

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4907

To save and strengthen critical social contract programs of the Federal Government.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 29, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself, Mr. MCADAMS, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. CASE, and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To save and strengthen critical social contract programs  
of the Federal Government.

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 “Time to Rescue United

5       States Trusts Act” or the “TRUST Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act:

1                         (1) CO-CHAIR.—The term “co-chair” means an  
2 individual appointed to serve as a co-chair of a Res-  
3 cue Committee under section 4(a)(4)(C)(i).

4                         (2) CRITICAL SOCIAL CONTRACT PROGRAM.—  
5 The term “critical social contract program” means  
6 a Federal program the Secretary identifies in the re-  
7 port under section 3.

8                         (3) RESCUE COMMITTEE.—The term “Rescue  
9 Committee” means a committee established under  
10 section 4(a).

11                         (4) RESCUE COMMITTEE BILL.—The term  
12 “Rescue Committee bill” means a bill consisting  
13 solely of legislative language that a Rescue Com-  
14 mittee approves and submits under clauses (i) and  
15 (vi), respectively, of section 4(a)(3)(B).

16                         (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
17 the Secretary of the Treasury.

18 **SEC. 3. IDENTIFICATION OF CRITICAL SOCIAL CONTRACT  
19 PROGRAMS.**

20 Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment  
21 of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a re-  
22 port that identifies each Federal program—

23                         (1) for which a Federal trust fund is estab-  
24 lished;

(2) the amount of outlays of which, for the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which this Act is enacted, were not less than \$20,000,000,000; and

## **12 SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF RESCUE COMMITTEES.**

13 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF RESCUE COMMITTEES.—

18                             (2) GOALS.—The goals of each Rescue Com-  
19                             mittee shall be to, with respect to the critical social  
20                             contract program for which the Rescue Committee is  
21                             established—

(B) provide for the solvency of the Federal trust fund established for the critical social contract program during the 75-year period beginning on the date described in paragraph (1);

(C) simplify the critical social contract program to the extent practicable; and

(D) otherwise improve the critical social contract program.

(3) DUTIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—

#### (i) IMPROVING CRITICAL SOCIAL CON-

TRACT PROGRAMS.—Each Rescue Committee may develop recommendations and legislative language that will significantly improve the critical social contract program for which the Rescue Committee is established, including by—

(I) increasing the duration of positive balances of the Federal trust fund established for the critical social contract program; and

(II) to the extent practicable, providing for the solvency of the Federal trust fund established for the critical social contract program during

the 75-year period beginning on the date described in paragraph (1).

(ii) RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES.—Not later than 30 days after the date described in paragraph (1), each committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives may transmit to the relevant Rescue Committee any recommendations of the committee relating to changes in law to improve the critical social contract program for which the Rescue Committee is established in accordance with the goals of the Rescue Committee described in paragraph (2).

(II) legislative language to carry out the recommendations of the Rescue Committee in the report described in subclause (I), which shall include a statement of the economic and budgetary effects of the recommendations during the 75-year period beginning on the date described in paragraph (1).

1 (iv) ADDITIONAL VIEWS.—

2 (I) IN GENERAL.—A member of  
3 a Rescue Committee who gives notice  
4 of an intention to file supplemental,  
5 minority, or additional views at the  
6 time of the final Rescue Committee  
7 vote on the approval of the report and  
8 legislative language of the Rescue  
9 Committee under clause (i) shall be  
10 entitled to 3 days to file those views  
11 in writing with the staff director of  
12 the Rescue Committee.

13 (II) INCLUSION IN REPORT.—  
14 Views filed under subclause (I) shall  
15 be included in the report of the rel-  
16 evant Rescue Committee under clause  
17 (i) and printed in the same volume, or  
18 part thereof, and such inclusion shall  
19 be noted on the cover of the report,  
20 except that, in the absence of timely  
21 notice, the report may be printed and  
22 transmitted immediately without such  
23 views.

24 (v) REPORT AND LEGISLATIVE LAN-  
25 GUAGE TO BE MADE PUBLIC.—Upon the

1 approval or disapproval of a report and  
2 legislative language under clause (i) by a  
3 Rescue Committee, the Rescue Committee  
4 shall promptly make the report, the legisla-  
5 tive language, and a record of the vote on  
6 the report and legislative language avail-  
7 able to the public.

