

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3459

To reform the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance  
for needy families.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2001

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. LEE, Mr. FILNER, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HIN-  
CHEY, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, and Mr.  
SERRANO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Com-  
mittee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To reform the program of block grants to States for  
temporary assistance for needy families.

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 “TANF Recipients’  
5 Lifeline Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF 5-YEAR LIMIT ON BENEFITS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(a) of the Social Secu-  
8 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)) is amended by striking para-  
9 graph (7).

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 409(a) of  
2 such Act (42 U.S.C. 609(a)) is amended by striking para-  
3 graph (9).

4 **SEC. 3. EXCEPTION FOR TANF TO 5-YEAR BAN ON BENEFITS**  
5 **FOR QUALIFIED ALIENS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 403(c)(2) of the Personal  
7 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act  
8 of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1613(c)(2)) is amended by adding at  
9 the end the following:

10 “(L) Benefits under the Temporary Assist-  
11 ance for Needy Families program described in  
12 section 402(b)(3)(A).”.

13 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 402(b)(2)  
14 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Rec-  
15 onciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(b)(2)) is  
16 amended—

17 (1) in subparagraph (A)(ii) by striking “sub-  
18 paragraph (C))” and inserting “subparagraphs (A)  
19 and (C))”; and

20 (2) by striking subparagraph (B).

21 **SEC. 4. REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE TRANSLATION SERV-**  
22 **ICES FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS.**

23 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Section 408(a) of the Social Se-  
24 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)) is amended by adding at  
25 the end the following:

1           “(12) USE OF BILINGUAL PERSONNEL AND  
2           PRINTED MATERIAL.—A State to which a grant is  
3           made under section 403 shall use appropriate bilin-  
4           gual personnel and printed material in the adminis-  
5           tration of the State program funded under this part  
6           in those portions of the political subdivisions in the  
7           State in which a substantial number of recipients of  
8           assistance under the State program speak a lan-  
9           guage other than English.”.

10          (b) PENALTY.—Section 409(a) of such Act (42  
11 U.S.C. 609(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
12          lowing:

13               “(15) FAILURE TO USE BILINGUAL PERSONNEL  
14               AND PRINTED MATERIAL.—If the Secretary deter-  
15               mines that a State to which a grant is made under  
16               section 403 for a fiscal year has violated section  
17               408(a)(12) during the fiscal year, the Secretary  
18               shall reduce the grant payable to the State under  
19               section 403(a)(1) for the immediately succeeding fis-  
20               cal year by an amount equal to 2 percent of the  
21               State family assistance grant.”.

22 **SEC. 5. INFLATION ADJUSTMENT OF BLOCK GRANT.**

23          (a) EXTENSION OF BLOCK GRANT.—Section  
24 403(a)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
25 603(a)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “1996” and all that

1 follows through “2002” and inserting “2002 through  
2 2005”.

3 (b) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Section 403(a)(1) of  
4 such Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(1)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (B)—

6 (A) by striking “means the greatest of—”  
7 and inserting “means, with respect to a fiscal  
8 year specified in subparagraph (A)—

9 “(i) the greatest of—”;

10 (B) by redesignating each of clauses (i),  
11 (ii)(I), (ii)(II), and (iii) as subclauses (I),  
12 (II)(aa), (II)(bb), and (III), respectively;

13 (C) by indenting each of the provisions  
14 specified in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph  
15 2 additional ems to the right;

16 (D) by striking the period and inserting “;  
17 multiplied by”; and

18 (E) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(ii) if the fiscal year specified in sub-  
20 paragraph (A) is—

21 “(I) fiscal year 2002 or 2003,  
22 1.00; or

23 “(II) fiscal year 2004 or 2005,  
24 1.00 plus the inflation percentage (as  
25 defined in subparagraph (F) of this

1 paragraph) in effect for the fiscal year  
2 specified in subparagraph (A).”; and

3 (2) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(F) INFLATION PERCENTAGE.—For pur-  
5 poses of subparagraph (B) of this paragraph,  
6 the inflation percentage applicable to a fiscal  
7 year is the percentage (if any) by which—

8 “(i) the average of the Consumer  
9 Price Index (as defined in section 1(f)(5)  
10 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) for  
11 the 12-month period ending on September  
12 30 of the immediately preceding fiscal  
13 year; exceeds

14 “(ii) the average of the Consumer  
15 Price Index (as so defined) for the 12-  
16 month period ending on September 30,  
17 2002.”.

18 **SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

19 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect  
20 on October 1, 2002.

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