

**MEMORANDUM**

November 30, 2011

**To:** The Honorable Gwen Moore  
Attention: Eyang Garrison

**From:** Gene Falk, Specialist in Social Policy, 7-7344

**Subject:** Comparison of Current Law and RISE

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This memo responds to your request for a comparison of current law and the provisions of the “Rewriting to Improve and Secure an Exit Out of Poverty Act” or “RISE Out of Poverty Act,” a proposal that would reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant. This comparison is provided in **Table 1**.

**Table 1. Comparison of Current Law and Rep. Gwen Moore’s RISE TANF Reauthorization Proposal**

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
<b>TANF Funding</b>		
<b>The Basic TANF Block Grant (State Family Assistance Grant)</b>		
Period for which the grant is authorized	The original welfare reform law authorized the basic block grant for six fiscal years, FY1996 through FY2002. The grant has been extended since then through a series of extensions, including a 5-year temporary extension in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-171) and, most recently, a three-month extension in the Short-Term TANF Extension Act (P.L. 112-35) through December 31, 2011.	Provides permanent funding and program authority for TANF.
Amount of the Grant	The state family assistance grant is a set amount based on the funding the state received in the pre-1996 programs of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Emergency Assistance (EA), and the Job Training and Basic Skills (JOBS) program in the early- and mid-1990s. the grant is not adjusted for inflation or changes in circumstances in the state (e.g. population, cash assistance caseload, etc.).	For FY2012, the basic block grant would be increased for both inflation and child population growth in the states since 1996. For each subsequent year, there would be annual adjustments for inflation and child population growth. A state’s block grant could not be less than its previous year’s block grant if prices fall or child population decreases in the state.

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Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
<b>Supplemental Grants</b>	<p>Certain states were eligible for additional, supplemental TANF grants, based on high rates of historical population growth or low welfare grants per poor person under pre-1996 welfare programs. A total of 17 states qualified for supplemental grants in each year from FY1998 through FY2011. For FY2001 through FY2010, supplemental grants were funded at \$319 million per year. For FY2011, supplemental grants were funded at \$211 million per year and were available only for the first three quarters of the fiscal year.</p> <p>There is no appropriation for supplemental grants in FY2012.</p>	<p>For FY2012 and all subsequent years, each qualifying state's FY2010 supplemental grant amount would be added to its adjusted basic block grant. Supplemental grants would no longer be a separate funding stream.</p>
<b>Maintenance of Effort Requirement</b>	<p>States are required to expend from their own funds an amount at least 75% of what they spent in FY1994 on TANF's predecessor programs. This percentage increases to 80% if a state fails to meet TANF's work participation standards.</p>	<p>Annually adjusts (beginning in FY2014) the amount the states are required to expend from their own funds for inflation.</p>
<b>Tribal TANF Grants</b>	<p>Indian tribes have the authority to operate their own TANF programs. Tribes with an approved plan may receive an amount equal to what was spent in the tribal service area from federal funds in FY1994. States have their block grants reduced by an amount attributable to payments to tribal TANF programs operating in their state.</p>	<p>Tribal grants are increased in proportion to the increase in the state or states' basic block grant that fund these programs.</p>
<b>Contingency Funds</b>		
Appropriation	FY2012 appropriation of \$612 million.	<p>FY2012 appropriation of \$2.5 billion. Beginning in FY2013, the contingency fund appropriation would be \$2.5 billion per year increased for inflation and child population growth (based on the same adjustment as are the total of state family assistance grants). Contingency funds that are not made as grants in one fiscal year may be carried over (without limit) to subsequent fiscal years. Thus, unspent contingency funds can be accumulated during good economic times to provide extra funding for periods of high unemployment.</p>
Qualifying Entities	The 50 states and the District of Columbia.	The 50 States, District of Columbia, territories, and Indian tribes.

