

HR 8872

Preventing Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in TANF Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Social Welfare

Introduced: May 19, 2026

Current Status: POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, the Chair announced further proceedings

Latest Action: POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, the Chair announced further proceedings on H.R. 8872 is postponed. (Jun 3, 2026)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/8872>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Carey, Mike [R-OH-15]

Party: Republican • **State:** OH • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Arrington, Jodey C. [R-TX-19]	R · TX		May 19, 2026
Rep. Bean, Aaron [R-FL-4]	R · FL		May 19, 2026
Rep. Miller, Max L. [R-OH-7]	R · OH		May 19, 2026
Rep. Smith, Adrian [R-NE-3]	R · NE		May 19, 2026
Rep. Tenney, Claudia [R-NY-24]	R · NY		May 19, 2026
Rep. Feenstra, Randy [R-IA-4]	R · IA		May 20, 2026
Rep. Miller, Carol D. [R-WV-1]	R · WV		May 20, 2026
Rep. Moore, Blake D. [R-UT-1]	R · UT		May 20, 2026

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	May 19, 2026
Ways and Means Committee	House	Markup By	May 21, 2026
Ways and Means Committee	House	Reported By	May 29, 2026

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Social Welfare

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HRES 1333	Procedurally related	Jun 3, 2026: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
119 HR 2359	Related bill	Mar 26, 2025: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
119 HR 2242	Related bill	Mar 21, 2025: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Summary (as of May 29, 2026)

Preventing Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in TANF Act

This bill limits how and when states may use Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds and establishes an eligibility threshold for all TANF-funded assistance and services.

Currently, each state sets its own eligibility threshold for TANF-funded cash assistance. The bill establishes an upper limit on eligibility applicable to all assistance and services (including non-cash benefits) funded by TANF family assistance grants. Under this provision, only families with income under 200% of the federal poverty guidelines may receive TANF-funded assistance and services.

Further, the bill generally requires states to obligate TANF funds by the end of the fiscal year after they are paid and to spend funds by the end of the second fiscal year after they are paid. However, states may reserve a specified portion of their TANF funds for future use. (There is currently no requirement to use TANF funds within a specified period.)

The bill also explicitly requires states to use federal TANF funds to supplement, not replace, state and local funding for TANF-supported programs. (Current law requires states to spend a specified minimum amount on TANF-eligible activities and populations, known as the *maintenance of effort* requirement.)

States must also take specified steps to track and report on improper payments of federal funds (e.g., overpayments, underpayments, payments to ineligible recipients). Within one year of enactment, HHS must submit to Congress a plan to reduce or eliminate improper payments made by states under the TANF program within 10 years.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 3, 2026:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 1333 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 8646, H.R. 7726, H.R. 7892 and H.R. 8872. The resolution provides for consideration of H.R. 8646 under a structured rule and H.R. 7726, H.R. 7892, and H.R. 8872 under a closed rule, with one hour of general debate on each bill. The resolution provides for one motion to recommit on each bill.
- **Jun 3, 2026:** Rule H. Res. 1333 passed House.
- **Jun 3, 2026:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 1333. (consideration: CR H3805-3810; text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR H3805-3806)
- **Jun 3, 2026:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 8646, H.R. 7726, H.R. 7892 and H.R. 8872. The resolution provides for consideration of H.R. 8646 under a structured rule and H.R. 7726, H.R. 7892, and H.R. 8872 under a closed rule, with one hour of general debate on each bill. The resolution provides for one motion to recommit on each bill.
- **Jun 3, 2026:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with one hour of debate on H.R. 8872.
- **Jun 3, 2026:** The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule.
- **Jun 3, 2026:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, the Chair announced further proceedings on H.R. 8872 is postponed.
- **Jun 3, 2026:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 1333.
- **May 29, 2026:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Ways and Means. H. Rept. 119-670.
- **May 29, 2026:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 584.
- **May 21, 2026:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- **May 21, 2026:** Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute by the Yeas and Nays: 23 - 19.
- **May 19, 2026:** Introduced in House
- **May 19, 2026:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

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