

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3887

To amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve health insurance coverage of dependents.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 21, 2009

Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. CAMP, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. WITTMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means and Education and Labor, 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

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## A BILL

To amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve health insurance coverage of dependents.

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 Ac-  
5 cess for Young Workers and College Students Act of  
6 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OF DE-**  
2 **PENDENTS.**

3 (a) EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT  
4 OF 1974.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Part 7 of subtitle B of title  
6 I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act  
7 of 1974 is amended by inserting after section 714  
8 the following new section:

9 **“SEC. 715. EXTENDING COVERAGE OF DEPENDENTS.**

10 “In the case of a group health plan, or health insur-  
11 ance coverage offered in connection with a group health  
12 plan, that treats as a beneficiary under the plan an indi-  
13 vidual who is a dependent child of a participant or bene-  
14 ficiary under the plan, the plan or coverage shall continue  
15 to treat the individual as a dependent child without regard  
16 to the individual’s age through at least the end of the plan  
17 year in which the individual turns an age specified in the  
18 plan, but not less than 25 years of age.”.

19 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
20 tents of such Act is amended by inserting after the  
21 item relating to section 714 the following new item:

“Sec. 715. Extending coverage of dependents.”.

22 (b) PHSA.—Title XXVII of the Public Health Serv-  
23 ice Act is amended by inserting after section 2707 the fol-  
24 lowing new section:

1 **“SEC. 2708. EXTENDING COVERAGE OF DEPENDENTS.**

2 “In the case of a group health plan, or health insur-  
3 ance coverage offered in connection with a group health  
4 plan, that treats as a beneficiary under the plan an indi-  
5 vidual who is a dependent child of a participant or bene-  
6 ficiary under the plan, the plan or coverage shall continue  
7 to treat the individual as a dependent child without regard  
8 to the individual’s age through at least the end of the plan  
9 year in which the individual turns an age specified in the  
10 plan, but not less than 25 years of age.”.

11 (c) IRC.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter B of chapter  
13 100 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amend-  
14 ed by adding at the end the following new section:

15 **“SEC. 9814. EXTENDING COVERAGE OF DEPENDENTS.**

16 “In the case of a group health plan that treats as  
17 a beneficiary under the plan an individual who is a de-  
18 pendent child of a participant or beneficiary under the  
19 plan, the plan shall continue to treat the individual as a  
20 dependent child without regard to the individual’s age  
21 through at least the end of the plan year in which the  
22 individual turns an age specified in the plan, but not less  
23 than 25 years of age.”.

1           (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
2           tions in such subchapter is amended by adding at  
3           the end the following new item:

“Sec. 9814. Extending coverage of dependents.”.

4           (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
5           this section shall apply to group health plans for plan  
6           years beginning more than 3 months after the date of the  
7           enactment of this Act and shall apply to individuals who  
8           are dependent children under a group health plan, or  
9           health insurance coverage offered in connection with such  
10          a plan, on or after such date.

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