abuse of
12 such substance.

13 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “State”
14 has the meaning given to that term in section 3 of the
15 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012).

16 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
17 out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated
18 \$600,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021.

19 **SEC. 4. STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCES BASED ON THE**
20 **RECEIPT OF ENERGY ASSISTANCE PAY-**
21 **MENTS.**

22 (a) STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCE.—Section 5 of
23 the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014) is
24 amended—

25 (1) in subsection (e)(6)(C)(iv)(I) by striking
26 “\$20” and inserting “\$50”, and

1 (2) in subsection (k) by striking paragraph (4)
2 and inserting the following:

3 “(4) **THIRD-PARTY ENERGY ASSISTANCE PAY-**
4 **MENTS.**—For purposes of subsection (d)(1), a pay-
5 ment made under a State law (other than a law re-
6 ferred to in paragraph (2)(G)) to provide energy as-
7 sistance to a household shall be considered money
8 payable directly to the household.”.

9 (b) **ENERGY ASSISTANCE THRESHOLD AMOUNT.**—
10 Section 2605(f)(2)(A) of the Low-Income Home Energy
11 Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8624(f)(2)(a)) is
12 amended by striking “\$20” and inserting “\$50”.

13 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.**

14 (a) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Except as provided in sub-
15 section (b), this Act shall take effect on the date of the
16 enactment of this Act.

17 (b) **APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.**—The amend-
18 ments made by this Act shall not apply with respect to
19 certification periods that begin before the date of the en-
20 actment of this Act.

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