

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3782

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to support family caregivers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 2019

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan (for himself and Ms. STEFANIK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to support family caregivers.

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 “Supporting Family
5 Caregivers Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PRO-**
7 **GRAM.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 372(a) of the Older
9 Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030s(a)) is amend-
10 ed—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively, and (2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following:

“(1) CAREGIVER ASSESSMENT.—The term ‘caregiver assessment’ means a systematic process of gathering information about the situation of a caregiver who voluntarily participates in such process to identify the caregiver’s specific needs, barriers, and existing supports as identified by the caregiver that—

“(A) provides the opportunity for the recognized caregiver to participate in such process;

“(B) requires direct contact with the caregiver and is used to appropriately target and tailor support services to the caregiver’s unique needs; and

“(C) includes reassessment of such specific needs, barriers, and existing supports conducted at appropriate intervals, including to accommodate a significant change in the caregiving situation.”.

(b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—Section 373 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030s–1) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding
2 paragraph (1), by inserting “which may be informed
3 through the use of caregiver assessments,” after
4 “provided”,

5 (2) in the first sentence of subsection (e)(3) by
6 inserting “, including caregiver assessments used in
7 the State,” after “mechanisms”, and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(h) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CAREGIVER AS-
10 SESSMENTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of en-
11 actment of the Supporting Family Caregivers Act of 2019,
12 the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with caregivers,
13 older individuals, individuals with a disability who receive
14 care from an older relative caregiver, the aging network,
15 and other experts and stakeholders, and, as appropriate,
16 potentially informed by the strategy developed under the
17 RAISE Family Caregivers Act, shall provide technical as-
18 sistance to promote and implement the use of caregiver
19 assessments. Such technical assistance shall include shar-
20 ing available tools and templates, comprehensive assess-
21 ment protocols, and best practices concerning—

22 “(1) conducting caregiver assessments and re-
23 assessments;

24 “(2) implementing such assessments that are
25 consistent across a planning and service area; and

1 “(3) implementing caregiver support service
2 plans, including referrals to and coordination of ac-
3 tivities with relevant State and local services.

4 “(i) REPORT ON CAREGIVER ASSESSMENTS.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years
6 after the date of enactment of the Supporting Fam-
7 ily Caregivers Act of 2019, the Assistant Secretary
8 shall issue a report on the use of caregiver assess-
9 ments by area agencies on aging, entities contracting
10 with such agencies, and Tribal organizations. Such
11 report shall include—

12 “(A) an analysis of the current use of care-
13 giver assessments, including a repository of
14 caregiver assessment tools or templates and
15 comprehensive assessment protocols, as of the
16 date of the report;

17 “(B) an analysis of the potential impact of
18 caregiver assessments on—

19 “(i) family caregivers and older rel-
20 ative caregivers; and

21 “(ii) the individuals to whom the care-
22 givers described in clause (i) provide care;

23 “(C) an analysis of the potential impact of
24 using caregiver assessments on the aging net-
25 work;

1 “(D) an analysis of how caregiver assess-
2 ments are being used to identify the specific
3 needs, barriers, and existing supports of family
4 caregivers and older relative caregivers;

5 “(E) recommendations for furthering the
6 use of caregiver assessments, including in rural
7 or underserved areas; and

8 “(F) recommendations for assisting State
9 agencies and area agencies on aging, particu-
10 larly in rural or underserved areas, in imple-
11 menting the use of caregiver assessments.

12 “(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 6 months
13 after the issuance of the report under paragraph (1),
14 the Assistant Secretary shall submit the report to
15 the appropriate legislative committees of the Senate
16 and the House of Representatives and to the Special
17 Committee on Aging of the Senate.”.

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