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## Protecting America's Children by Strengthening Families Act

**Introduced:** 07/24/24

**Bill Text:** [H.R. 9076](#)

**Track:** Prevention & Family Preservation

**Sponsor:** Rep. Darin LaHood (R-IL)

**Key words:** Reauthorization, reform, funding

### \* summary

This legislation would reauthorize and reform child welfare programs under Title IV-B of the Social Security Act. Due to its flexibility and capacity to target root causes of maltreatment, Title IV-B services offer a critical strategy for preventing maltreatment and subsequent child welfare system involvement.

### \* to learn more

- [List of all 16 bills introduced to modernize child welfare program that represent H.R. 9076 in entirety](#)
- [Bipartisan Reform of Child Welfare to Protect America's Children](#)
- [Child Welfare Funding](#)
- [Section by Section of the bill](#)

### \* what it would do

This bill reauthorizes Title IV-B of the Social Security Act, a child welfare funding stream. This bill encompasses 16 different pieces of bipartisan legislation after a year-long review of the nation's child welfare programs to identify areas for improvement. Some of the main policies include:

- Reauthorizing Title IV-B for five years and includes reforms that modernize the program.
- Reduces paperwork and data reporting for agencies and caseworkers.
- Strengthens supports for grandfamilies and kinship caregivers.
- Improves access for Indian tribes by streamlining funding.
- Addresses the caseworker crises by guaranteeing access to technology and training.
- Improves outcomes for youth transitioning from foster care, by allowing foster youth up to age 26 to be eligible for services.
- Expands evidence-based services to prevent child abuse and neglect and ensures children are not separated from parents solely due to poverty-related neglect.
- Evaluates the effectiveness of pre- and post-adoption services available to adopt the more than 65,000 children waiting to be adopted.

### \* the why

Title IV-B funding for child welfare programs are proposed to be reauthorized for the first time since 2021 and will deliver substantial reforms. With approximately 369,000 children currently in foster care, this legislation offers vital assistance to help strengthen and keep families together and support the safety and well-being of children in foster care.