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
Economic Conditions in the State that Qualify it for Contingency Funds	A state qualifies on economic grounds if its: (a) average unemployment rate for the most recent 3-month period equals or exceeds 6.5% and is also at least 110% of the unemployment rate in the corresponding three month period of either of the past 2 years; or (b) the average number of SNAP participants in the most recent 3-month period is at least 10% higher than the number of participants in either FY1994 or FY1995 (whichever was lower). FY1994 or FY1995 caseloads are adjusted downward for changes in SNAP eligibility made in the 1996 welfare reform law.	A state qualifies on economic grounds if its average unemployment rate for the current quarter or any of the preceding four quarters exceeds 6.5%.
Economic Conditions that Qualify Territories and Tribes for Contingency Funds.	Not applicable.	The Secretary of HHS is to determine how the territories and tribes are to qualify for contingency funds.
State Expenditures that Qualify it for Contingency funds	State maintenance of effort expenditures, other than those for child care, must exceed 100% of what the state spent in FY1994 in TANF's predecessor programs.	Total expenditures of a state, tribe, or territory on basic assistance, child care, and subsidized employment for a quarter in which the state qualifies for contingency funds must be greater than expenditures in the corresponding quarter of the base year. The base year is either the year preceding or the second year preceding the year in which the state first qualified for contingency funds during the current qualifying period. In the case of FY2012, the base year is either FY2007 or FY2008.
<b>Grant Amount</b>		
<i>Maximum grant in a fiscal year</i>	20% of the State Family Assistance Grant	25% of the State Family Assistance Grant.
<i>Amount of Grant</i>	Expenditures made from contingency fund advances (see below) plus state maintenance of effort expenditures (other than those for child care) in excess of what was spent in TANF's predecessor program in FY1994 are matched at the Medicaid matching rate.	80% of the increase in expenditures in the corresponding quarter in the base year.
<i>Advances</i>	Qualifying states receive a contingency fund advance equal to 1/12 of the 20% of the state family assistance grant. If the state receives total advance grants in excess of their annual entitlement, the state must remit that excess to the Treasury.	No provision.

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<b>Matching Grant for Subsidized Employment</b>		
Condition of Receiving the Grant	No provision.	State MOE expenditures exceed its maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement and the state expends funds on subsidized employment.
Amount of the Grant	No provision.	50% of the lesser of: (1) the total expenditures of the state on subsidized employment; or (2) the amount in which MOE expenditures exceed a state's MOE requirement.
<b>Supplantation of State and Local Expenditures</b>	States may use TANF block grant funds in any manner they can "reasonably calculate" achieves the TANF purpose and its statutory goals. Activities funded in "predecessor" (pre-1996) programs, even if they do not meet the above requirement, may be funded with federal TANF grants. For expenditures to be counted toward the maintenance of effort requirement, they must be on needy families, be for specified activities, or also achieve the TANF purpose and statutory goals. However, for activities that were not funded in predecessor (pre-1996) programs, state and local expenditures are countable only to the extent that they exceed FY1995 levels.	Provides that federal block grant funds cannot be used to supplant state or local spending for benefits and services that cannot count toward the maintenance of effort requirement. This includes the test that expenditures on activities that were not funded in TANF predecessor programs are countable only to the extent that they exceed FY1995 levels.
<b>TANF Work Participation Standards</b>		
<b>Numerical Participation Standards</b>		
Numerical Targets	The numerical participation target for all families is 50%; for two parent families is 90%. States that have a participation rate that equals or exceeds that target meet the standard. States that fail to meet the standard are at risk of being penalized through a reduction in their basic TANF block grant.	The numerical participation standard for all families is 50%. The two-parent standard is eliminated.
Credits Against the Standard	The numerical targets are reduced one percentage point for each percent decline in the cash assistance caseload from FY2005 to the preceding fiscal year.  Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) regulations provide that a state may, for the purpose of the credit, count as "caseload reduction" families aided by state funds in excess of the MOE requirement (see above).	No credits against the participation targets.

