EXTENSION OF PERIOD RELATING TO PLACEMENT AND FOSTER CARE OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN

JUNE 25, 1963.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. Byrd of Virginia, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 2651]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 2651) to extend for 1 year the period during which responsibility for the placement and foster care of dependent children under the program of aid to families with dependent children under title IV of the Social Security Act, may be exercised by a public agency other than the agency administering such aid under the State plan, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

The purpose of this bill is to extend for 1 year the provision of the Public Welfare Amendments of 1962 (Public Law 87-543) which permits the responsibility for the placement and foster care of dependent children under the program of aid to needy families with dependent children (title IV of the Social Security Act) to be exercised by a public agency other than the agency which regularly administers this program.

Under the permanent provisions of existing law, Federal matching is made available as to certain children placed under foster care pursuant to court order. The 1962 legislation provided an exception to the requirement that the responsibility for placement and care must reside solely with the State or local agency administering the title IV program so as to take care of the situation in a few States where it has been the practice for other public agencies, particularly juvenile courts, to be responsible for arranging the placement and providing for the supervision of children who the courts have decided should live in homes other than those of their own familites.

The legislation also required that the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare submit to the President, for transmission to the Congress prior to March 1, 1963, a full report RELATING TO PLACEMENT OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN

of the administration of the provision, including the experiences of each of the States in arranging for foster care together with recommendations as to continuation of, and modifications in, such a procedure. The Secretary's report, duly filed with the President and the Congress, stated that there has not yet been sufficient experience under the temporary provision to permit an evaluation either of its effectiveness or as to whether modifications are desirable.

Therefore, your committee recommends that the provision, which would expire June 30, 1963, be extended for 1 year until June 30, 1964. Furthermore, the bill as reported, would give the Secretary until December 31, 1963, to make the report required by the 1962 legislation. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has no objection to the extension of this temporary legislation.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection 4 of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets; new matter is printed in italic; existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SECTION 155 OF THE PUBLIC WELFARE AMENDMENTS OF 1962

RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLACEMENT AND FOSTER CARE OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN

SEC. 155. (a) Clause (2) of section 408(a) of the Social Security Act is amended to read: "(2) whose placement and care are the responsibility of (A) the State or local agency administering the State plan approved under section 402, or (B) any other public agency with whom the State agency administering or supervising the administration of such State plan has made an agreement which is still in effect and which includes provision for assuring development of a plan, satisfactory to such State agency, for such child as provided in paragraph (f)(1) and such other provisions as may be necessary to assure accomplishment of the objectives of the State plan approved under section 402,".

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply only for the period beginning October 1, 1962, and ending with the close of June 30, [1963] 1964. The Secretary shall submit to the President, for transmission to the Congress prior to [March 1] December 31, 1963, a full report of the administration of the provisions of the amendment made by subsection (a), including the experiences of each of the States in arranging for foster care under the provisions of their respective State plans which are in accord with such amendment, together with his recommendations as to continuation of, and modifications in, such amendment.

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