

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8743

To amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to promote permanency for youth by strengthening support networks for children, youth, and families at risk of entering the child welfare system.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 13, 2024

Mr. SMUCKER (for himself and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to promote permanency for youth by strengthening support networks for children, youth, and families at risk of entering the child welfare system.

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 “Empowering Kinship
5 Caregivers and Youth through Title IV–B Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SUPPLEMENTATION OF DEFINITIONS.**

7 Section 431(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
8 629a(a)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1)—

2 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph

3 (A)—

4 (i) by striking “children” and insert-
5 ing “children, youth,”; and

6 (ii) by striking “adoptive and ex-
7 tended” and inserting “kinship and adop-
8 tive”;

9 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking “par-
10 ents and other caregivers (including foster par-
11 ents)” and inserting “parents, kinship care-
12 givers, and foster parents” ;

13 (C) by striking “and” at the end of sub-
14 paragraph (E);

15 (D) by striking the period at the end of
16 subparagraph (F) and inserting “ ; and”; and

17 (E) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(G) peer-to-peer mentoring and support
19 programs designed to help children and families
20 learn from others with direct experience or
21 interactions with the child welfare system.”;

22 (2) in paragraph (2)(B)—

23 (A) in clause (i), by striking “children”
24 and inserting “children, youth,”; and

- 1 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “extended”
2 and inserting “kinship”;
3 (3) in paragraph (7)(A), by inserting “with kin-
4 ship caregivers or” before “in a foster family home”;
5 and
6 (4) by adding at the end the following:
7 “(10) YOUTH.—The term ‘youth’ means indi-
8 viduals who have not attained 26 years of age.”.

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