

Union Calendar No.

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 8872

[Report No. 119-]

To amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to target funds to low-income families, strengthen program integrity guardrails for State expenditure of funds, require measurement of improper payments, and establish goals for eliminating fraud and improper payments under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2026

Mr. CAREY (for himself, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, and Ms. TENNEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

MAY --, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 19, 2026]

A BILL

To amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to target funds to low-income families, strengthen program integrity guardrails for State expenditure of funds, require measurement of improper payments, and establish goals for eliminating fraud and improper payments under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families, 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 “Preventing Waste,*
5 *Fraud, and Abuse in TANF Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. STRENGTHENING PROGRAM INTEGRITY THROUGH**
7 **IMPROPER PAYMENTS REVIEW.**

8 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 404 of the Social Security*
9 *Act (42 U.S.C. 604) is amended by adding at the end the*
10 *following:*

11 *“(l) APPLICABILITY OF PAYMENT INTEGRITY LAW.—*
12 *The Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 shall apply*
13 *to a State with respect to the State program funded under*
14 *this part in the same manner in which such Act applies*
15 *to a Federal agency.”.*

16 *(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Within 1 year after the*
17 *date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health*
18 *and Human Services shall submit to the Congress a written*
19 *report that contains a plan to reduce or eliminate improper*
20 *payments made by States under part A of title IV of the*
21 *Social Security Act within 10 years.*

22 **SEC. 3. TARGETING FUNDS TO FAMILIES IN NEED.**

23 *Section 404 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 604)*
24 *is further amended by adding at the end the following:*

1 *effective date of this subsection, for a fiscal year*
2 *may reserve not more than 15 percent of the*
3 *funds for future use in the State program funded*
4 *under this part, subject to subparagraph (B) of*
5 *this paragraph.*

6 “(B) *LIMITATION.*—*The total amount held*
7 *in reserve by a State under subparagraph (A) of*
8 *this paragraph shall not exceed an amount equal*
9 *to 50 percent of the total amount paid to the*
10 *State under section 403(a)(1) for the then pre-*
11 *ceding fiscal year.*

12 “(C) *NOTICE OF INTENT TO RESERVE*
13 *FUNDS.*—*A State that intends to reserve funds*
14 *under subparagraph (A) shall notify the Sec-*
15 *retary of the intention not later than the end of*
16 *the period in which the funds are available for*
17 *obligation without regard to subparagraph (A) of*
18 *this paragraph.”.*

19 **SEC. 5. PROHIBITION ON STATE DIVERSION OF FEDERAL**
20 **FUNDS TO REPLACE STATE SPENDING.**

21 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Section 404 of the Social Security*
22 *Act (42 U.S.C. 604) is further amended by adding at the*
23 *end the following:*

24 “(n) *LIMITATION ON USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS TO RE-*
25 *PLACE STATE GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS.*—*A State shall*

1 *use Federal funds received under this part only to supple-*
2 *ment funds that, in the absence of the Federal funds, would*
3 *be made available from State and local sources for pro-*
4 *grams assisted under this part, and not to supplant the*
5 *funds.”.*

6 (b) *STATE CERTIFICATION.*—Section 402(a) of such
7 Act (42 U.S.C. 602(a)) is amended by adding at the end
8 the following:

9 “(9) *CERTIFICATION OF STATE SUPPLEMEN-*
10 *TATION.*—A certification by the chief executive officer
11 of the State that the funds provided to the State
12 under this part will not be used to supplant State or
13 non-Federal funds for services and activities that pro-
14 mote the purposes of this part.”.

15 **SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

16 *The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on*
17 *October 1, 2027.*