

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4514

To amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend State court funding for child welfare, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

Mr. BRADY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend State court funding for child welfare, and for other purposes.

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 “Continuation of Useful  
5 Resources to States Act” or “COURTS Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF STATE COURT FUNDING FOR CHILD**  
7 **WELFARE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 436(a) of the Social Secu-  
9 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 629f) is amended by striking “2017  
10 through 2021” and inserting “2022 through 2028”.

1 (b) PROGRAM CHANGES.—Section 438 of such Act  
2 (42 U.S.C. 629h) is amended—

3 (1) in subsection (a)—

4 (A) in paragraph (2)—

5 (i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting  
6 “in a timely and complete manner” before  
7 “, as set forth”; and

8 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
9 the semicolon and inserting “, including by  
10 training judges, attorneys, and other legal  
11 personnel.”; and

12 (B) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4);

13 (2) in subsection (b)—

14 (A) by striking paragraph (2);

15 (B) by striking all that precedes “be eligi-  
16 ble to receive” and inserting the following:

17 “(b) APPLICATIONS.—In order to”; and

18 (C) in the matter preceding paragraph

19 (2)—

20 (i) by moving the matter 2 ems to the  
21 left;

22 (ii) in subparagraph (A)—

23 (I) by striking “(A) in the case of  
24 a grant for the purpose described in

1 subsection (a)(3),” and inserting  
2 “(1)”; and

3 (II) by inserting “use not less  
4 than 30 percent of grant funds to”  
5 before “collaborate”;

6 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
7 “(B) in the case of a grant for the purpose  
8 described in subsection (a)(4),” and insert-  
9 ing “(2)”; and

10 (iv) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
11 “(C) in the case of a grant for the purpose  
12 described in subsection (a),” and inserting  
13 “(3)”;

14 (3) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the  
15 following:

16 “(c) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts reserved  
18 under sections 436(b)(2) and 437(b)(2) for a fiscal  
19 year, each highest State court that has an applica-  
20 tion approved under this section for the fiscal year  
21 shall be entitled to payment of an amount equal to  
22 the sum of—

23 “(A) \$255,000; and

24 “(B) the amount described in paragraph  
25 (2) with respect to the court and the fiscal year.

1           “(2) AMOUNT DESCRIBED.—The amount de-  
2           scribed in this paragraph with respect to a court and  
3           a fiscal year is the amount that bears the same ratio  
4           to the total of the amounts reserved under sections  
5           436(b)(2) and 437(b)(2) for grants under this sec-  
6           tion for the fiscal year (after applying paragraphs  
7           (1)(A) and (3) of this subsection) as the number of  
8           individuals in the State in which the court is located  
9           who have not attained 21 years of age bears to the  
10          total number of such individuals in all States with  
11          a highest State court that has an approved applica-  
12          tion under this section for the fiscal year.

13           “(3) INDIAN TRIBES.—From the amounts re-  
14          served under section 436(b)(2) for a fiscal year, the  
15          Secretary shall, before applying paragraph (1) of  
16          this subsection, allocate \$1,000,000 for grants to be  
17          awarded on a competitive basis among the highest  
18          courts of Indian tribes or tribal consortia that—

19                   “(A) are operating a program under part  
20                   E, in accordance with section 479B;

21                   “(B) are seeking to operate a program  
22                   under part E and have received an implementa-  
23                   tion grant under section 476; or

1           “(C) have a court responsible for pro-  
2           ceedings related to foster care or adoption.”;  
3           and

4           (4) in subsection (d), by striking “2017 through  
5           2021” and inserting “2018 through 2022”.

6           (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
7 this section shall take effect on October 1, 2019.

8           **SEC. 3. ADJUSTMENT TO THE TANF CONTINGENCY FUND**  
9                                   **FOR STATE WELFARE PROGRAMS.**

10          Section 403(b)(2) of the Social Security Act (42  
11 U.S.C. 603(b)(2)) is amended by striking “2018” and all  
12 that follows and inserting “2020 \$468,000,000, and for  
13 fiscal year 2021 such sums as are necessary for payment  
14 to the Fund in a total amount not to exceed  
15 \$608,000,000”.

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