

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3824

To amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to update eligibility for the supplemental security income program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2021

Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Ms. DEAN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. BASS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. COOPER, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. PINGREE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to update eligibility for the supplemental security income program, and for other purposes.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Supplemental Security Income Restoration Act of 2021”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
 2 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Update in eligibility for the supplemental security income program.
- Sec. 3. Update in supplemental security income benefit amounts and repeal of marriage penalty.
- Sec. 4. Support and maintenance furnished in kind not included as income.
- Sec. 5. Exclusion of retirement accounts from resources.
- Sec. 6. Repeal of penalty for disposal of resources for less than fair market value.
- Sec. 7. Clarifying the treatment of certain State tax credits.
- Sec. 8. Elimination of dedicated accounts for certain past-due benefits.
- Sec. 9. Elimination of installment payment requirement.
- Sec. 10. Extension of period of exclusion of certain payments from countable resources.
- Sec. 11. Modification of rules to determine marital relationships.
- Sec. 12. Effective date.

3 **SEC. 2. UPDATE IN ELIGIBILITY FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL**
 4 **SECURITY INCOME PROGRAM.**

5 (a) UPDATE IN GENERAL INCOME EXCLUSION.—
 6 Section 1612(b)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42
 7 U.S.C. 1382a(b)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “\$240”
 8 and inserting “\$1,536 (increased as described in section
 9 1617(d) for each calendar year after 2022)”.

10 (b) UPDATE IN EARNED INCOME EXCLUSION.—Sec-
 11 tion 1612(b)(4) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1382a(b)(4)) is
 12 amended by striking “\$780” each place it appears and
 13 inserting “\$4,992 (increased as described in section
 14 1617(d) for each calendar year after 2022)”.

15 (c) UPDATE IN RESOURCE LIMIT FOR INDIVIDUALS
 16 AND COUPLES.—Section 1611(a)(3) of such Act (42
 17 U.S.C. 1382(a)(3)) is amended—

1 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “\$2,250”
2 and all that follows through the end of the subpara-
3 graph and inserting “\$20,000 in calendar year
4 2022, and shall be increased as described in section
5 1617(d) for each subsequent calendar year.”; and

6 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “\$1,500”
7 and all that follows through the end of the subpara-
8 graph and inserting “\$10,000 in calendar year
9 2022, and shall be increased as described in section
10 1617(d) for each subsequent calendar year.”.

11 (d) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Section 1617 of such
12 Act (42 U.S.C. 1382f) is amended—

13 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “; IN-
14 FLATION ADJUSTMENT” after “BENEFITS”; and

15 (2) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(d) In the case of any calendar year after 2022, each
17 of the amounts specified in sections 1611(a)(3),
18 1612(b)(2)(A), and 1612(b)(4) shall be increased by mul-
19 tiplying each such amount by the quotient (not less than
20 1) obtained by dividing—

21 “(1) the average of the Consumer Price Index
22 for Elderly Consumers (CPI-E, as published by the
23 Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of
24 Labor) for the 12-month period ending with Sep-
25 tember of the preceding calendar year, by

1 “(2) such average for the 12-month period end-
2 ing with September 2021.”.

3 **SEC. 3. UPDATE IN SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME**
4 **BENEFIT AMOUNTS AND REPEAL OF MAR-**
5 **RIAGE PENALTY.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1611(b) of the Social Se-
7 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1382(b)) is amended to read as fol-
8 lows:

9 “Amounts of Benefits

10 “(b)(1) The benefit under this title for an individual
11 who does not have an eligible spouse shall be payable—

12 “(A) for calendar years 1974 through 2021, at
13 the rate of \$1,752 (or, if greater, the amount deter-
14 mined under section 1617), and

15 “(B) for calendar years after 2021, at the rate
16 equal to the annual poverty guideline for the cal-
17 endar year preceding such calendar year (as updated
18 annually in the Federal Register by the Department
19 of Health and Human Services under the authority
20 of section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconcili-
21 ation Act of 1981) as applicable to a single indi-
22 vidual,

23 reduced by the amount of income, not excluded pursuant
24 to section 1612(b), of such individual.

1 “(2) The benefit under this title for an individual who
2 has an eligible spouse shall be payable—

3 “(A) for calendar years 1974 through 2021, at
4 the rate of \$2,628 (or, if greater, the amount deter-
5 mined under section 1617), and

6 “(B) for calendar years after 2021, at the rate
7 equal to twice the rate described in paragraph
8 (1)(B),

9 reduced by the amount of income, not excluded pursuant
10 to section 1612(b), of such individual and spouse.”.

11 (b) CONFORMING CHANGES TO COST-OF-LIVING AD-
12 JUSTMENTS.—Section 1617(a)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
13 1382f(a)(1)) is amended by striking “(a)(1)(A), (a)(2)(A),
14 (b)(1), and (b)(2)” and inserting “(a)(1)(A) and
15 (a)(2)(A)”.

