

S 4679

Poverty Measurement Improvement Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Sep 23, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Sep 23, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4679>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]

Party: Republican • **State:** UT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 23, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Poverty Measurement Improvement Act

This bill requires the Bureau of the Census to determine income and poverty levels in the United States in a manner that accounts for the receipt of federal benefits.

Specifically, beginning in FY2021, the bureau must supplement the data collected under the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey with data from administering agencies related to

- participation in any federal benefit program and the monetary or cash equivalent value of such benefit for an individual, where possible, and otherwise for resource units or households;
- the total amount of earned income for individuals;
- the total amount of entitlement and other income for individuals;
- payment of income taxes and payroll taxes for individuals;
- total resource unit income; and
- total earned resource unit income.

The bill requires each administering agency to make available to the bureau such data (including income tax data) as the bureau shall require for the purpose of carrying out this bill.

The bureau shall (1) submit to Congress, by January 1, 2023, a report detailing the implementation of this bill; and (2) for 2024 and subsequent years, adjust the poverty thresholds used for determining poverty rates by using the personal consumption expenditure price index (as published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis).

The bill (1) establishes within the bureau the Commission on Valuation of Federal Benefits, and (2) requires the Government Accountability Office to periodically report to Congress regarding poverty rates and related measures.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 23, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
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