

Union Calendar No. 556

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7343

[Report No. 119-639]

To amend section 477 of the Social Security Act to expand education and workforce training opportunities for youth who have experienced foster care.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 2026

Mr. MILLER of Ohio (for himself and Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

MAY 11, 2026

Additional sponsors: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois

MAY 11, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 4, 2026]

A BILL

To amend section 477 of the Social Security Act to expand education and workforce training opportunities for youth who have experienced foster care.

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 “Foster Youth Workforce*
5 *Opportunity Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE**
7 **TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH WHO**
8 **HAVE EXPERIENCED FOSTER CARE.**

9 *Section 477 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 677)*
10 *is amended—*

11 (1) *in subsection (a)(5), by striking “aged out of*
12 *foster care” and inserting “experienced foster care at*
13 *age 14 or older”;*

14 (2) *in subsection (h)(2), by striking “age out of*
15 *foster care” and inserting “experience foster care at*
16 *age 14 or older”;*

17 (3) *in each of subsections (a)(6) and (i)(2), by*
18 *striking “16” and inserting “14”;*

19 (4) *in subsection (i)(3), by striking “in no event*
20 *may a youth participate in the program for more*
21 *than 5 years (whether or not consecutive)” and insert-*
22 *ing “may not allow a youth to participate in the pro-*
23 *gram for more than 5 years (or, in the case of a*
24 *youth who was involved in a remedial education ac-*

1 *tivity referred to in paragraph (4)(B), for more than*
2 *6 years), whether or not consecutive”;*

3 *(5) in subsection (i)(4)—*

4 *(A) by amending subparagraph (A) to read*
5 *as follows:*

6 *“(A) may be available for the cost of attend-*
7 *ance—*

8 *“(i) at an institution of higher edu-*
9 *cation, as defined in section 102 of the*
10 *Higher Education Act of 1965, including a*
11 *community college or postsecondary voca-*
12 *tional institution; or*

13 *“(ii) at a short-term training program*
14 *that is eligible for the Workforce Pell pro-*
15 *gram under section 401(k), as described in*
16 *section 481(b)(3) of the Higher Education*
17 *Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1088(b)(3)), as*
18 *added by section 83002(b) of Public Law*
19 *119–21;”;*

20 *(B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as*
21 *subparagraph (C); and*

22 *(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A), as*
23 *so amended, the following:*

24 *“(B) may be available for costs—*

1 “(i) associated with participation in
2 an apprenticeship program;

3 “(ii) to obtain a general equivalency
4 degree; or

5 “(iii) to receive remedial education;
6 and”; and

7 (6) in subsection (i), by adding at the end the
8 following:

9 “(7) In this section, the term ‘remedial edu-
10 cation’ means education or skill training needed to
11 support obtaining a high school diploma or quali-
12 fying for postsecondary education, training, or an ap-
13 prenticeship that is—

14 “(A) not already available through the
15 school district of the student or another free local,
16 State, or Federal program; and

17 “(B) is provided by an instructor with cre-
18 dentials relevant to the subject area of instruc-
19 tion, as determined by the State.”.

20 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

21 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on
22 the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of
23 this Act.

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