

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7017

To prohibit the withholding of Federal funds under Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Child Care Development Fund, and the Social Services Block Grant programs without explicit authorization from Congress, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 12, 2026

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, 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 prohibit the withholding of Federal funds under Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Child Care Development Fund, and the Social Services Block Grant programs without explicit authorization from Congress, 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; FINDINGS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Kids Before Cuts Act”.

6 (b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) The Congressional Budget and Impound-
2 ment Control Act of 1974 reasserted Congress power
3 of the purse. Specifically, title X of such Act estab-
4 lished procedures to prevent the President and other
5 government officials from unilaterally substituting
6 their own funding decisions for those of the Con-
7 gress.

8 (2) Despite clear legal precedent, the Trump
9 administration and the Department of Health and
10 Human Services announced on January 6, 2025, the
11 freezing of \$10,000,000,000 in Federal funds, in-
12 cluding approximately \$1,000,000,000 for Illinois,
13 for social services and child care across 5 of the Na-
14 tion's largest States.

15 (3) Approximately 100,000 families, including
16 more than 152,000 children, are served through the
17 Illinois Child Care Assistance Program, which is
18 partially funded through the Child Care and Devel-
19 opment Block Grant.

20 (4) The TANF block grant supports thousands
21 of licensed child care providers in every county of Il-
22 linois.

23 (5) The Social Services Block Grant supports
24 275 organizations statewide through 17 program

1 areas designed to protect the network of Illinois
2 human service providers.

3 **SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON FREEZING FUNDS UNDER TANF,**
4 **CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND, AND SO-**
5 **CIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS.**

6 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, Federal
7 funds may not be withheld from obligation or expenditure
8 under any of the following programs without explicit au-
9 thority provided under a law enacted by Congress after
10 the date of the enactment of this Act:

11 (1) The program of block grants to States for
12 temporary assistance to needy families under part A
13 of title IV of the Social Security Act.

14 (2) The program of block grants to States for
15 social services under subtitle A of title XX of the So-
16 cial Security Act.

17 (3) Funds provided to States under the Child
18 Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990.

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