8 (vi) SUBMISSION OF REPORT AND  
9 LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE.—If a report and  
10 legislative language are approved by a Res-  
11 cue Committee under clause (i), not later  
12 than 3 days after the date on which the re-  
13 port and legislative language are made  
14 available to the public under clause (v), the  
15 Rescue Committee shall submit the report  
16 and legislative language to the President,  
17 the Vice President, the Speaker of the  
18 House of Representatives, and the majority  
19 and minority leaders of each House of  
20 Congress.

21 (vii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—  
22 Nothing in this subparagraph shall be con-  
23 strued to prohibit a Rescue Committee  
24 from voting on a report and legislative lan-

#### 3 (4) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each Rescue Committee shall be composed of 12 members appointed in accordance with subparagraph (B).

(B) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 14 days after the date described in paragraph (1), with respect to each Rescue Committee—

23 (iv) the minority leader of the House  
24 of Representatives shall appoint 3 individ-  
25 uals from among the Members of the

### 3 (C) Co-CHAIRS.—

(II) the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint 1 individual from among the members of the Rescue Committee who shall serve as a co-chair of the Rescue Committee.

**24** (D) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT.—

## 4 (ii) VACANCY.—

18 (aa) the member shall no  
19 longer be a member of the Res-  
20 cue Committee; and

21 (bb) a vacancy in the Rescue  
22 Committee exists.

23 (5) ADMINISTRATION.—

1           mittee to exercise the powers, functions, and  
2           duties of the Rescue Committee, there are au-  
3           thorized to be disbursed by the Senate the ac-  
4           tual and necessary expenses of the Rescue Com-  
5           mittee approved by the co-chairs of the Rescue  
6           Committee, subject to the rules and regulations  
7           of the Senate.

8           (B) EXPENSES.—With respect to each  
9           Rescue Committee, in carrying out the func-  
10          tions of the Rescue Committee, the Rescue  
11          Committee is authorized to incur expenses in  
12          the same manner and under the same condi-  
13          tions as the Joint Economic Committee is au-  
14          thorized under section 11(d) of the Employment  
15          Act of 1946 (15 U.S.C. 1024(d)).

16          (C) QUORUM.—With respect to each Res-  
17          cue Committee, 7 members of the Rescue Com-  
18          mittee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of  
19          voting, meeting, and holding hearings.

20          (D) VOTING.—

21           (i) PROXY VOTING.—No proxy voting  
22          shall be allowed on behalf of any member  
23          of a Rescue Committee.

24           (ii) CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
25          ESTIMATES.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Congressional Budget Office shall, with respect to the legislative language of a Rescue Committee under paragraph (3)(B)(i)(II), provide to the Rescue Committee—

(aa) estimates of the legislative language in accordance with sections 308(a) and 201(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 639(a) and 601(f)); and

(bb) information on the budgetary effect of the legislative language during the 75-year period beginning on the date described in paragraph (1).

(II) LIMITATION.—A Rescue Committee may not vote on any version of the report, recommendations, or legislative language of the Rescue Committee under paragraph (3)(B)(i) unless the estimates and information described in subclause (I) of this clause are made available for

1                   consideration by all members of the  
2                   Rescue Committee not later than 48  
3                   hours before that vote, as certified by  
4                   the co-chairs of the Rescue Com-  
5                   mittee.

6                   (E) MEETINGS.—

7                         (i) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than  
8                         45 days after the date described in para-  
9                         graph (1), each Rescue Committee shall  
10                         hold the first meeting of the Rescue Com-  
11                         mittee.

12                         (ii) AGENDA.—For each meeting of  
13                         each Rescue Committee, the co-chairs of  
14                         the Rescue Committee shall provide an  
15                         agenda to the members of the Rescue  
16                         Committee not later than 48 hours before  
17                         the meeting.

