

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2025

To provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to provide coordinated case management services for TANF recipients.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 26, 2017

Mr. YOUNG introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to provide coordinated case management services for TANF recipients.

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 “Coordinating Assist-  
5 ance for TANF Recipients Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. COORDINATED CASE MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRA-**  
7 **TION PROJECTS.**

8 Section 403 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
9 603) is amended by adding at the end the following:

1       “(c) COORDINATED CASE MANAGEMENT DEM-  
2 ONSTRATION PROJECTS.—

3           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make  
4 grants to States to conduct demonstration projects  
5 designed to implement and evaluate strategies to  
6 provide coordinated case management to help indi-  
7 viduals receiving assistance under a State program  
8 funded under this part or any other State program  
9 funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined  
10 in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)) increase their employ-  
11 ment and self-sufficiency.

12           “(2) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-  
13 retary shall require each State that applies for a  
14 grant under this paragraph to do the following:

15           “(A) Describe how, using the funds pro-  
16 vided under this paragraph, the State or its  
17 designee will ensure an individual responsibility  
18 plan is developed in accordance with section  
19 408(b) for each recipient referred to in para-  
20 graph (1) of this subsection.

21           “(B) Describe how the State or its des-  
22 ignee will ensure the development of this plan  
23 is coordinated with other programs and agen-  
24 cies providing benefits and services to the indi-

1           vidual to help the recipient increase the employ-  
2           ment and self-sufficiency of the recipient.

3           “(C) Describe how the State or its des-  
4           ignee will ensure the delivery of the benefits  
5           and services to the recipient (which may include  
6           the use of home visiting models).

7           “(D) Describe how the State or its des-  
8           ignee will meet with the recipient at least  
9           monthly to review the employment status of the  
10          recipient and status of the participation of the  
11          recipient in other activities, the benefits and  
12          services the recipient is receiving, and the  
13          progress of the recipient toward meeting the  
14          goals specified in the individual responsibility  
15          plan of the recipient.

16          “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—A State to which a grant  
17          is made under this subsection may use the grant for  
18          the following purposes:

19                 “(A) To support coordinated case man-  
20                 agers in completing the activities specified in  
21                 paragraph (2).

22                 “(B) To provide short-term transitional  
23                 benefits and services to individuals who, due to  
24                 increased employment or earnings, may face

1           disincentives to increasing work or earnings due  
2           to the phase-out or loss of certain benefits.

3           “(C) To ensure that recipients of services  
4           under the demonstration project have a choice  
5           between two or more coordinated case manage-  
6           ment service providers (which may include man-  
7           aged care organizations), provided that such  
8           providers demonstrate experience and expertise  
9           in case management, including the development  
10          of individual assessment plans and coordinated  
11          service management across various programs.

12          “(D) To improve coordination between pro-  
13          grams serving recipients who are part of the  
14          demonstration project.

15          “(E) To improve coordination between in-  
16          formation technology and other systems to de-  
17          liver better benefits or services to the recipient,  
18          except that not more than 10 percent of the  
19          grant amount may be used for this purpose.

20          “(4) EVALUATION.—The Secretary, in consulta-  
21          tion with each State conducting a demonstration  
22          project under this subsection, shall conduct a high-  
23          quality evaluation of the demonstration project in  
24          accordance with the following:

1           “(A) EVALUATOR QUALIFICATIONS.—The  
2 Secretary may not enter into a contract with an  
3 evaluator unless the evaluator has demonstrated  
4 experience in conducting rigorous evaluations of  
5 program effectiveness including, where available  
6 and appropriate, well-implemented randomized  
7 controlled trials.

8           “(B) METHODOLOGIES TO BE USED.—The  
9 evaluation of a demonstration project shall use  
10 experimental designs using random assignment  
11 or other reliable, evidence-based research meth-  
12 odologies that allow for the strongest possible  
13 causal inferences when random assignment is  
14 not feasible.

15           “(C) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.—The Secretary  
16 shall publish the results of the evaluation on the  
17 website of the Department of Health and  
18 Human Services in a location easily accessible  
19 by the public.

20           “(D) LIMITATION ON COST OF EVALUA-  
21 TIONS.—For evaluations under this paragraph,  
22 the Secretary may not obligate more than 20  
23 percent of the funds reserved under paragraph  
24 (6) for each fiscal year.

1           “(5) RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS.—The  
2           Secretary shall submit recommendations to the Con-  
3           gress on ways to improve case management and bet-  
4           ter coordinate benefits and services across programs.

5           “(6) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made avail-  
6           able to carry out subsection (b) for fiscal year 2019  
7           and each succeeding fiscal year, the Secretary shall  
8           reserve \$300,000,000 to carry out this subsection.

9           “(7) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds pro-  
10          vided to a State under this subsection for a fiscal  
11          year shall be expended by the State in the fiscal year  
12          or in the succeeding fiscal year.”.

13 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

14          The amendment made by this Act shall take effect  
15          on October 1, 2018.

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