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<p><b>The TANF Work Participation Rate</b></p>	<p>A percentage defined as the number of families with a work-eligible individual engaged in work divided by the number of families with work-eligible individuals not disregarded from the rate.</p> <p>NOTE: The statute provides that all families with an adult or minor head of household recipient be included in the work participation calculation. It also requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to issue regulations that define when a parent is considered “work-eligible.”</p>	<p>A percentage defined as the number of families with a work-eligible recipient engaged in work divided by the number of families with work-eligible cash assistance recipients not disregarded from the rate <b>and</b> those participating in TANF-funded subsidized employment program.</p> <p>NOTE: The statute would explicitly define “work-eligible adults,” incorporating the current regulatory definition plus some additional, exempted categories.</p>
<p><b>Families included in the participation rate calculation</b></p>		
<p>Exclusions and Disregards from the participation rate calculation</p>		
<p><i>Single Custodial Parents Caring for Infants</i></p>	<p>Current law excludes, at state option, single custodial parents caring for a child who has not attained 12 months of age, limited to 12 months in a lifetime.</p>	<p>Same as current law, except that the 12-month in a lifetime limitation is removed.</p>
<p><i>Parents receiving disability benefits</i></p>	<p>HHS regulations exclude, at state option, a parent who receives disability benefits from Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability benefits (SSDI), or other federal and state disability benefits.</p>	<p>Codifies current regulations, modified to apply the exclusion to caretaker relatives who receive assistance.</p>
<p><i>Applicants for SSI disability</i></p>	<p>HHS regulations permit states to retroactively exclude those who were determined eligible for SSI during the fiscal year.</p>	<p>Allows states to disregard SSI applicants from the work participation calculation.</p>
<p><i>Persons Needed in the home to care for a disabled family member</i></p>	<p>HHS regulations permit states to exclude parents needed in the home to care for a disabled family member.</p>	<p>Codifies current regulations, modified to apply the exclusion to caretaker relatives who receive assistance.</p>
<p><i>Participant in a tribal TANF program</i></p>	<p>Current law excludes, at state option, a recipient of assistance participating in a tribal TANF program.</p>	<p>Same as current law.</p>
<p><i>Subject to Sanction</i></p>	<p>Current law excludes from the participation calculations families subject to sanction, limited to 3 months in a 12-month period.</p>	<p>Excludes all families who are sanctioned for work-related reasons as well as those families in a pre-sanction review process.</p>

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
<b>Activities Countable to be “Engaged in Work”</b>		
Work engagement categories	Unsubsidized employment; Subsidized private sector employment; Subsidized public sector employment; Work experience; On-the-job training Job Search and job readiness assistance; Community service programs; Vocational educational training; Job skills training directly related to employment; Education directly related to employment (for those without a high school credential); Satisfactory attendance at secondary school or certificate of general equivalence; and Provision of child care services to a community service participant	Same as current law.
Regulations to define work engagement categories	HHS Secretary is required to issue regulations to determine whether an activity of a recipient is countable as a work activity.	Same as current law.
Limitations of Counting Work Activities		
<i>Job Search</i>	Job search and readiness activities are countable for no more than 12 weeks in a fiscal year.	Eliminates the time limit on job search and readiness activities. Thus, hours in job search are countable without a durational limit.
<i>Rehabilitative Activities</i>	Rehabilitative activities are considered “job readiness” activities, and thus are, combined with job search, limited to no more than 12 weeks in a fiscal year.	Eliminates the time limit on job search and readiness activities. Thus, rehabilitative activities are countable without durational limit.
<i>Soft Skills</i>	“Soft skills” training, such as life skills training, is considered “job readiness,” and thus is, combined with job search, limited to no more than 12 weeks in a fiscal year.	Eliminates the time limit on job readiness activities. Thus, soft skills training is countable without durational limit.
<i>Vocational Educational Training</i>	Vocational educational training is limited to 12 months in a lifetime.	Eliminates the 12-month durational limit on vocational educational training.

