

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4462

To amend title IV of the Social Security Act to provide for parental leave payments to parents after the birth or adoption of a child in lieu of child care assistance, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 2021

Mr. LAHOOD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To amend title IV of the Social Security Act to provide for parental leave payments to parents after the birth or adoption of a child in lieu of child care assistance, and for other purposes.

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 “Promoting Equitable  
5       Access to Paid Family Leave Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. PARENTAL LEAVE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF CHILD**  
2 **CARE ASSISTANCE.**

3 Section 418 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
4 618) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-  
6 section (e); and

7 (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-  
8 lowing:

9 “(d) GRANT CONDITION.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receiving  
11 a grant under this section, a State shall provide the  
12 parent of an eligible child the option to receive, in  
13 accordance with this section, a payment, which may  
14 be made on a monthly, biweekly, or weekly basis, for  
15 each month in the parental leave period with respect  
16 to such eligible child, in lieu of receiving any child  
17 care services described in the Child Care and Devel-  
18 opment Block Grant Act of 1990 during the period.

19 “(2) AMOUNT.—The amount of a payment  
20 made pursuant to paragraph (1) with respect to an  
21 eligible child shall be not less than the average sub-  
22 sidy payment in the applicable market area within  
23 the State for the provision of child care services for  
24 infants, across all categories of care.

25 “(3) APPLICATION.—To receive a payment pur-  
26 suant to paragraph (1) with respect to an eligible

1 child, the parent of the eligible child shall submit an  
2 application to the lead agency, or agency designated  
3 by the lead agency, of the applicable State before the  
4 beginning of the parental leave period with respect  
5 to the eligible child. The application shall include—

6 “(A) assurances by the applicant—

7 “(i) that the eligible child will not be  
8 receiving any child care services described  
9 in such Act during the period paid for by  
10 funds made available under this part; and

11 “(ii) that the applicant will not be re-  
12 ceiving paid parental leave from any other  
13 source during the period;

14 “(B) documentation demonstrating that  
15 the applicant was working or attending a job  
16 training or educational program, as defined by  
17 the State, for at least 4 consecutive quarters  
18 ending on the date of application; and

19 “(C) any other such assurances or docu-  
20 mentation the State may require.

21 “(4) TRANSITION TO CHILD CARE SERVICES.—

22 A parent of an eligible child receiving a payment  
23 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be provided the op-  
24 tion to enroll in child care services provided under

1 such Act immediately after the end of the parental  
2 leave period with respect to the eligible child.

3 “(5) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

4 “(A) ELIGIBLE CHILD.—The term ‘eligible  
5 child’ has the meaning given the term in section  
6 658P(4) of such Act without regard to subpara-  
7 graph (C).

8 “(B) LEAD AGENCY.—The term ‘lead  
9 agency’ has the meaning given the term with  
10 respect to a State in section 658D of such Act.

11 “(C) PARENTAL LEAVE PERIOD.—The  
12 term ‘parental leave period’ means the 3-month  
13 period beginning on the date of birth or adop-  
14 tion, as applicable, of an eligible child.

15 “(6) CLARIFICATION.—For purposes of sub-  
16 section (b)(2), a payment pursuant to paragraph (1)  
17 of this subsection, shall be considered child care as-  
18 sistance.”.

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