18                   (F) HEARINGS.—

19                         (i) IN GENERAL.—Each Rescue Com-  
20                         mittee may, for the purpose of carrying  
21                         out this section, hold such hearings, sit  
22                         and act at such times and places, require  
23                         attendance of witnesses and production of  
24                         books, papers, and documents, take such  
25                         testimony, receive such evidence, and ad-

1 minister such oaths as the Rescue Com-  
2 mittee considers advisable.

3 (ii) HEARING PROCEDURES AND RE-  
4 SPONSIBILITIES OF CO-CHAIRS.—

5 (I) ANNOUNCEMENT.—The co-  
6 chairs of each Rescue Committee shall  
7 make a public announcement of the  
8 date, place, time, and subject matter  
9 of any hearing to be conducted under  
10 this subparagraph not later than 7  
11 days before the date of the hearing,  
12 unless the co-chairs determine that  
13 there is good cause to begin such  
14 hearing on an earlier date.

15 (II) WRITTEN STATEMENT.—A  
16 witness appearing before a Rescue  
17 Committee shall file a written state-  
18 ment of the proposed testimony of the  
19 witness not later than 2 days before  
20 the date of the appearance of the wit-  
21 ness, unless the co-chairs of the Res-  
22 cue Committee—

23 (aa) determine that there is  
24 good cause for the witness to not  
25 file the written statement; and

(bb) waive the requirement  
that the witness file the written  
statement.

10 (b) STAFF OF RESCUE COMMITTEE.—

11                             (1) IN GENERAL.—The co-chairs of a Rescue  
12 Committee may jointly appoint and fix the com-  
13 pensation of staff of the Rescue Committee as the  
14 co-chairs determine necessary, in accordance with  
15 the guidelines, rules, and requirements relating to  
16 employees of the Senate.

## 17 (2) ETHICAL STANDARDS.—

1           the ethics rules and requirements of the House  
2           of Representatives.

3        (c) TERMINATION.—Each Rescue Committee shall  
4 terminate on the day after the date of the sine die ad-  
5 journment of the 116th Congress.

6 **SEC. 5. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF RESCUE COM-**  
7           **MITTEE BILLS.**

8        (a) QUALIFYING LEGISLATION.—Only a Rescue  
9 Committee bill shall be entitled to expedited consideration  
10 under this section.

11       (b) CONSIDERATION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENT-  
12 ATIVES.—

13           (1) INTRODUCTION.—If a Rescue Committee  
14 approves and submits legislative language under  
15 clauses (i) and (vi), respectively, of section  
16 4(a)(3)(B), a Rescue Committee bill consisting solely  
17 of that legislative language may be introduced in the  
18 House of Representatives (by request)—

19                  (A) by the majority leader of the House of  
20 Representatives, or by a Member of the House  
21 of Representatives designated by the majority  
22 leader of the House of Representatives, on the  
23 next legislative day; or

24                  (B) if the Rescue Committee bill is not in-  
25 troduced under subparagraph (A), by any Mem-

1           ber of the House of Representatives on any leg-  
2           islative day beginning on the legislative day  
3           after the legislative day described in subpara-  
4           graph (A).

5           (2) REFERRAL AND REPORTING.—Any com-  
6           mittee of the House of Representatives to which a  
7           Rescue Committee bill is referred shall report the  
8           Rescue Committee bill to the House of Representa-  
9           tives without amendment not later than 10 legisla-  
10          tive days after the date on which the Rescue Com-  
11          mittee bill was so referred. If a committee of the  
12          House of Representatives fails to report a Rescue  
13          Committee bill within that period, it shall be in  
14          order to move that the House of Representatives dis-  
15          charge the committee from further consideration of  
16          the Rescue Committee bill. Such a motion shall not  
17          be in order after the last committee authorized to  
18          consider the Rescue Committee bill reports it to the  
19          House of Representatives or after the House of Rep-  
20          resentatives has disposed of a motion to discharge  
21          the Rescue Committee bill. The previous question  
22          shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its  
23          adoption without intervening motion except 20 min-  
24          utes of debate equally divided and controlled by the  
25          proponent and an opponent. If such a motion is

1 adopted, the House of Representatives shall proceed  
2 immediately to consider the Rescue Committee bill  
3 in accordance with paragraphs (3) and (4). A mo-  
4 tion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is  
5 disposed of shall not be in order.

