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(Original Signature of Member)

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

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

To provide relocation subsidies for the long-term unemployed, and for other purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CÁRDENAS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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

To provide relocation subsidies for the long-term unemployed, 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 “American Worker Mo-  
5       bility Act of 2014”.

1 **SEC. 2. RELOCATION SUBSIDIES FOR THE LONG-TERM UN-**  
2 **EMPLOYED.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor may  
4 grant a relocation subsidy to an eligible individual who  
5 meets the requirements of this section.

6 (b) MEANING OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—For pur-  
7 poses of this section, an eligible individual is an individual  
8 who, as of the date of the application for a relocation sub-  
9 sidy under this section—

10 (1) is totally unemployed and has been totally  
11 unemployed for at least 26 consecutive weeks;

12 (2) has exhausted all rights to regular com-  
13 pensation under the law of a State or under Federal  
14 law with respect to a benefit year (excluding any  
15 benefit year ending before July 1, 2008);

16 (3) has not received a relocation subsidy under  
17 this section in the 2-year period preceding such date  
18 of application; and

19 (4) is able to work, available to work, and ac-  
20 tively seeking work.

21 (c) REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT.—The Secretary of  
22 Labor may not grant a relocation subsidy to an eligible  
23 individual under this section unless the Secretary deter-  
24 mines that—

25 (1) the relocation subsidy will assist such indi-  
26 vidual in relocating within the United States, at

1 least 60 miles from the individual's current resi-  
2 dence, for the purpose of attaining employment;

3 (2) such individual filed an application with the  
4 Secretary not later than January 1, 2019; and

5 (3) such individual—

6 (A) has obtained a bona fide offer of suit-  
7 able employment affording a reasonable expect-  
8 ation of long-term duration in the area in  
9 which the individual wishes to relocate; or

10 (B) wishes to relocate to an area that has  
11 an unemployment rate that is at least 2 per-  
12 centage points less than the unemployment rate  
13 of the area of the individual's initial residence.

14 (d) AMOUNT OF SUBSIDY.—A relocation subsidy  
15 granted to an eligible individual under this section shall  
16 be equal to the lesser of \$10,000 or the amount that any  
17 contribution by a potential employer of the individual to  
18 the individual's relocation expenses is exceeded by the sum  
19 of—

20 (1) 90 percent of the reasonable and necessary  
21 expenses incurred in transporting the worker, the  
22 worker's family, and household effects, plus

23 (2) a lump sum equivalent to 3 times the indi-  
24 vidual's weekly benefit amount for the most recent

1 benefit year (as such terms are defined in the State  
2 law), up to a maximum payment of \$1,250.

3 (e) REGULATIONS.—Prior to granting any relocation  
4 subsidies under subsection (a), the Secretary of Labor  
5 shall issue regulations designed to prevent fraud or abuse  
6 relating to the program established under this Act.

7 (f) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.—No addi-  
8 tional appropriations are authorized for any fiscal year to  
9 carry out this Act.

10 (g) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

11 (1) the term “regular compensation” has the  
12 meaning given the term in section 205(2) of the  
13 Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensa-  
14 tion Act of 1970 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note), as in effect  
15 prior to January 1, 2014; and

16 (2) the term “suitable work”—

17 (A) means suitable work as defined in the  
18 applicable State law for claimants for regular  
19 compensation; and

20 (B) does not include self-employment or  
21 employment as an independent contractor.

22 (h) REPORTS.—Not later than March 15 of each of  
23 calendar years 2015 and 2017, the Secretary of Labor  
24 shall submit a report to Congress that identifies, by geo-  
25 graphic region—

1           (1) the total number of relocation subsidies  
2           granted to individuals under this section during the  
3           calendar year preceding each such calendar year;

4           (2) the total number of relocation subsidies  
5           granted to individuals pursuant to subsection  
6           (c)(3)(A) during such calendar year;

7           (3) the total number of relocation subsidies  
8           granted to individuals pursuant to subsection  
9           (c)(3)(B) during such calendar year, and the num-  
10          ber of such individuals who obtained employment  
11          within 1 month, 3 months, and 6 months, respec-  
12          tively, after the individual's relocation;

13          (4) the average amount of a relocation subsidy  
14          granted during such calendar year;

15          (5) the average distance traveled for relocation  
16          by each individual receiving a relocation subsidy dur-  
17          ing such calendar year; and

18          (6) the number of individuals who received a re-  
19          location subsidy under this section during such cal-  
20          endar year and subsequently applied for unemploy-  
21          ment benefits.