

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9223

To require analyses of the impact of Government rules, programs, and policies on poverty and racial inequity, including the racial wealth gap, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 21, 2022

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia (for herself, Ms. BROWN of Ohio, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. MFUME) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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 require analyses of the impact of Government rules, programs, and policies on poverty and racial inequity, including the racial wealth gap, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Reviewing the Effects  
5 of Programs, Orders, and Rules with Thorough Study  
6 Act” or the “REPORTS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPACT OF FEDERAL AGENCY RULES ON INDIVID-**  
2 **UALS LIVING AT, NEAR, OR BELOW THE POV-**  
3 **ERTY LINE AND RACIAL INEQUITY; GAO RE-**  
4 **PORTS.**

5 (a) IMPACT OF REGULATIONS ON POVERTY AND RA-  
6 CIAL INEQUITY.—Whenever an agency publishes notice of  
7 proposed rule making in the Federal Register for a major  
8 rule, the agency shall, with such notice, publish an anal-  
9 ysis of the actual or potential impact of the major rule  
10 on—

11 (1) individuals living at, near, or below the pov-  
12 erty line; and

13 (2) racial inequity.

14 (b) GAO REPORT ON IMPACT OF FEDERAL GOVERN-  
15 MENT PROGRAMS OR POLICIES ON POVERTY AND RACIAL  
16 INEQUITY.—During the calendar year in which the date  
17 that is one year after the date of enactment of this Act  
18 falls, and during each of the following nine calendar years,  
19 the Comptroller General shall publish an electronic report  
20 on between two and five Government programs or policies  
21 with a substantial economic impact (as determined by the  
22 Comptroller General) within the past 5 fiscal years. Any  
23 such report shall examine the actual or potential impact  
24 of such programs or policies on—

25 (1) individuals living at, near, or below the pov-  
26 erty line; and

1           (2) racial inequity.

2           (c) RACIAL WEALTH GAP.—An analysis under sub-  
3 section (a) or a report under subsection (b) may, at the  
4 discretion of the applicable agency head or the Comptroller  
5 General (as the case may be), include an analysis of the  
6 actual or potential impact of the major rule or Govern-  
7 ment program or policy (as the case may be) on the racial  
8 wealth gap.

9           (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act—

10           (1) the term “agency” has the meaning given  
11 that term in section 551 of title 5, United States  
12 Code;

13           (2) the term “major rule” has the meaning  
14 given that term in section 804 of such title 5; and

15           (3) the terms “poverty line”, “racial inequity”,  
16 and “racial wealth gap”, shall—

17           (A) for purposes of an analysis under sub-  
18 section (a), be defined as considered appro-  
19 priate by the Director of the Office of Manage-  
20 ment and Budget; and

21           (B) for purposes of a report under sub-  
22 section (b), be defined as considered appro-  
23 priate by the Comptroller General.

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