

S 1876

Strengthening And Finding Families for Children Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Social Welfare

Introduced: Dec 19, 2013

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Dec 19, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1876>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Baucus, Max [D-MT]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Dec 19, 2013
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Dec 19, 2013
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		Dec 19, 2013
Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]	D · WV		Dec 19, 2013
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Dec 19, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 20, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Social Welfare

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 4980	Related bill	Sep 29, 2014: Became Public Law No: 113-183.
113 S 1870	Related bill	Feb 6, 2014: By Senator Baucus from Committee on Finance filed written report. Report No. 113-137. Minority views filed.
113 S 1786	Related bill	Dec 10, 2013: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
113 HR 3205	Related bill	Oct 28, 2013: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
113 HR 2979	Related bill	Aug 2, 2013: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Strengthening And Finding Families for Children Act - Amends part E (Foster Care and Adoption Assistance) of title IV of the Social Security Act (SSA) to revise the adoption incentives grant program (renaming it the adoption and legal guardianship incentive program), creating a new formula for determining adoption incentive payments, and extending the program through FY2016. Revises the program's award structure, including limitations on the use of incentive payments.

Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to increase the adoption incentive payment for timely adoption award states.

Requires states to use amounts paid to them under the program to supplement, and not supplant, any federal or non-federal funds used to provide any service under SSA title IV parts B (Child and Family Services) or E.

Requires a state to calculate the savings (if any) resulting from the application of specified eligibility requirements for adoption assistance to all applicable children for a fiscal year, using a methodology specified by the Secretary or an alternative methodology proposed by the state and approved by the Secretary.

Requires a state to spend at least 40% of any such savings on: (1) post-adoption or post-guardianship services (as applicable) for children placed in adoptive, kinship guardianship, or guardianship placements and their families; and (2) services to support and sustain positive permanent outcomes for children who otherwise might enter into foster care under the responsibility of the state.

Declares that, in the event of the death or incapacity of the relative guardian, the eligibility of a child for a kinship guardianship assistance payment shall not be affected by reason of the replacement of the relative guardian with a successor legal guardian named in the kinship guardianship assistance agreement.

Directs the Secretary, as part of the data collection system, to promulgate final regulations providing for the collection and analysis of information regarding children who enter into foster care under state supervision as a result of the disruption of a placement for adoption or foster care guardianship or the dissolution of an adoption or foster care guardianship.

Requires a state plan for foster care and adoption assistance to require the state, within 30 days after removal of a child from parental custody, to exercise due diligence to identify and provide notice to all parents of a sibling of such a child, where such parent has legal custody of such sibling (as well as all adult grandparents as under current law).

Amends SSA title IV part B to extend the Family Connection Grant Program through FY20016, and make universities eligible for matching grants under such programs.

Amends SSA title III (Unemployment Compensation) with respect to the requirement that a state have an unemployment compensation law containing certain provisions in order to receive a specified federal grant. Requires a state owed an unemployment compensation debt meeting specified criteria that remains uncollected within two years after it was first incurred to take specified action under the Internal Revenue Code to recover it, including through a tax refund offset.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 19, 2013:** Introduced in Senate
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