

an adult with the ability to obtain employment or to advance or adapt to the changing demands of the workplace and that are supervised on an ongoing basis.

“(x) Education that is related to a specific occupation, job, or job offer and that is supervised on an ongoing basis.

“(xi) In the case of an adult who has not completed secondary school or received such a certificate of general equivalence, regular attendance—

“(I) in accordance with the requirements of the secondary school or course of study, at a secondary school or in a course of study leading to such certificate; and

“(II) supervised on an ongoing basis.

“(xii) Providing child care to enable another recipient of public benefits to participate in a community service program that—

“(I) does not provide compensation for such community service;

“(II) is a structured program designed to improve the employability of adults who participate in such program; and

“(III) is supervised on an ongoing basis.

“(B) PROTECTIONS.—Work activities under this subsection shall be subject to all applicable health and safety standards. Except as described in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (A), the term ‘work activity’ shall be considered work preparation and not defined as employment for purposes of other law.

“(4) PILOT PROJECTS.—Pilot projects carried out under paragraph (1) shall include interventions to which adults are assigned that are designed to reduce unnecessary dependence, promote self sufficiency, increase work levels, increase earned income, and reduce supplemental nutrition assistance benefit expenditures among households eligible for, applying for, or participating in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

“(A) Adults assigned to interventions by the State shall—

“(i) be subject to mandatory participation in work activities specified in paragraph (4), except those with 1 or more dependent children under 1 year of age;

“(ii) participate in work activities specified in paragraph (4) for a minimum of 20 hours per week per household;

“(iii) be a maximum age of not less than 50 and not more than 60, as defined by the State;

“(iv) be subject to penalties during a period of nonparticipation without good cause ranging from, at State option, a minimum of the removal of the adults from the household benefit amount, up to a maximum of the discontinuance of the entire household benefit amount; and

“(v) not be penalized for nonparticipation if child care is not available for 1 or more children under 6 years of age.

“(B) The State shall allow certain individuals to be exempt from work requirements—

“(i) those participating in work programs under a State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) for an equal or greater number of hours;

“(ii) 1 adult family member per household who is needed in the home to care for a disabled family member;

“(iii) a parent who is a recipient of or becomes eligible for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI); and

“(iv) those with a good cause reason for nonparticipation, such as victims of domestic violence, as defined by the State.

“(5) EVALUATION AND REPORTING.—

“(A) EVALUATION.—

“(i) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide for each State that enters into an agreement under paragraph (2) an independent,

longitudinal evaluation of its pilot project under this subsection to determine total program savings over the entire course of the pilot project with results reported in consecutive 12-month increments.

“(II) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the evaluation is to measure the impact of interventions provided by the State under the pilot project on the ability of adults in households eligible for, applying for, or participating in the supplemental nutrition assistance program to find and retain employment that leads to increased household income and reduced dependency.

“(III) REQUIREMENT.—The independent evaluation under subclause (I) shall use valid statistical methods which can determine the difference between supplemental nutrition assistance benefit expenditures, if any, as a result of the interventions as compared to a control group that—

“(aa) is not subject to the interventions provided by the State under the pilot project under this subsection; and

“(bb) maintains services provided under 16(h) in the year prior to the start of the pilot project under this subsection.

“(IV) OPTION.—States shall have the option to evaluate pilot projects by matched counties or matched geographical areas using a constructed control group design to isolate the effects of the intervention of the pilot project.

“(V) DEFINITION.—Constructed control group means there is no random assignment, and instead program participants (those subject to interventions) and non-participants (control) are equated using matching or statistical procedures on characteristics that may be associated with program outcomes.

“(B) REPORTING.—Not later than 90 days after the end of fiscal year 2014 and of each fiscal year thereafter, until the completion of the last evaluation under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, a report that includes a description of—

“(i) the status of each pilot project carried out under paragraph (1);

“(ii) the results of the evaluation completed during the previous fiscal year; and

“(iii) to the maximum extent practicable—

“(I) baseline information relevant to the stated goals and desired outcomes of the pilot project;

“(II) the impact of the interventions on appropriate employment, income, and public benefit receipt outcomes among households participating in the pilot project;

“(III) equivalent information about similar or identical measures among control or comparison groups;

“(IV) the planned dissemination of the report findings to State agencies; and

“(V) the steps and funding necessary to incorporate into State employment and training programs the components of pilot projects that demonstrate increased employment and earnings.

“(C) PUBLIC DISSEMINATION.—In addition to the reporting requirements under subparagraph (B), evaluation results shall be shared broadly to inform policy makers, service providers, other partners, and the public in order to promote wide use of successful strategies, including by posting evaluation results on the Internet website of the Department of Agriculture.

