

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to expand Federal eligibility for children in foster care who have attained age 18.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. BOXER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to expand Federal eligibility for children in foster care who have attained age 18.

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 Care Con-
5 tinuing Opportunities Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STATE OPTION FOR YOUTH TO ELECT TO REMAIN**
7 **IN FOSTER CARE AFTER ATTAINING AGE 18.**

8 (a) DEFINITION OF CHILD.—Section 475 of the So-
9 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 675) is amended by adding
10 at the end the following new paragraph:

1 “(8)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the term
2 ‘child’ means an individual who has not attained age
3 18.

4 “(B) At the option of a State, such term may
5 include an individual who—

6 “(i) has attained age 18; and

7 “(ii) elects to remain in foster care until
8 attaining age 19, 20, or 21 (as the State may
9 elect).”.

10 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 477 of
11 such Act (42 U.S.C. 677) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) by in-
14 serting “(or such higher age as the State has
15 elected under section 475(8)” after “of age”
16 each place it appears; and

17 (B) in paragraph (5), by inserting “(or be-
18 tween such higher age as the State has elected
19 under section 475(8) and 21 years of age)”
20 after “18 and 21 years of age”; and

21 (2) in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of sub-
22 section (b)(3), by inserting “(or such higher age as
23 the State has elected under section 475(8))” after
24 “18 years of age” each place it appears.

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section take effect on October 1, 2007.