

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 728

To amend the Head Start Act to include TANF, SSI, SNAP, WIC, and federal housing assistance as eligible public assistance.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 24, 2025

Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. TURNER of Texas, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. ANSARI, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. McCLELLAN, Ms. TITUS, Mr. CORREA, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mrs. HAYES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Head Start Act to include TANF, SSI, SNAP, WIC, and federal housing assistance as eligible public assistance.

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 “Expanding Head Start
5 Eligibility Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION.**

2 Section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832)
3 is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (25) and (26)
5 as paragraphs (26) and (27), respectively, and

6 (2) by inserting after paragraph (24) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(25) The term ‘public assistance’, as defined
9 by the Secretary, shall include—

10 “(A) assistance received under part A of
11 title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
12 601 et seq.);

13 “(B) benefits received under title XVI of
14 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1381 et
15 seq.);

16 “(C) supplemental nutrition assistance
17 program benefits received under the Food and
18 Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

19 “(D) the nutrition assistance program
20 (NAP) under section 19 of the Food and Nutri-
21 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2018) and the food
22 distribution program on Indian Reservations
23 (FDPIR) under section 4(a) of the Consumer
24 Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note);

25 “(E) State-funded food assistance pro-
26 grams, with income eligibility standards iden-

1 tical or substantially identical to those of the
2 supplemental nutrition assistance program
3 under of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
4 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

5 “(F) assistance received under section 17
6 of the Child Nutrition Act (42 U.S.C. 1786 et
7 seq.);

8 “(G) assistance received under section 8 of
9 the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42
10 U.S.C. 1437f et seq.); and

11 “(H) additional benefits and assistance
12 provided under Federal law as determined by
13 the Secretary.”.

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