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Hours of Participation		
<i>General hours requirements</i>	<p>Work-eligible individuals must participate for a minimum number of hours per week to be counted as “engaged in work,” with the hours determined by family structure:</p> <p>Single parents with a child under the age of 6: 20 hours per week;</p> <p>Other single parents: 30 hours per week;</p> <p>Two-parent families, not receiving federally-funded child care: 35 hours per week.</p> <p>Two-Parent families receiving federally-funded child care: 55 hours per week.</p>	<p>Establishes a single requirement that an individual be considered engaged in work if participating for at least 20 hours per week.</p>
<i>Minimum hours in certain activities</i>	<p>Requires that a minimum number of hours per week be in specified “core” activities: unsubsidized employment; subsidized private sector employment; subsidized public sector employment; work experience; on-the-job training; job search and job readiness; community service; vocational educational training; or provision of child care services to a community service recipient. The “core hours” requirement varies by family structure:</p> <p>Single parents with a child under the age of 6: 20 hours per week (full hours requirement);</p> <p>Other single parents: 20 hours per week (20 of 30 hours);</p> <p>Two-parent families not receiving federally-funded child care: 30 hours per week (30 out of 35 hours); and</p> <p>Two-parent families receiving federally-funded child care: 50 hours per week (50 out of 55 hours).</p>	<p>Eliminates the core hours requirements. Participation in any activity counts toward the 20 hour per week requirement.</p>
Modified employment plan for disabled persons	No provision.	<p>Permits a state to develop a modified employment plan for a work-eligible individual who has been determined to have a disability. The modified plan describes the work activities, hours requirements, and services and supports that will be provided. Work-eligible individuals in substantial compliance with the modified plan are deemed engaged in work.</p>

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
Special rule for teen parents in high school or GED program	Heads of households or married teens (under age 20) in high school or in programs leading to a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) are deemed engaged in work.	Same as current law.
<b>Work Rules that Apply to Individual Recipients</b>		
<b>Employment Assessment</b>	State agencies are required to conduct an initial employability assessment for each recipient of assistance age 18 and older, or younger if not a graduate and not attending school. The initial assessment is of the skills, prior work experience, and employability of each recipient. The assessment must be conducted within 90 days of the individual being determined eligible for assistance.	Retains the current requirements and adds to them: (1) a requirement that the recipient have the option to have the assessment conducted by trained personnel with respect to barriers to employment; and (2) require that the assessment include one of physical and mental impairments, English proficiency, child care needs, and whether the recipient is a victim of domestic violence.
<b>Individual Responsibility Plans</b>		
State Option or Requirement	States have the <i>option</i> to develop an Individual Responsibility Plan based on the required employability assessment discussed above.	State are <i>required</i> to develop an Individual Responsibility Plan based on the required employability assessment discussed above.
Contents of Individual Responsibility Plans	The plan sets forth an employment goal; obligations, which may include requirements to attend school, keep school-age children in school, immunize children, and attend parenting and money management classes; the services the state will provide the individual, including job counseling; and a requirement that the individual undergo appropriate substance abuse treatment.	Changes the wording of the provision that the plan include “job counseling” to “job counseling supports.” Requires the plan include a well-being plan for each child in the family.
State Discretion	The state has the “sole discretion” to exercise the authority to make an assessment and develop an Individual Responsibility Plan.	Drops the “sole discretion” language. A state that fails to develop an Individual Responsibility Plan for an individual is at risk of being penalized by a reduction in its block grant of up to 5% of its basic block grant.
<b>Sanctions</b>		
<b>General Prohibition of Full Family Sanctions</b>	TANF law requires the state to reduce or terminate assistance to the family for refusal to comply with the work requirements or noncooperation with child support. It also allows states to reduce assistance for families that do not comply with their Individual Responsibility Plans.	Forbids a state to impose a life-time prohibition on receiving assistance or terminating assistance to the entire family based on the failure of a member of the family to comply with a program requirement.
Sanction for Refusal to Comply with Work Requirements	States are required to reduce pro-rata or terminate assistance for a family with an individual that refuses to engage in work.	States are required to reduce pro-rata assistance to a family with an individual that refuses to engage in work.

