

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 447

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to implement a minimum work requirement for able-bodied adults enrolled in State Medicaid programs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 6 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 5), 2025

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. SCHMITT) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to implement a minimum work requirement for able-bodied adults enrolled in State Medicaid programs.

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 “Jobs and Opportunities
5 for Medicaid Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. WORK REQUIREMENTS FOR ABLE-BODIED ADULTS.**

7 Section 1902 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
8 1396a) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) by striking “and” at the end of para-
 2 graph (86);

3 (B) by striking the period at the end of
 4 paragraph (87) and inserting “; and”; and

5 (C) by inserting after paragraph (87) the
 6 following new paragraph:

7 “(88) beginning January 1, 2026, not provide
 8 medical assistance with respect to a month to an
 9 able-bodied adult (as defined in subsection (uu)(2))
 10 that has not met the work requirement described in
 11 subsection (uu)(1) for such month.”; and

12 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
 13 section:

14 “(uu) WORK REQUIREMENT FOR ABLE-BODIED
 15 ADULTS.—

16 “(1) WORK REQUIREMENT DESCRIBED.—For
 17 purposes of subsection (a)(88), the work require-
 18 ment described in this subsection with respect to an
 19 able-bodied adult and a month is that such adult
 20 satisfies at least one of the following with respect to
 21 such month:

22 “(A) The adult works 20 hours or more
 23 per week, based on a monthly average.

24 “(B) The adult volunteers for 20 hours or
 25 more per week, based on a monthly average.

1 “(2) ABLE-BODIED ADULT DEFINED.—In this
 2 subsection the term ‘able-bodied adult’ means any
 3 individual who is not—

4 “(A) under 18 years of age or over 65
 5 years of age;

6 “(B) medically certified as physically or
 7 mentally unfit for employment;

8 “(C) pregnant;

9 “(D) the primary parent or caretaker of a
 10 dependent child under 6 years of age;

11 “(E) the primary parent or caretaker of a
 12 dependent child with a serious medical condi-
 13 tion or disability, as determined by the State
 14 agency established or designated to administer
 15 or supervise the administration of the State
 16 plan;

17 “(F) receiving unemployment compensa-
 18 tion under State or Federal law and, as applica-
 19 ble, complying with work requirements under
 20 such State or Federal law; or

21 “(G) participating in a drug or alcohol
 22 treatment and rehabilitation program (as de-
 23 fined in section 3(h) of the Food and Nutrition
 24 Act of 2008).”.

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