"Work, Opportunity, and Responsibility for Kids (WORK) Act of 2002" Modifications to the Chairman's Mark

Scheduled for Markup
By the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
on June 26, 2002

Section 102 - Contingency fund

The mark is modified so that to qualify for the contingency fund a state must have an unexpended balance of lower than 30% of the TANF funding it has received. Qualifying states would receive funds on the basis of an estimate of 100% of the costs of the rise in the TANF caseload, reimbursed at the higher of 60% or the state's Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate. The reimbursement calculation does not include the first 4% of state's caseload increase and a state cannot receive an amount larger than 10% of its TANF allocation from the contingency fund in a single year.

Section 103 - Child care

The mark is clarified to provide that additional child care funds above the FY 2002 level shall not supplant state spending on child care. (Bingaman Amendment #6.)

Section 201 - Universal engagement

The mark is modified to require states to review Individual Responsibility Plans prior to imposing a sanction. (Kerry Amendment #1.)

Section 202 - Work participation rates

Employment Credit

The mark is modified to allow states to retroactively remove from the participation rate calculations those TANF families who leave the rolls for SSI.

Section 302 - Teen pregnancy prevention

The mark is clarified so that the national teen pregnancy prevention resource center is not a part of the abstinence education program funded in the rest of section 302.

Section 303 - Responsible Fatherhood

The mark is clarified to authorize that employment programs for non-custodial parents to assist them in meeting child support obligations may be "court-supervised" or "administered by the child support agency."

Section 502 - Mandatory review and adjustment

The mark is modified so that states are only required to review and adjust child support orders for TANF and former TANF recipients every three years, or at the request of either parent or the state child support agency (in the case of a TANF family).

Section 505 - Financing and administrative review; Improvement of interstate child support

The mark is modified to include a requirement that states update their child support guidelines based on the 2001 Uniform Family Support Act. (Rockefeller Amendment #5.)

Section 702 - State plans

The mark is modified to require public comment periods before submission of state TANF plans when they are amended to reflect policy changes. In addition, the mark is modified to require states to provide information on the complaints they have received about fair and equitable treatment. (From Bingaman Amendment #4.)

Section 705 - Transportation program

The mark is clarified to include Indian tribes as eligible grant recipients.

Section 706 - At-home infant care

The mark is clarified to include Indian tribes as eligible grant recipients.

Section 712 - Anti-Discrimination

The mark is modified to ban states from implementing stricter eligibility rules for 2-parent families. (Rockefeller Amendment #4.)