“(6) FUNDING.—

“(A) AVAILABLE FUNDS.—From amounts made available under section 18(a)(1), the Secretary shall make available—

“(i) up to \$1,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2017 for evaluations described in paragraph (5) to carry out this

subsection, with such amounts to remain available until expended; and

“(ii) amounts equal to one-half of the accumulated supplemental nutrition assistance benefit dollars saved over each consecutive 12-month period according to the evaluation under paragraph (5) for bonus grants to States under paragraph (7)(B).

“(B) LIMITATION.—A State operating a pilot project under this subsection shall not receive more funding under section 16(h) than the State received the year prior to commencing a project under this subsection and shall not claim funds under 16(a) for expenses that are unique to the pilot project under this subsection.

“(C) OTHER FUNDS.—Any additional funds required by a State to carry out a pilot project under this subsection may be provided by the State from funds made available to the State for such purpose and in accordance with State and other Federal laws, including the following:

“(i) Section 403 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603).

“(ii) The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 9201 et seq.).

“(iii) The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.) and section 418 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 618).

“(iv) The social services block grant under subtitle A of title XX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397 et seq.).

“(7) USE OF FUNDS.—

“(A) SPECIFIC USES.—Funds provided under this subsection for evaluation of pilot projects shall be used only for—

“(i) pilot projects that comply with this subsection;

“(ii) the costs incurred in gathering and providing information and data used to conduct the independent evaluation under paragraph (5); and

“(iii) the costs of the evaluation under paragraph (5).

“(B) LIMITATION.—Funds provided for bonus grants to States for pilot projects under this subsection shall be used only for—

“(i) pilot projects that comply with this subsection;

“(ii) amounts equal to one-half of the accumulated supplemental nutrition assistance benefit dollars saved over each consecutive 12-month period according to the evaluation under paragraph (5); and

“(iii) any State purpose, not to be restricted to the supplemental nutrition assistance program or its beneficiary population.”.

#### SEC. 4034. IMPROVED WAGE VERIFICATION USING THE NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF NEW HIRES.

Effective October 1, 2013, section 11(e) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2020(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3) by inserting “and after compliance with the requirement specified in paragraph (24)” after “section 16(e) of this Act”;

(2) in paragraph (22) by striking “and” at the end,

(3) in paragraph (23) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”, and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(24) that the State agency shall request wage data directly from the National Directory of New Hires established under section 453(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653(i)) relevant to determining eligibility to receive supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits and determining the correct amount of such benefits.”.

**The Acting CHAIR.** Pursuant to House Resolution 271, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOUTHERLAND) and a

Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. SOUTHERLAND. Mr. Chairman, the numbers don't lie. America's welfare system is broken.

Food stamp benefits have tripled in the past decade. There are more Americans living in poverty today than when the war on poverty was launched a half century ago. Instead of incentivizing work, we are reinforcing the same government dependency and cyclical poverty that we all wish to eliminate. It is clear that an important variable has been missing from America's anti-poverty equation, and that is the element of work.

History has proven that work is the surest way to empower able-bodied Americans to advance from welfare to self-sufficiency. When a Republican-controlled Congress and a Democrat President joined together to pass welfare reform requiring work, the results were dramatic. Nationwide, welfare rolls dropped by 67 percent. In my home State of Florida, the number was higher—approximately 85 percent. Work participation by never-married single moms and household earnings skyrocketed. Child poverty rates plummeted. This true bipartisan success story is what my amendment is based upon.

My amendment empowers the States to require work for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, benefits. We apply the same sensible work preparation, job training, and community service activities that are at the heart of welfare reform. Our plan is endorsed by several States' Human Services Secretaries who approached us because they understand how important work can be for individuals truly in need.

The simple fact, Mr. Chairman, is that "work" works. We must have a system in place that provides a helping hand to the most vulnerable among us. By requiring work for able-bodied SNAP recipients, we can ensure that the resources get to those in need more effectively and efficiently.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting my amendment and in renewing the God-given opportunity for earned success in America.

Mr. Chairman, with that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MOORE. I rise to claim the time in opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Wisconsin is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MOORE. Despite what we have heard from the author of this program, there is no work in this bill. This amendment would more appropriately be called "The State Bonuses for Terminating SNAP Benefits for People Who Want to Work but Can't Find a Job Because They're in a Recession," and it ends benefits for children, disabled people, yes, and even for disabled veterans.

I think the most egregious thing about this amendment is that there is no funding for worker training programs in this bill at all even though we are ordering people to do it, and there is a perverse incentive for States to end SNAP benefits for people because, suddenly, food stamps, or SNAP benefits, become fungible.

