

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 401

Expressing support for designation of the month of May 2021 as “National Child Poverty Prevention Month”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2021

Mr. RUSH (for himself, Ms. BASS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NEWMAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. TORRES of New York, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for designation of the month of May 2021 as “National Child Poverty Prevention Month”.

Whereas child poverty refers to the share of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the Federal poverty level;

Whereas approximately 1 in 6 children under the age of 18 lives below the Federal poverty level, totaling 11,900,000 children;

Whereas 15.5 percent of children under the age of 5 were living in poverty in 2019, the latest year with publicly available data;

Whereas children who live in poverty are often subject to other adverse circumstances including homelessness, including 1,500,000 children in the 2017–2018 academic school year;

Whereas children who live in poverty are often subject to other adverse circumstances including abuse;

Whereas children who live in poverty can face long-term negative outcomes, including poverty as an adult and lifelong health consequences;

Whereas lost productivity, worsened health, and increased crime stemming from child poverty cost the Nation about \$700,000,000,000 dollars a year, or about 3.5 percent of GDP;

Whereas the COVID–19 public health emergency has increased the likelihood of child poverty;

Whereas, since May 2020, the share of children with at least 1 unemployed parent has consistently remained above rates reported during the peak of the Great Recession, with more than 4 in 10 children living in a household struggling to meet basic expenses; and

Whereas recent studies suggest that food insecurity has increased among families with children by 280 percent: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the designation of National Child
3 Poverty Prevention Month;

4 (2) recognizes the national impact of the preva-
5 lence of poverty among America’s children;

1 (3) supports intervention and prevention efforts
2 to reduce the number of children in the United
3 States suffering from poverty; and

4 (4) calls on the people of the United States to
5 observe National Child Poverty Prevention Month
6 with appropriate programs and activities that promote
7 awareness and prevention of child poverty in com-
8 munities across the country.

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