

## TITLE IV: AMENDMENTS TO THE REHABILITATION ACT

*Title IV amends the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.)*

### *Sec. 401. References*

Identifies the title refers to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.).

### *Sec. 402. Findings, Purpose, Policy*

States current findings regarding the disability workforce and identifies the purposes of the title.

### *Sec. 403. Rehabilitation Services Administration*

States the responsibilities of the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

### *Sec. 404. Definitions*

Includes definitions for this act including "competitive integrated employment," "preemployment transition services," and "supported employment services."

### *Sec. 405. Administration of the Act*

Describes the responsibilities of the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration and the Administrator of the Administration for Community Living in reference to carrying out the activities of this Act.

### *Sec. 406. Reports*

Clarifies dissemination requirements for the annual report on activities under the law.

### *Sec. 407. Evaluation and Information*

Describes the responsibilities of the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration and the Administrator of the Administration for Community Living in reference to evaluating the activities carried out under this Act.

### *Sec. 408. Carryover*

No changes were made to this section.

### *Sec. 409. Traditionally Underserved Populations*

Updates the section to reflect the demographics of the United States.

### *Sec. 411. Declaration of Policy; Authorization of Appropriations*

Sets authorization levels for the program for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 412. State Plans*

Specifies the unified State plan, or combined State plan, under title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, must include the provisions of the State plan for vocational rehabilitation services. Requires the State plan to assure that individuals who are otherwise eligible for vocational rehabilitation services and who are at imminent risk of losing their jobs unless they receive additional necessary postemployment services receive priority. Allows designated State agencies to prioritize serving students with disabilities. Requires State plan to detail the State's strategies to serve students with disabilities so they are prepared for post-school employment.

*Sec. 413. Eligibility and Individualized Plan for Employment*

Requires applicants for vocational rehabilitation services be presumed to benefit from an employment outcome, and individuals should be provided the opportunity to try different employment experiences, including supported employment. and the opportunity to become employed in competitive integrated employment.

*Sec. 414. Vocational Rehabilitation Services*

Requires States to ensure designated State units provide or arrange for the provision of preemployment transition services for all students with disabilities who are in need of these services. and those services are coordinated with services provided under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Also allows State agencies to support advanced training in STEM and other technical professions.

*Sec. 415. State Rehabilitation Council*

Requires coordination with other entities, and with activities carried out under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998.

*Sec. 416. Evaluation Standards and Performance Indicators*

Aligns the evaluation standards of the Rehabilitation Act with the standards of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

*Sec. 417. Monitoring and Review*

Provides for the provision of technical assistance to promote high quality employment outcomes.

*Sec. 418. Training and Services for Employers*

Allows States to provide services to employers to promote recruitment, hiring, and retention of workers with disabilities.

*Sec. 419. State Allotments*

Requires that 15 percent of a State's allotment be designated to provide "pre-employment transition services."

*Sec. 420. Payments to States*

No substantive changes made to this section.

*Sec. 421. Client Assistance Program*

Requires the Secretary to reserve funds to provide services to American Indians. If the funds appropriated exceed \$14M, requires the Secretary to reserve a small percentage for grants to provide training and technical assistance to the client assistance programs in the States. Establishes authorization levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 422. Pre-Employment Transition Services*

Requires States to ensure that designated State units provide, or arrange for the provision of , preemployment transition services for all students with disabilities who are in need of these services.

*Sec. 423. American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services*

Reserves a small percentage of program funds to make grants to provide technical assistance and training.

*Sec. 424. Vocational Rehabilitation Services Client Information*

No substantive changes made to this section.

*Sec. 431. Purpose*

Updates purposes of the title.

*Sec. 432. Authorization of Appropriations*

Sets authorization levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 433. National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research*

Adds "Independent Living" to the name of the Institute, and moves the Institute from the Department of Education to the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living. Requires the dissemination of educational materials and research results to nongovernmental agencies and organizations, employers and employer organizations, and relevant congressional Committees. Describes the research activities and findings, demonstration projects, reports, evaluations, and studies that will be made available.

*Sec. 434. Interagency Committee*

Adds independent living research. Requires a periodic meeting of funders, researchers, and individuals with disabilities to develop a comprehensive strategic plan for disability, independent living, and rehabilitation research.

*Sec. 435. Research and Other Covered Activities*

Describes allowable research activities.

