

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2077

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure health insurance coverage continuity for former foster youth.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 12, 2025

Mr. WELCH (for himself, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. ROSEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure health insurance coverage continuity for former foster youth.

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 “Expanded Coverage  
5 for Former Foster Youth Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. COVERAGE CONTINUITY FOR FORMER FOSTER**  
7 **CARE CHILDREN UP TO AGE 26.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(IX) of  
9 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
10 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i)(IX)) is amended to read as follows:

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“(IX) who—

“(aa) are under 26 years of age;

“(bb) are not described in and are not enrolled under any of subclauses (I) through (VII) of this clause or are described in any of such subclauses but have income that exceeds the level of income applicable under the State plan for eligibility to enroll for medical assistance under such subclause; and

“(cc) were in foster care under the responsibility of a State on the date of attaining 18 years of age (or such higher age as such State has elected under section 475(8)(B)(iii)), or were in such care at any age but subsequently left such care to enter into a legal guardianship with a kinship caregiver (without regard to whether kinship guardianship payments are being made on be-

1 half of the child under this part),  
2 or were emancipated from such  
3 care prior to attaining age 18;”.

4 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
5 subsection (a) shall take effect on January 1, 2026, and  
6 shall apply with respect to individuals who attain 18 years  
7 of age on or after that date.

8 **SEC. 3. OUTREACH EFFORTS FOR ENROLLMENT OF**  
9 **FORMER FOSTER CHILDREN.**

10 Section 1902(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
11 1396a(a)) is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (86), by striking “; and” and  
13 inserting a semicolon;

14 (2) in paragraph (87)(D), by striking the period  
15 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

16 (3) by inserting after paragraph (87)(D) the  
17 following new paragraph:

18 “(88) not later than January 1, 2026, establish  
19 an outreach and enrollment program, in coordination  
20 with the State agency responsible for administering  
21 the State plan under part E of title IV and any  
22 other appropriate or interested agencies, designed to  
23 increase the enrollment of individuals who are eligi-  
24 ble for medical assistance under the State plan

- 1 under paragraph (10)(A)(i)(IX) in accordance with
- 2 best practices established by the Secretary.”.

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