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Sanction for Non-Cooperation with Child Support	States are required to reduce by at least 25% or terminate assistance for a family with an individual who is not cooperating with child support requirements (establishing paternity, establishing or modifying a support order).	Sets the sanction for non-cooperation with child support requirements at 25% of the family's assistance.
<b>Additional Modifications to the Sanction for Refusing to Engage in Work</b>		
Infants Under Age 6 months	No provision.	States are prohibited from sanctioning a single custodial parent with a child under the age of 6 months old for refusing to engage in work.
Young children and inability to Secure Child Care	A state is prohibited from sanctioning a single custodial parent caring for a child under the age of 6 if the refusal to engage in work is due to a demonstrated inability to obtain child care. The demonstrated inability criteria is determined by the state and must be based on the following reasons: unavailability of child care within a reasonable distance of the individual's home or worksite; unavailability of care from a relative; or lack of appropriate and affordable arrangements.	Prohibits the sanctioning of a single custodial parent with a child under the age of 13 for refusing to engage in work if that refusal was because of the inability to secure child care or after-school arrangements.
Good Cause	Sanctions are imposed on families for refusing to engage in work subject to "good cause and other exceptions as the state may establish."	Requires states to include as an exception to sanctioning a family in which an individual refuses to engage in work declining an offer of employment at a wage less than the minimum wage (or 80% of the minimum wage if the job is not covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act), declining an offer of employment at a work site subject to a strike or lockout, or declining an offer of employment for medical reasons or physical limitations.
<b>Procedural Protections for Sanctioned Families</b>		
	No specific provision. TANF state plans require that the document include an explanation of how the state will provide opportunities for recipients who have been "adversely affected" to be heard in a state administrative or appeals process.	Establishes requirements for states to have a specific pre-sanction review process as well as post-sanction procedures.  TANF state plan requirement includes a requirement that states will notify applicants and recipients of assistance under the program of the rights of individuals and all laws applicable to program activities and of all potential benefits and services available under the program.

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
Pre-Sanction Notice	No provision.	<p>Before imposing a sanction on a family receiving assistance a state must: give notice to the individual or family, providing: the specific reason for the sanction, the amount of the proposed sanction, the length of time the sanction would be in effect, the steps required to come into compliance with program requirements or show good cause, that the state agency will help the individual demonstrate good cause, and that the individual may appeal the determination to impose a sanction. If the individual's native language is not English, the notice must be made through a culturally competent translation.</p>
Pre-Sanction Review Process	No provision.	<p>The state agency shall have a second individual review the decision to sanction a family. It shall afford the individual or family for whom a sanction is to be imposed to meet with the state agency person who is reviewing the determination of the sanction. The review shall include consideration of whether barriers to compliance exist, such as physical or mental impairments, limited proficiency in English, limited literacy, homelessness, or the need to care for a child with a disability or health condition; whether the noncompliance stems from failure to receive or have access to services identified in the Individual Responsibility Plan; whether changes in the individual's plan should be made to come into compliance, whether there is good cause for noncompliance, and whether the sanction policy has been properly applied. The review may result in modification of the sanction, determination that the family has good cause for noncompliance, modification of the individual's plan, or other actions as appropriate.</p>
Follow-up for families that have been sanctioned	No provision.	<p>Once a sanction is imposed on a family, the state must send a written notice of the reason for the sanction and steps the individual or family must take to end the sanction. If the sanction continues for 180 days, the state must send a second notice of the steps the family must take to end the sanction. If the individual or family's native language is not English, the notices must be through a culturally competent translation. The state shall resume full assistance once an individual comes into compliance for a reasonable period of time (determined by the state).</p>

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
Penalty for failure to comply	No provision.	A state that does not comply with the due process requirements can be penalized by a reduction of up to 5% of the state's basic block grant.

TANF Time Limit		
<b>Maximum Period of Time for Assistance</b>	<p>Subject to a hardship exemption (below), a state is prohibited from aiding a family with an adult recipient who has received assistance for 60 months in a lifetime. This does not include months in which the adult received aid as a minor child. Additionally, states may provide a hardship exemption and aid a family with an adult recipient for more than 60 months. The number of families that may receive a hardship exemption is limited to 20% of its assistance caseload in the current fiscal year or in the immediately preceding fiscal year.</p> <p>The time limit does not apply to families without an adult recipient. States may also aid families with maintenance of effort funds beyond five years.</p>	No provision.
Months with High Rates of Unemployment	No provision.	<p>The time limit is suspended in months in which a state's unemployment rate equals or exceeds 6.5%. Additionally, months in which a state's unemployment rate equals or exceeds 6.5% are disregarded when determining the months of assistance a family has received for purposes of the time limit.</p> <p>States are required to conduct outreach to inform potential recipients of the suspension of the time limit during periods of high unemployment. The state's TANF plan is to include a description of how states will inform potential eligible recipients of assistance that time limits are suspended during periods of high unemployment.</p>