6 (3) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—After  
7 the last committee authorized to consider a Rescue  
8 Committee bill reports it to the House of Represent-  
9 atives or has been discharged (other than by motion)  
10 from its consideration, it shall be in order to move  
11 to proceed to consider the Rescue Committee bill in  
12 the House of Representatives. Such a motion shall  
13 not be in order after the House of Representatives  
14 has disposed of a motion to proceed with respect to  
15 the Rescue Committee bill. The previous question  
16 shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its  
17 adoption without intervening motion. A motion to re-  
18 consider the vote by which the motion is disposed of  
19 shall not be in order.

20 (4) CONSIDERATION.—The Rescue Committee  
21 bill shall be considered as read. All points of order  
22 against the Rescue Committee bill and against its  
23 consideration are waived. The previous question  
24 shall be considered as ordered on the Rescue Com-  
25 mittee bill to its passage without intervening motion

1 except 2 hours of debate equally divided and con-  
2 trolled by the proponent and an opponent and 1 mo-  
3 tion to limit debate on the Rescue Committee bill. A  
4 motion to reconsider the vote on passage of the Res-  
5 cue Committee bill shall not be in order.

6 (5) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—The vote on passage  
7 of the Rescue Committee bill shall occur not later  
8 than 3 legislative days after the date on which the  
9 last committee authorized to consider the Rescue  
10 Committee bill reports it to the House of Represent-  
11 atives or is discharged.

12 (c) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE IN THE SENATE.—

13 (1) INTRODUCTION IN THE SENATE.—If a Res-  
14 cue Committee approves and submits legislative lan-  
15 guage under clauses (i) and (vi), respectively, of sec-  
16 tion 4(a)(3)(B), a Rescue Committee bill consisting  
17 solely of that legislative language may be introduced  
18 in the Senate (by request)—

19 (A) by the majority leader of the Senate,  
20 or by a Member of the Senate designated by the  
21 majority leader of the Senate, on the next day  
22 on which the Senate is in session; or

23 (B) if the Rescue Committee bill is not in-  
24 troduced under subparagraph (A), by any Mem-  
25 ber of the Senate on any day on which the Sen-

1           ate is in session beginning on the day after the  
2           day described in subparagraph (A).

3           (2) COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION.—A Rescue  
4           Committee bill introduced in the Senate under para-  
5           graph (1) shall be jointly referred to the committee  
6           or committees of jurisdiction, which committees shall  
7           report the Rescue Committee bill without any revi-  
8           sion and with a favorable recommendation, an unfar-  
9           mable recommendation, or without recommenda-  
10          tion, not later than 10 session days after the date  
11          on which the Rescue Committee bill was so referred.  
12          If any committee to which a Rescue Committee bill  
13          is referred fails to report the Rescue Committee bill  
14          within that period, that committee shall be auto-  
15          matically discharged from consideration of the Res-  
16          cue Committee bill, and the Rescue Committee bill  
17          shall be placed on the appropriate calendar.

18           (3) PROCEEDING.—Notwithstanding rule XXII  
19          of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order,  
20          not later than 2 days of session after the date on  
21          which a Rescue Committee bill is reported or dis-  
22          charged from all committees to which the Rescue  
23          Committee bill was referred, for the majority leader  
24          of the Senate or the designee of the majority leader  
25          to move to proceed to the consideration of the Res-

1       cue Committee bill. It shall also be in order for any  
2       Member of the Senate to move to proceed to the  
3       consideration of the Rescue Committee bill at any  
4       time after the conclusion of such 2-day period. A  
5       motion to proceed is in order even though a previous  
6       motion to the same effect has been disagreed to. All  
7       points of order against the motion to proceed to the  
8       Rescue Committee bill are waived. The motion to  
9       proceed is not debatable. The motion is not subject  
10      to a motion to postpone. A motion to reconsider the  
11      vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed  
12      to shall not be in order. If a motion to proceed to  
13      the consideration of the Rescue Committee bill is  
14      agreed to, the Rescue Committee bill shall remain  
15      the unfinished business until disposed of. All points  
16      of order against a Rescue Committee bill and  
17      against consideration of the Rescue Committee bill  
18      are waived.