We just rejected an amendment in our last series of votes that would have allowed people to get toothpaste and toothbrushes with SNAP benefits; but what this amendment does is allow the States to pocket these sanctions and use them for whatever they want to—to balance the budget with it or to convert SNAP benefits into tax breaks for corporations or for wealthy people.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SOUTHERLAND. Mr. Chairman, I now yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia, Majority Leader CANTOR, who represents a State in which, as a result of the 1996 work requirement, welfare rolls were reduced by over 84 percent.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of this amendment.

In 1996, the Congress came together in a bipartisan way to change the incentive structure in our basic cash welfare program that helps needy families. The results were nothing but a success. Within 5 years, welfare caseloads fell by more than 60 percent, and the economic prospects of many former welfare families were substantially improved. America saw increased earnings by low-income families and significant reductions in child poverty. The incentives were right, and even in the depths of the worst economic turmoil of a few years ago, the reforms were succeeding at moving families from dependency into work.

Those changes made in welfare reform resulted from a foundation laid before 1996 in which States experimented with different approaches to determine which ones were the most effective at increasing workforce participation and boosting earnings. Prior to enactment of welfare reform, States had been given waivers of the old law to become laboratories of innovation.

The amendment by Mr. SOUTHERLAND before us today builds on that successful approach and will give States the opportunity to test whether the same successful strategies that were used in cash welfare programs in the 1990s will help food stamp recipients gain and retain employment and boost their earnings today. Mr. SOUTHERLAND's amendment provides for a pilot program, which will allow States, if they choose, to apply the TANF work requirements to their able-bodied working age adult food stamp caseload.

□ 1220

States have come forward asking us for the ability to enter into these demonstration projects. But unless we

adopt the gentleman's amendment, these States won't be able to launch these demonstration projects.

This amendment is well crafted and takes into consideration the availability of child care for mothers with young children and hardship situations like families facing domestic violence.

The Southerland amendment also tells States that if they're successful at increasing work participation and families' earnings among the food stamp caseload, they will share in the savings that would otherwise end up in the hands of the Federal Government.

If enacted, this amendment will help reduce Federal expenditures, provide assistance to the States, and most importantly it will help struggling families who find themselves relying on public assistance to get back on their feet.

Right now, many American families are struggling, and the SNAP program is in place to help these families who find themselves in dire economic circumstances. While this program is an important part of our safety net, our overriding goal should be to help our citizens with the education and skills they need to get back on their feet so that they can provide for themselves and their families.

I'd like to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOUTHERLAND) for his work on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support his amendment.

Ms. MOORE. I would like to inquire as to how much time I have remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Wisconsin has 3½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Florida has 1½ minutes remaining.

Ms. MOORE. Just because we keep saying that the 1996 welfare program was successful, doesn't make it so. Poverty has increased among women and children. A quarter of all children in this country are poor.

With that, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO).

Ms. DELAURO. I rise in strong opposition to this amendment, the effect of which would be to increase hunger and hardship across America. We have experienced the most devastating recession since the Great Depression.

Unemployment is at 7.5 percent. One in seven people today is availing himself of food stamps because there is a need to. People are struggling in our economy today. They want to work. They cannot find a job. Everyone is experiencing that in their own communities.

This amendment would allow an unlimited number of States to require an adult to receive or even apply for food stamps to be working or in job training, or else they lose their food stamp benefits. Why would a State want to do this? Because the amendment also allows States to keep part of the savings from cutting people off the program, use the money for whatever purpose the State officials want, instead of feeding people with those dollars.

States can cut taxes for companies or even maybe support special interest subsidies. And as my colleagues said, there is no funding in this bill for the creation of jobs; and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, they refuse to deal with the issue of job creation and there is no worker-training money in this bill. So there is no funding to do what they would like to do.

Let's take the crop insurance program, my friends. We just voted on an amendment that voted down reforming that program. We have 26 individuals in this Nation. We can't find out who they are. They get at least a million dollars in a subsidy. Do you think they're eating well? Three squares or better a day. You know what? They have no income threshold, no asset test, no cap. They don't even have to farm the land, and they don't have to follow conservation practices. Do you want to go and find out where we can save money here? Let's find out who these 26 people are or those people who are on the crop insurance program, and let's make sure that they are working otherwise we will cut their benefits.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this unbelievably misguided amendment.

**Mr. SOUTHERLAND.** Mr. Chairman, I yield 45 seconds to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. REICHERT), whose welfare rolls were reduced by over 55 percent due to the 1996 work requirement.

**Mr. REICHERT.** Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this amendment.

My colleague was absolutely right, the unemployment rate is 7.5 percent. People do want to go back to work. This is what this bill does: it helps people go back to work. Currently, the government has 83 programs to help people.