*Sec. 436. Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research Advisory Council*

Specifies Council membership and qualifications.

*Sec. 437 Definition of Covered School*

Defines "covered school" as an "elementary school" or "secondary school" as defined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 as amended.

*Sec. 441. Purpose; Training*

Specifies that technical assistance provided to community rehabilitation programs shall be focused on competitive integrated employment. Also sets authorization levels for training for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 442. Demonstration, Training, and Technical Assistance Programs*

Continues to authorize demonstration, training, and technical assistance projects focused on improving transition from education to employment for youth who are individuals with significant disabilities. Repeals the In-Service Training of Rehabilitation Personnel program. Also sets authorization levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 443. Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers; Recreational Programs*

Repeals these programs.

*Sec. 451. Establishment*

Changes the number of Council members from 15 to 9. Alters the appointment of the Council members to share that responsibility among Congress and the President.

*Sec. 452. Report*

No substantive changes.

*Sec. 453. Authorization of Appropriations*

Sets authorization levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 456 Interagency Committee, Board, and Council*

Sets authorization levels for the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 457. Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights*

Sets authorization levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 458. Limitation on the Use of Subminimum Wage*

Describes how an entity may not employ an individual with a disability at wages less than the Federal minimum wage unless the individual has first received available pre-employment transition services; applied for vocational rehabilitation services and, if eligible, made a serious attempt at competitive integrated employment; and received counseling and information and referral about alternatives to subminimum wage employment. Individuals with disabilities who are currently employed at subminimum wage shall be provided ongoing career counseling, information and referrals, and notification of training opportunities in the individual's geographic area, in order to promote opportunities to move into competitive integrated employment, as appropriate.

*Sec. 461. Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities*

Describes how States with an allotment under the Supported Employment Services program must reserve an allotment to support youth with the most significant disabilities, describes extended services, and limits the administrative allotment to be used to administer the program to 2.5 percent. Also establishes a committee to prepare recommendations to increase employment opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in competitive integrated employment, and terminates that committee after two years. Finally, sets authorization levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 471. Purpose*

Includes the purpose of "improving the independence of individuals with disabilities."

*Sec. 472. Administration of the Independent Living Program*

Transfers the Independent Living program from the Rehabilitation Services Administration in the Department of Education to the Administration on Community Living in the Department of Health and Human Services and establishes an Administration on Independent Living.

*Sec. 473. Definitions*

Includes minor definition additions.

*Sec. 474. State Plan*

Specifies that the State plan shall be jointly developed by the chairperson of the Statewide Independent Living Council and the directors of centers for independent living in the State.

*Sec. 475. Statewide Independent Living Council*

Requires meaningful representation by directors of centers for independent living in the State. Amends the responsibilities of the Council to include development of the State plan and the monitor, review and evaluation of the implementation of the plan.

*Sec. 475A. Responsibilities of the Administrator*

Describes the responsibilities of the Administrator to develop and publish performance indicators for centers for independent living and Statewide Independent Living Councils, and to conduct onsite compliance reviews of such centers and Councils.

*Sec. 476. Administration*

Specifies funds allotted or made available to a State under the section shall be administered by the Statewide Independent Living Council, in accordance with the approved State plan. Reserves a small percentage of program funds to provide training and technical assistance to Statewide Independent Living Councils. Sets authorization levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 481. Program Authorization*

Reserves a small percentage of program funds to make grants to provide training and technical assistance to centers for independent living.

*Sec. 482. Centers*

Details how the Administrator of the Administration for Community Living should determine how to fund centers for independent living in an unserved region.

*Sec. 483. Standards and Assurances*

No substantive changes were made to this section.

*Sec. 484. Authorization of Appropriations*

Sets authorization levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 486. Independent Living Services for Older Individuals who are Blind*

Reserves a small percentage of program funds to provide training and technical assistance to designated State agencies or other providers of independent living services for older individuals who are blind.

*Sec. 487. Program of Grants*

No substantive changes were made to this section.

*Sec. 488. Independent Living Services for Older Individuals who are Blind Authorization of Appropriations.*

Sets authorization levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2020.

*Sec. 491. Transfer of Functions*

Transfers the Independent Living program, the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research, and the programs authorized under the Assistive Technology Act of 2004 to the

Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living. Requires the Office of Management and Budget to certify that these transfers do not result in an increase in full time equivalent positions.