16 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
17 this section shall apply with respect to calendar years after
18 2021.

19 **SEC. 4. SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE FURNISHED IN KIND**
20 **NOT INCLUDED AS INCOME.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1612(a)(2) of such Act
22 (42 U.S.C. 1382a(a)(2)) is amended—

23 (1) by inserting “(other than support or main-
24 tenance furnished in kind)” after “all other income”;
25 and

1 (2) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (A) by striking “or kind”;

3 (B) by striking clause (i) and redesignig-
4 nating clauses (ii) and (iii) as clauses (i) and
5 (ii), respectively; and

6 (C) in clause (ii) (as so redesignated), by
7 striking “and the provisions of clause (i) shall
8 not be applicable”.

9 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

10 (1) Section 1611(c) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
11 1382(c)) is amended by striking paragraph (6) and
12 redesignating paragraphs (7) through (10) as para-
13 graphs (6) through (9), respectively.

14 (2) Section 1612(a)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
15 1382a(a)(2)) is amended—

16 (A) in subparagraph (F), by inserting
17 “and” at the end;

18 (B) in subparagraph (G), by striking “;
19 and” and inserting a period;

20 (C) by moving subparagraph (G) 2 ems to
21 the right; and

22 (D) by striking subparagraph (H).

23 (3) Section 1621(c) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
24 1382j(c)) is amended to read as follows:

1 “(c) In determining the amount of income of an alien
2 during the period of 5 years after such alien’s entry into
3 the United States, support or maintenance furnished in
4 cash to the alien by such alien’s sponsor (to the extent
5 that it reflects income or resources which were taken into
6 account in determining the amount of income and re-
7 sources to be deemed to the alien under subsection (a)
8 or (b) of this section) shall not be considered to be income
9 of such alien under section 1612(a)(2)(A).”.

10 **SEC. 5. EXCLUSION OF RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS FROM RE-**
11 **SOURCES.**

12 Section 1613(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
13 1382b(a)) is amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (16), by striking “; and” and
15 inserting a semicolon;

16 (2) in paragraph (17), by striking the period at
17 the end and inserting “; and”; and

18 (3) by inserting after paragraph (17) the fol-
19 lowing new paragraph:

20 “(18) any qualified retirement plan or eligible
21 deferred compensation plan (as such terms are de-
22 fined in sections 4974(c) and 457(b), respectively, of
23 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986).”.

1 **SEC. 6. REPEAL OF PENALTY FOR DISPOSAL OF RE-**
2 **SOURCES FOR LESS THAN FAIR MARKET**
3 **VALUE.**

4 Section 1613(c) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1382b(c)) is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 “(c) NOTIFICATION OF MEDICAID POLICY RESTRICT-
7 ING ELIGIBILITY OF INSTITUTIONALIZED INDIVIDUALS
8 FOR BENEFITS BASED ON DISPOSAL OF RESOURCES FOR
9 LESS THAN FAIR MARKET VALUE.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—At the time an individual
11 (and the individual’s eligible spouse, if any) applies
12 for benefits under this title, and at the time the eli-
13 gibility of an individual (and such spouse, if any) for
14 such benefits is redetermined, the Commissioner of
15 Social Security shall—

16 “(A) inform such individual of the provi-
17 sions of section 1917(c) providing for a period
18 of ineligibility for benefits under title XIX for
19 individuals who make certain dispositions of re-
20 sources for less than fair market value, and in-
21 form such individual that information obtained
22 pursuant to subparagraph (B) will be made
23 available to the State agency administering a
24 State plan under title XIX (as provided in
25 paragraph (2)); and

1 “(B) obtain from such individual informa-
2 tion which may be used by the State agency in
3 determining whether or not a period of ineligi-
4 bility for such benefits would be required by
5 reason of section 1917(c).

6 “(2) PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO STATE
7 MEDICAID AGENCIES.—The Commissioner of Social
8 Security shall make the information obtained under
9 paragraph (1)(B) available, on request, to any State
10 agency administering a State plan approved under
11 title XIX.”.

12 **SEC. 7. CLARIFYING THE TREATMENT OF CERTAIN STATE**
13 **TAX CREDITS.**

14 Title XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
15 1382a) is amended—

16 (1) in section 1612(b)(19), by striking “and
17 any payment” and all that follows through “credit)”
18 and inserting “and any refund of State income taxes
19 made to such individual (or such spouse) by reason
20 of a State earned income tax credit (as defined by
21 the Secretary)”; and

22 (2) in section 1613(a)(11)—

23 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “,
24 and any refund of State income taxes made to
25 such individual (or such spouse) by reason of a

1 State child tax credit (as defined by the Sec-
2 retary)” before the semicolon; and

3 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and
4 any payment” and all that follows through
5 “credit)” and inserting “and any refund of
6 State income taxes made to such individual (or
7 such spouse) by reason of a State earned in-
8 come tax credit (as defined by the Secretary)”.

