

HR 6941

Measuring American Poverty Act of 2008

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Sep 18, 2008

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Gover

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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. (Sep 18, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/6941>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]

Party: Democratic • State: WA • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Hinchey, Maurice D. [D-NY-22]	D · NY		Sep 26, 2008
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-14]	D · NY		Sep 26, 2008
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Oct 2, 2008
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Nov 20, 2008
Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Nov 20, 2008
Rep. Watson, Diane E. [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Nov 20, 2008
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-13]	D · NJ		Dec 10, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 18, 2008
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 18, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 S 3636	Related bill	Sep 26, 2008: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Measuring American Poverty Act of 2008 - Amends part A of title XI of the Social Security Act to direct the Bureau of the Census, in collaboration with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, to calculate modern poverty thresholds and modern poverty rates for each calendar year.

Declares that the modern poverty threshold for a reference family consisting of two adults and their two related children shall be an amount equal to the average of 120% of the 33rd percentile of the distribution of annual expenditures by such families on food, clothing, and shelter during each of the three most recent years for which data is available from the Consumer Expenditure Survey, a superior federal government source of data, or some combination of such sources. Prescribes requirements for determining modern poverty rates.

Directs the Bureau of the Census, in collaboration with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), to contract with the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to develop and publish methods of: (1) calculating a decent living standard threshold; and (2) measuring the extent to which the income of families in the United States is sufficient to meet it.

Directs the Bureau of the Census, in collaboration with BLS, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to contract with NAS to develop and publish a method of: (1) measuring the extent of medical care risk in the United States; and (2) calculating the number and percentage of individuals in the United States who lack adequate health insurance, leaving them at risk of being unable to afford needed treatment.

---

### **Actions Timeline**

- **Sep 18, 2008:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 18, 2008:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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.