The Committee recommendation includes $11,996,000 for PROMISE and makes these funds available for obligation through September 30, 2014. The budget request includes $30,000,000 for this activity. Last year's bill provides $1,996,000 under this account, as well as additional resources from unclaimed VR State grant funds and funds provided to SSA.

The goal of PROMISE is to improve outcomes, such as employment and completion of postsecondary education, of children who receive SSI, as well as their families. Competitive grants will be awarded to a small number of States for a period of 5 years. States will use funds to improve the coordination and increase the use of existing services for which children receiving SSI and their families are already eligible. The Committee includes new bill language requested by the administration that slightly modifies the program as it was initially created in last year's bill.

As requested by the administration, the Committee bill also includes new bill language that allows a portion of the funds provided to be used for Pay for Success awards, which are described in the highlights section in the introduction to the Committee report. The Committee expects to be notified prior to the issuance of any notice related to the Pay for Success activity.

Highlights Section (Pay for Success Excerpt)

Pay for Success—The Committee recommendation creates a new model, called Pay for Success, for financing and delivering effective services under government programs. Federal funding typically pays for services with the expectation, but no absolute guarantee that they will have positive results. Under Pay for Success, the Federal Government will make available funds to pay for defined outcomes, such as employment or graduation. Philanthropic groups and social impact investors will finance the services and would earn payments if those services lead to the agreed-upon outcomes. The Committee recommendation includes up to $10,000,000 within WIF, up to $9,000,000 within the Social Innovation Fund, and up to $25,000,000 within the PROMISE program for this new approach.

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