

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2949

To establish a national task force to expand opportunities and improve the standard of living for working families in America.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2025

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. WHITESIDES, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. DELUZIO, and Mr. GARCIA of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Oversight and Government Reform, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a national task force to expand opportunities and improve the standard of living for working families in America.

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 “Working Families
5 Task Force Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after
3 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor,
4 in consultation with the Secretaries of Health and Human
5 Services, Education, Housing and Urban Development,
6 Commerce, Treasury, Transportation, and Agriculture
7 and the Administrator of the Small Business Administra-
8 tion, shall establish an Interagency National Task Force
9 on Working Families. The task force shall be titled the
10 “Working Families Task Force” and for purposes of this
11 Act be referred to as the “Task Force”.

12 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Task Force shall be com-
13 posed of not fewer than 10 members and shall include rep-
14 resentatives designated by the relevant Secretaries from
15 each of the following Federal agencies:

16 (1) The Department of Labor.

17 (2) The Department of Health and Human
18 Services.

19 (3) The Department of Education.

20 (4) The Department of Housing and Urban De-
21 velopment.

22 (5) The Department of Commerce.

23 (6) The Department of Treasury.

24 (7) The Department of Transportation.

25 (8) The Department of Agriculture.

26 (9) The Small Business Administration.

1 (c) MEETINGS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Task Force shall meet
3 not less than 1 time per quarter per calendar year.

4 (2) QUORUM.—Two-thirds of the members of
5 the Task Force shall constitute a quorum.

6 (d) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Task Force shall
7 be to—

8 (1) examine the challenges facing working fami-
9 lies; and

10 (2) develop recommendations to improve the
11 standard of living and quality of life for working
12 families.

13 (e) DUTIES.—The duties of the Task Force shall in-
14 clude the following:

15 (1) Identifying and evaluating key factors that
16 impact the standard of living for working families,
17 including—

18 (A) addressing affordability challenges re-
19 lated to various economic conditions, including
20 inflation;

21 (B) reducing barriers to economic mobility;

22 (C) improving access to quality jobs with
23 livable wages and strong labor standards;

24 (D) expanding affordable child care for all
25 families;

1 (E) improving incentives, including tax
2 policies such as the child tax credit, child and
3 dependent care tax credit, and earned income
4 tax credit, that assist children and families;

5 (F) supporting home care and medical care
6 for seniors and families that need assistance;

7 (G) mitigating barriers to more affordable
8 and higher quality health care and services;

9 (H) obtaining and building quality, afford-
10 able housing;

11 (I) expanding educational and workforce
12 training opportunities;

13 (J) increasing financial literacy and access
14 to financial services;

15 (K) accessing affordable and nutritious
16 food;

17 (L) reducing gaps in access to technology
18 and the internet that impact educational and
19 employment opportunities and health services;

20 (M) reducing environmental hazards and
21 creating a healthier environment;

22 (N) accessing affordable and renewable en-
23 ergy sources;

24 (O) accessing affordable, reliant, and effi-
25 cient transportation systems; and

1 (P) addressing the impacts of staffing and
2 funding cuts at Federal agencies.

3 (2) Assessing or developing a methodology to
4 assess how various macroeconomic conditions (which
5 may include unemployment, inflation, gross domestic
6 product, and monetary policy) affect quality of life
7 and affordability for working families.

8 (3) Assessing the effectiveness of current Fed-
9 eral policies and programs in helping working fami-
10 lies achieve an improved standard of living.

11 (4) Developing legislative and regulatory policy
12 recommendations to enhance the efforts of Federal
13 agencies and Congress to empower working families
14 to meet the challenges of current economic condi-
15 tions, raise their standards of living, and access the
16 benefits of economic growth.

17 (5) The Task Force shall consult with a wide-
18 ranging group of external stakeholders and public
19 experts in order to develop the recommendations re-
20 ferred to in paragraph (4).

21 (f) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
22 of enactment of this Act, the Task Force shall—

23 (1) submit to the appropriate congressional
24 committees a report on its most recent findings and
25 recommendations, which shall include a list of stake-

1 holders and public experts with which the Task
2 Force consulted and the meeting minutes for each
3 meeting of the Task Force; and

4 (2) make such report publicly available on the
5 website of the Task Force.

6 (g) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
7 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-
8 gressional committees” means the following:

9 (1) The Committee on Education and Work-
10 force of the House of Representatives and the Com-
11 mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
12 of the Senate.

13 (2) The Committee on Transportation and In-
14 frastructure of the House of Representatives and the
15 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
16 tation of the Senate.

17 (3) The Committee on Financial Services of the
18 House of Representatives and the Committee on Fi-
19 nance of the Senate.

20 (4) The Committee on Energy and Commerce
21 of the House of Representatives and the Committee
22 on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

- 1 (5) The Committee on Agriculture of the House
- 2 of Representatives and the Committee on Agri-
- 3 culture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

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