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
<b>Time Limits Shorter than 60 Months</b>	No provision. A state may adopt a time limit for a period shorter than 60 months.	<p>Prohibits a state from imposing a durational requirement of less than 60 months on a family receiving assistance.</p> <p>States are required to conduct outreach to inform potentially eligible recipients that a time limit of less than 60 months has been eliminated. The state's TANF plan is to include a description of how it will inform potentially eligible recipients that a durational limit of less than 60 months has been eliminated.</p>
<b>Other Provisions</b>		
<b>Prohibitions on Receipt of Assistance</b>		
Drug Felons	The 1996 welfare reform law provides that persons convicted for drug felonies are barred for life from receiving TANF assistance (and SNAP benefits). States have the option to modify the lifetime ban to a specified time period, or may entirely opt out of the ban.	Eliminates the lifetime ban for persons convicted of drug felonies with respect to TANF.
Teen parents not living in adult-supervised settings	Prohibits the use of federal TANF grants to provide assistance to an unmarried parent under the age of 18 unless that parent is living with an adult relative or an alternative adult-supervised setting (maternity home, second chance home, etc.).	Eliminates the limitations on providing assistance to unmarried parents under the age of 18.
<b>Meeting Basic Family Economic Needs</b>		
Determining basic family need; state plan requirement	No provision.	<p>The TANF state plan must include a family budget of a dollar amount sufficient to meet a family's basic needs. It must describe how the family budget is adjusted for family size and the method used to estimate the family budget, including the relationship between the budget's shelter and utility costs and the fair market rents in localities in the state. The TANF state plan also must include a statement about the relationship between the family budget and the amount of assistance provided by the state.</p>

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
Requirement that the amount of assistance meet a family's basic economic needs	No provision.	The state is required to pay a benefit sufficient to meet a family's basic needs. This determination can take into account earned income, unearned income, and the value of SNAP benefits. States that fail to pay such a benefit are penalized up to 5% of their basic block grant.
<b>Statutory Goal Related to Child Poverty</b> <b>Maximum Age for Dependent Child for the Purposes of Assistance</b>	No provision.  TANF restricts cash assistance to a family with a minor child. A minor child is defined as a person under the age of 18, or age 18 if in school. States have the latitude to set higher age limits for families with older children for TANF-funded benefits and services other than cash assistance.	Adds reduction of child poverty a (the number one) goal of TANF.  Provides states with the option to extend cash assistance to families with children over 18, but under 22.  States are prohibited from counting the value of student aid in determining TANF eligibility and benefits or otherwise using a minor child's status as a student to adversely affect a family's status with respect to TANF cash assistance or other TANF benefits and services.

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
<b>State Plan Requirements</b>		
<p>Content of State Plans:</p>	<p>States are required to outline the program they intend to operate to conduct a program designed to serve all political subdivisions in a state (not necessarily uniformly) that provides assistance to needy families and provides parents with work and support services; requires parents or caretakers receiving assistance to engage in work; take steps to restrict disclosure of individuals and families receiving assistance; reduce out-of-wedlock pregnancies, including establishing numerical goals; and conduct a program to reach law enforcement officials on the problem of statutory rape. The document must also include whether the state treats new state residents differently than other residents; whether the state will provide assistance to individuals who are not citizens; the objective criteria for delivering benefits, and process for addressing those who have been adversely affected by program requirements; and whether the state will help individuals train to provide care in a long-term care facility or other forms of elder care. The plan further must include certifications from the Governor that the state will operate a child support enforcement program; a foster care and adoption assistance program; will provide Indians with equitable access; has standards to ensure against fraud and abuse; and an optional certification that the state will develop procedures to address domestic violence.</p>	<p>Adds to the outline of the state program a statement of state goals in reducing child poverty and how the state will use federal and MOE funds toward that purpose; how the state will track work-related outcomes for recipient of assistance; how the state will use TANF and MOE funds to provide benefits and services to families at-risk of having their children removed from the home because of abuse and neglect; and how the state will serve noncustodial parents with TANF and MOE funds.</p>
<p>Procedures for Submitting State Plans or Plan Amendments</p>	<p>States must submit plans every three years. The state plan must include assurances that state governments and private sector organizations have been consulted regarding the plan and design of the program and have had at least 45 days to comment on the plan.</p>	<p>Retains the requirement that state plans are submitted every three years. Requires that each draft of a plan or plan amendment be posted on a public internet site for at least 45 days before submission to HHS. Requires public posting of plans certified by HHS as complete. The state is required to develop procedures to receive and respond to comments from the public, private sector organizations and local governments on draft state plans and amendments.</p>

