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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To establish a pilot program providing certain individuals with a guaranteed monthly income, to study the effect of a guaranteed monthly income on such individuals, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To establish a pilot program providing certain individuals with a guaranteed monthly income, to study the effect of a guaranteed monthly income on such individuals, 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 “Guaranteed Income  
5 Pilot Program Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Too many Americans cannot achieve finan-  
2           cial stability due to income volatility, the rising cost  
3           of living, wage stagnation, and a lack of affordable  
4           housing.

5           (2) Real wages have failed to keep pace with in-  
6           flation, meaning the purchasing power of American  
7           households has not changed in 40 years.

8           (3) Income volatility, defined as an annual in-  
9           come fluctuation of 25 percent or more, impacts  
10          nearly half of the United States population.

11          (4) 40 percent of American households indicate  
12          that they would face difficulty covering a \$400  
13          emergency expense with readily available cash or a  
14          checking account.

15          (5) Full-time minimum wage earners cannot af-  
16          ford an average 2-bedroom apartment anywhere in  
17          the United States.

18          (6) The changing nature of the economy, in-  
19          cluding the rise of the gig economy, unemployment  
20          risks posed by automation, and the fluctuating na-  
21          ture of waged labor, will result in increased income  
22          volatility and prohibit upward economic mobility.

23 **SEC. 3. GUARANTEED INCOME PILOT PROGRAM.**

24          (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation  
25          with the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, shall establish

1 and implement a 3-year pilot program (hereinafter re-  
2 ferred to as the “program”) to provide a guaranteed  
3 monthly income to certain eligible individuals in accord-  
4 ance with this section.

5 (b) INCOME SUBSIDY.—

6 (1) SELECTION OF PARTICIPATING ELIGIBLE  
7 INDIVIDUALS.—The Secretary, in consultation with  
8 the Commissioner and the external partner selected  
9 pursuant to subsection (d), shall develop selection  
10 criteria that the Secretary will use to select 12,000  
11 total eligible individuals for participation in the pro-  
12 gram.

13 (2) AMOUNT OF INCOME SUBSIDY.—Of the eli-  
14 gible individuals participating in the program, 6,000  
15 shall receive a cash payment each month equal to  
16 the fair market rent for a 2-bedroom home in the  
17 zip code in which the eligible individual resides, or  
18 a substantially similar amount as determined by the  
19 Secretary, in consultation with the Commissioner  
20 and the external partner.

21 (3) MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME SUB-  
22 SIDY.—Each participating eligible individual shall  
23 receive the cash payment on the 15th day of each  
24 month.

1 (c) RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMISSIONER OF INTER-  
2 NAL REVENUE.—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue  
3 shall be responsible for—

4 (1) providing the Secretary access to tax  
5 records to administer and study the program under  
6 this section;

7 (2) updating the Secretary and the external  
8 partner on changes to the taxable income of a par-  
9 ticipating eligible individual.

10 (d) EXTERNAL PARTNER.—

11 (1) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall select an  
12 external partner to provide assistance with the de-  
13 sign, administration, and evaluation of the program.

14 (2) QUALIFICATIONS.—An organization selected  
15 to be the external partner shall have demonstrated  
16 experience in—

17 (A) mixed-methods experimental design;

18 and

19 (B) implementing cash-transfer programs.

20 (3) CONFIDENTIALITY.—The external partner,  
21 and any employee of the external partner, shall be  
22 treated as a Federal employee for purposes of sec-  
23 tion 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26  
24 U.S.C. 6103).

1           (4) DATA COLLECTION.—The external partner  
2           shall collect data from participating eligible individ-  
3           uals as necessary to complete the study and reports  
4           required under section 4, and to conduct any addi-  
5           tional research as the Secretary determines nec-  
6           essary.

7           (e) DISREGARD OF CASH PAYMENTS FOR PURPOSES  
8           OF ALL FEDERAL AND FEDERALLY ASSISTED PRO-  
9           GRAMS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any  
10          payment made to participating eligible individuals under  
11          this section shall not be taken into account as income, and  
12          shall not be taken into account as resources for a period  
13          of 12 months from receipt, for purposes of determining  
14          the eligibility of such eligible individual (or any other indi-  
15          vidual) for benefits or assistance (or the amount or extent  
16          of benefits or assistance) under any Federal program or  
17          any State or local program financed in whole or in part  
18          with Federal funds.

19       **SEC. 4. STUDY AND REPORT.**

20          (a) STUDY ON PILOT PROGRAM.—The Secretary, in  
21          collaboration with the Commissioner and the external  
22          partner, shall conduct a study on outcomes of the pro-  
23          gram.

24          (b) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 24 months  
25          after participating eligible individuals have been begun

1 participating in the program, the Secretary, in consulta-  
2 tion with the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and the  
3 external partner, shall provide an interim report on the  
4 program under section 3 to the Congress.

5 (c) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 12 months after  
6 the conclusion of the program under section 3, the Sec-  
7 retary, in consultation with the Commissioner of Internal  
8 Revenue and the external partner, shall provide a final re-  
9 port on the program to the Congress, including an analysis  
10 of—

11 (1) the effect of the monthly income subsidy  
12 provided in section 3 on—

13 (A) micro-economic outcomes of partici-  
14 pating eligible individuals;

15 (B) the health of participating eligible indi-  
16 viduals;

17 (C) the social costs of income volatility, in-  
18 cluding connections with income fluctuation and  
19 health, education, employment, childcare, and  
20 other outcomes as determined appropriate by  
21 the Secretary; and

22 (2) the feasibility of expanding the program  
23 under section 3 to include a larger number of par-  
24 ticipants.

1 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) COMMISSIONER.—The term “Commis-  
4 sioner” means the Commissioner of the Internal  
5 Revenue Service.

6 (2) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term “eligible  
7 individual” means an individual taxpayer between  
8 the ages of 18-65.

9 (3) EXTERNAL PARTNER.—The term “external  
10 partner” means a non-partisan research agency or a  
11 non-profit academic institution with expertise in so-  
12 cial science experimentation.

13 (4) FAIR MARKET RENT.—The term “fair mar-  
14 ket rent” means the applicable fair market rent es-  
15 tablished under section 8(c) of the United States  
16 Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(e)).

17 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
18 the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

19 **SEC. 6. APPROPRIATION.**

20 There is appropriated, out of any monies in the  
21 Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to carry out this  
22 Act, \$285,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2021  
23 through 2024.