9 **SEC. 8. ELIMINATION OF DEDICATED ACCOUNTS FOR CER-**
10 **TAIN PAST-DUE BENEFITS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1631(a)(2) of the Social
12 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1383(a)(2)) is amended by strik-
13 ing subparagraph (F).

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

15 (1) RELATING TO PAYMENTS AND PROCE-
16 DURES.—Section 1631(a)(2) of the Social Security
17 Act (42 U.S.C. 1383(a)(2)), as amended by sub-
18 section (a), is amended—

19 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (G),
20 (H), and (I) as subparagraphs (F), (G), and
21 (H), respectively;

22 (B) in subparagraph (B)(vii)(I), by strik-
23 ing “subparagraph (I)” and inserting “subpara-
24 graph (H)”;

25 (C) in subparagraph (D)—

1 (i) in clause (i), by striking “subpara-
2 graphs (E) and (F)” and inserting “sub-
3 paragraph (E)”;

4 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “sub-
5 paragraph (I)” and inserting “subpara-
6 graph (H)”;

7 (D) in subparagraph (E), by striking “sub-
8 paragraph (H)(ii)” and inserting “subpara-
9 graph (G)(ii)”;

10 (E) in subparagraph (G)(i)(II), as redesign-
11 nated by subparagraph (A), by striking “sub-
12 paragraph (I)” and inserting “subparagraph
13 (H)”.

14 (2) EXCLUSIONS FROM INCOME.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 1612(b) of the
16 Social Security Act is amended—

17 (i) by striking paragraph (21); and

18 (ii) by redesignating paragraphs (22)
19 through (26) as paragraphs (21) through
20 (25), respectively.

21 (B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
22 1613(a)(17) of such Act is amended by striking
23 “section 1612(b)(26)” and inserting “section
24 1612(b)(25)”.

1 (3) EXCLUSIONS FROM RESOURCES.—Section
2 1613(a) of the Social Security Act, as amended by
3 section 5, is amended—

4 (A) by striking paragraph (12); and

5 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (13)
6 through (18) as paragraphs (12) through (17),
7 respectively.

8 (c) TREATMENT OF AMOUNTS TRANSFERRED FROM
9 DEDICATED ACCOUNTS.—Amounts transferred from an
10 account established on behalf of an individual as described
11 in section 1631(a)(2)(F) of the Social Security Act (42
12 U.S.C. 1383(a)(2)(F)) (as in effect on the day before the
13 date of enactment of this Act) into another account of the
14 individual as a result of the amendments made by this
15 section shall not be taken into account as income or re-
16 sources of such individual for purposes of determining the
17 eligibility of such individual or any other individual for
18 benefits or assistance, or the amount or extent of such
19 benefits or assistance, under title XVI of the Social Secu-
20 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.), under any other Federal
21 program, or under any State or local program financed
22 in whole or in part with Federal funds.

1 **SEC. 9. ELIMINATION OF INSTALLMENT PAYMENT RE-**
2 **QUIREMENT.**

3 Section 1631(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
4 1383(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (10).

5 **SEC. 10. EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF EXCLUSION OF CER-**
6 **TAIN PAYMENTS FROM COUNTABLE RE-**
7 **SOURCES.**

8 Section 1613(a)(7) of the Social Security Act (42
9 U.S.C. 1382b(a)(7)) is amended by striking “9 months”
10 and inserting “21 months”.

11 **SEC. 11. MODIFICATION OF RULES TO DETERMINE MAR-**
12 **ITAL RELATIONSHIPS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1614(d) of the Social Se-
14 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1382e(d)) is amended by striking
15 “except that” and all that follows through the end of the
16 subsection and inserting “except that if two individuals
17 have been determined to be married under section
18 216(h)(1) for purposes of title II they shall be considered
19 (from and after the date of such determination or the date
20 of their application for benefits under this title, whichever
21 is later) to be married for purposes of this title.”.

22 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Title XVI of the
23 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.) is amended—

24 (1) in section 1611(e)(3)—

1 (A) by striking “a husband and wife” each
2 place it appears and inserting “two married in-
3 dividuals”; and

4 (B) by striking “such husband and wife”
5 and inserting “such married individuals”;

6 (2) in section 1614(b)—

7 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “the
8 husband or wife of” and inserting “married to”;
9 and

10 (B) in the second sentence, by striking
11 “husband and wife” and inserting “married”;
12 and

13 (3) in section 1631(b)(1)(A)(i), by striking
14 “husband or wife” and inserting “spouse”.

15 **SEC. 12. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

16 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
17 on January 1, 2022.

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