

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2072

To authorize States to use funds provided for the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program to provide vouchers to cover tuition costs at private schools, and transportation costs to and from public schools, of foster children of all ages.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN (for herself, Mr. COOPER, Mr. PITTS, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BARTLETT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HERGER, Mr. PENCE, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. PAUL, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. KING of Iowa) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To authorize States to use funds provided for the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program to provide vouchers to cover tuition costs at private schools, and transportation costs to and from public schools, of foster children of all ages.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “School Choice for Fos-
3 ter Kids Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY OF STATES TO USE FUNDS PROVIDED**
5 **FOR THE CHAFEE FOSTER CARE INDEPEND-**
6 **ENCE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE VOUCHERS TO**
7 **COVER TUITION COSTS AT PRIVATE SCHOOLS**
8 **AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS TO AND FROM**
9 **PUBLIC SCHOOLS, OF FOSTER CHILDREN OF**
10 **ALL AGES.**

11 Section 477 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
12 677) is amended—

13 (1) in subsection (a)(6), by inserting “and to
14 make available vouchers for tuition costs at private
15 schools and transportation costs to and from public
16 schools, to youths in foster care regardless of their
17 age” before the period;

18 (2) in subsection (h)(2), by striking all that fol-
19 lows “vouchers” and inserting “as provided in sub-
20 section (i).”; and

21 (3) in subsection (i), by redesignating para-
22 graphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (6) and (7), re-
23 spectively, and inserting after paragraph (4) the fol-
24 lowing:

25 “(5) Vouchers under the program may be avail-
26 able to youths in foster care, regardless of age, for

1 the cost of tuition at a private school offering ele-
2 mentary or secondary education, or the cost of
3 transportation to and from a public school offering
4 such education.”.

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