I'm the chairman of the Subcommittee on Human Resources. We just had a hearing last week with Sada Randolph. Sada Randolph testified before our committee that she was under a government program. All they did was provide benefits to her until she got under TANF. That's where she got the help to find a job. We need to help people find jobs, keep jobs, support their families and give them hope.

I support this bill wholeheartedly because it gives the American people who are out of work today hope.

**Ms. MOORE.** We reduced welfare rolls because we literally threw people off. We did not help them find sustainable jobs, which is why poverty has increased.

I yield 30 seconds to the ranking member of the committee, Mr. PETERSON.

**Mr. PETERSON.** I thank the gentlelady, and I strongly oppose this amendment.

This amendment breaks the deal that we had and is offensive in the way that it treats the unemployed in this country.

In short what this proposal does is it takes money from benefits and hands it

over to the States, and they can do with it what they want, as was said earlier in the debate, with no strings attached, no accountability.

This Republican Congress has been vocal in support of block grants, and I suppose that's why they're supporting this amendment. But I'd like to point out that it was block-granting that is the very reason that we got into the LIHEAP situation and the categorical eligibility situation that we're trying to attempt in this bill.

Vote "no" on this amendment.

**Mr. SOUTHERLAND.** Mr. Chairman, I now yield 45 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON), whose welfare rolls were reduced by over 85 percent in the 1996 work requirements.

**Mr. KINGSTON.** I thank the gentleman for yielding and stand in support of the amendment.

There's two very major points of this. Number one is that we cannot continue to deny able-bodied people the dignity of work. There seems to be a belief in the nanny state that there's something wrong with requiring able-bodied people to work. That's what this amendment does. It says to you that if you can work, you ought to be working so that other people who are unable to, they can get the needed assistance.

Number two, it gives States flexibility. I trust the people in Florida. I trust the people in Wisconsin. I trust the people in Georgia and Florida and all over the country to do what's best for their State. That's what we need in America today: less centralized, Washington bureaucratic planners and more State flexibility because what might work in your State might be different in mine, but this is a requirement for able-bodied people to get a job in order to receive public assistance benefits.

It's very common sense, and I yield back the balance of my time.

**Ms. MOORE.** Mr. Chairman, I yield the last 30 seconds to our good friend and colleague, Mr. WELCH.

**Mr. WELCH.** I thank the gentlelady. This amendment is not on the level. It uses a word that is important to all of us: work.

Of course people want to work, but there is no money for a work program. There is an obligation on the person who has no income, who has children, to somehow magically create their own work program. Any of the work programs have to have some support to get people to be able to move from poverty to work.

This is a political statement. It's not a work program.

How poor is poor? This is telling folks they're not poor enough. Grind them and their children down; 1-year-old children will lose food as a result of this.

**Ms. MOORE.** With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOUTHERLAND).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

**Mr. SOUTHERLAND.** Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida will be postponed.

□ 1230

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in part B of House Report 113-117 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 99 by Mr. GOODLATTE of Virginia.

Amendment No. 49 by Mr. RADEL of Florida.

Amendment No. 50 by Mr. WALBERG of Michigan.

Amendment No. 98 by Mr. PITTS of Pennsylvania.

Amendment No. 100 by Mr. FORTENBERRY of Nebraska.

Amendment No. 101 by Mr. HUELSKAMP of Kansas.

Amendment No. 102 by Mr. SOUTHERLAND of Florida.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 99 OFFERED BY MR. GOODLATTE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 291, noes 135, answered "present" 1, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 278]

AYES—291

Alexander	Bridenstine	Clay
Amash	Brooks (AL)	Clyburn
Amodei	Brooks (IN)	Coble
Bachmann	Broun (GA)	Coffman
Bachus	Brown (FL)	Cohen
Barber	Brownley (CA)	Cole
Barletta	Buchanan	Collins (GA)
Barr	Bucshon	Collins (NY)
Barton	Burgess	Conaway
Bass	Butterfield	Connolly
Beatty	Calvert	Conyers
Becerra	Campbell	Cook
Bentivolio	Cantor	Cotton
Bilirakis	Capito	Crawford
Bishop (GA)	Cárdenas	Crenshaw
Black	Carney	Cuellar
Blackburn	Carson (IN)	Culberson
Blumenauer	Cassidy	Daines
Boehner	Castor (FL)	Davis (CA)
Bonner	Castro (TX)	Davis, Danny
Boustany	Chabot	Davis, Rodney
Brady (PA)	Chaffetz	DeGette
Brady (TX)	Clarke	Denham