19                  (4) NO AMENDMENTS.—An amendment to a  
20        Rescue Committee bill, or a motion to postpone, or  
21        a motion to proceed to the consideration of other  
22        business, or a motion to recommit the Rescue Com-  
23        mittee bill, is not in order.

24                  (5) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCEDURE.—  
25        Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to

1       the application of the rules of the Senate, as the  
2       case may be, to the procedure relating to a Rescue  
3       Committee bill shall be decided without debate.

4       (d) AMENDMENT.—A Rescue Committee bill shall not  
5       be subject to amendment in either the Senate or the  
6       House of Representatives.

7       (e) CONSIDERATION BY THE OTHER HOUSE.—

8           (1) IN GENERAL.—If, before passing a Rescue  
9       Committee bill, a House receives from the other  
10      House a Rescue Committee bill consisting of legisla-  
11      tive language approved by the same Rescue Com-  
12      mittee as the Rescue Committee bill in the receiving  
13      House—

14           (A) the Rescue Committee bill of the other  
15       House shall not be referred to a committee; and

16           (B) the procedure in the receiving House  
17       shall be the same as if no Rescue Committee  
18       bill had been received from the other House  
19       until the vote on passage, when the Rescue  
20       Committee bill received from the other House  
21       shall supplant the Rescue Committee bill of the  
22       receiving House.

23           (2) REVENUE MEASURES.—This subsection  
24       shall not apply to the House of Representatives if a

1      Rescue Committee bill received from the Senate is a  
2      revenue measure.

3            (f) RULES TO COORDINATE ACTION WITH OTHER  
4      HOUSE.—

5                (1) TREATMENT OF RESCUE COMMITTEE BILL  
6      OF OTHER HOUSE.—If a Rescue Committee bill is  
7      not introduced in the Senate or the Senate fails to  
8      consider a Rescue Committee bill under this section,  
9      the Rescue Committee bill of the House of Rep-  
10     resentatives consisting of legislative language ap-  
11     proved by the same Rescue Committee as the Rescue  
12     Committee bill in the Senate shall be entitled to ex-  
13     pedited floor procedures under this section.

14               (2) TREATMENT OF COMPANION MEASURES IN  
15      THE SENATE.—If, following passage of a Rescue  
16      Committee bill in the Senate, the Senate then re-  
17     ceives from the House of Representatives a Rescue  
18     Committee bill approved by the same Rescue Com-  
19     mittee and consisting of the same legislative lan-  
20     guage as the Senate-passed Rescue Committee bill,  
21     the House-passed Rescue Committee bill shall not be  
22     debatable. The vote on passage of the Rescue Com-  
23     mittee bill in the Senate shall be considered to be  
24     the vote on passage of the Rescue Committee bill re-  
25     ceived from the House of Representatives.

1                             (3) VETOES.—If the President vetoes a Rescue  
2                             Committee bill, consideration of a veto message in  
3                             the Senate under this paragraph shall be 10 hours  
4                             equally divided between the majority and minority  
5                             leaders of the Senate or the designees of the major-  
6                             ity and minority leaders of the Senate.

7                             **SEC. 6. FUNDING.**

8                             Funding for each Rescue Committee shall be derived  
9                             in equal portions from—

10                             (1) the contingent fund of the Senate from the  
11                             appropriations account “Miscellaneous Items”, sub-  
12                             ject to the rules and regulations of the Senate; and  
13                             (2) the applicable accounts of the House of  
14                             Representatives.

15                             **SEC. 7. RULEMAKING.**

16                             The provisions of this Act are enacted by Congress—  
17                             (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of  
18                             the Senate and the House of Representatives, re-  
19                             spectively, and, as such, the provisions—

20                             (A) shall be considered as part of the rules  
21                             of each House, respectively, or of that House to  
22                             which they specifically apply; and  
23                             (B) shall supersede other rules only to the  
24                             extent that they are inconsistent therewith; and

1                   (2) with full recognition of the constitutional  
2                   right of either House to change such rules (so far  
3                   as relating to such House) at any time, in the same  
4                   manner, and to the same extent as in the case of  
5                   any other rule of such House.