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
<b>Annual Performance Report</b>	No statutory provisions. HHS regulations require states to submit certain information in an annual program report due Dec. 31 of each year.	Requires that states submit a report on the performance of its TANF programs in the prior fiscal year, due Dec. 31 of each year. The report includes (1) whether the state met child poverty reduction goals set forth in the state plan, discussing the policy and other factors that contributed to meeting or failing to meet the goal; (2) whether the work programs met the objectives and numerical goals of the TANF state plan, including information on the number of families that left assistance, the employment rate of leavers, and wage rates of leavers (3) whether the state was effective in providing benefits and services to persons with disabilities, including information on participation by individuals with modified employability plans (their numbers, the percent that complied with such plans, the most prevalent types of impairments leading to adopting these plans, and most prevalent modifications to work requirements under the plans); (4) the effectiveness of benefits and services in reducing the number of children who have been removed from the home because of abuse and neglect; and (5) an analysis of the extent to which benefits and services were provided to noncustodial parents. The report will be developed in consultation with the National Governors Association, the National Association of State Legislatures, and the American Public Human Services Association.
<b>Census Bureau Study</b>	The Census Bureau is provided \$10 million per fiscal year to extend the 1992 and 1993 panels of the Survey of Income and Program Participation to examine the effects of welfare reform.	Provides the Census Bureau with \$10 million per fiscal year for new studies on effects of policies, including those contained in RISE, on low-income families.
<b>Administration of the TANF Program</b>	No provision.  (Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, require that states use a merit-based personnel system (state workers) to administer those programs.)	Requires that states use merit-based personnel (state workers) to administer TANF.

Provision	Current Law	RISE Proposal
<b>Child Care</b>		
Funding	Provides capped mandatory funding for child care. For FY2011, child care mandatory funds totaled \$2.917 billion. Federal funds are divided as a “guaranteed” amount (about \$1.1 billion per year) based on pre-1996 spending on mandatory child care programs. States that meet a child care maintenance of effort requirement (100% of what the state spent in FY1994) and provide matching funds also receive capped matching grants at the Medicaid matching rate which is based on state per-capita income and ranges from a minimum of 50% to 83%. Each state’s cap is determined by the total amount of matching funds available and each state’s share of the population under age 13.	Maintains the “guaranteed” child care fund, but eliminates the caps on each state’s matching grants. State child care expenditures in excess of the MOE are matched at the Medicaid matching rate (based on state per-capita income and ranging from 50% to 83%). Appropriates such sums as necessary.
Guarantee for certain populations	States are required to ensure that 70% of mandatory child care funds are used to serve TANF recipients, those leaving TANF in transition to work, and those “at-risk” of receiving TANF.	States are required to guarantee child care to employed TANF recipients and leavers with incomes below 250% of poverty.
<b>Child Support Enforcement</b>		
Assignment of Child Support Rights	Families receiving TANF assistance are required to assign (legally turn-over) their rights to child support collected on behalf of their children.	Eliminates the required assignment of child support collected on behalf of a TANF family’s children.
Distribution of Child Support Collected on Behalf of TANF Children	The federal government and the states split the proceeds from child support collected on behalf of families receiving TANF assistance. States may pass through to TANF families child support collections. The federal government and the states share of the cost of passing through a limited amount of child support to the family, up to \$100 for one child and \$200 in support for two or more children. In order for the federal government to share in this cost, the amount passed-through to families must be disregarded when determining TANF assistance amounts.	All child support collected on behalf of children in a family receiving TANF assistance is passed-through to the family.

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS).