

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7005

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct a study on the effects of inflation on the savings of individuals in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2022

Mr. MOONEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct a study on the effects of inflation on the savings of individuals in the United States, 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 “Protecting Americans’
5 Savings Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) High inflation erodes the earnings and sav-
2 ings of hard-working individuals across the United
3 States.

4 (2) The Consumer Price Index rose 7.5 percent
5 from January 2021 to January 2022, which is the
6 largest increase in a 12-month period in over 30
7 years.

8 (3) The current environment, where high infla-
9 tion is paired with low interest rates, pushes real
10 savings yields deep into negative territory.

11 (4) While the yield of a 1-year Treasury bill in
12 January 2022 was 0.5 percent, the real yield of the
13 bill was negative 7 percent.

14 (5) Negative savings returns adversely affect all
15 who save, especially retirees and those who rely on
16 savings to build wealth or to prepare for large ex-
17 penses, such as college tuition or a down payment on
18 a home.

19 **SEC. 3. STUDY ON IMPACT OF INFLATION ON SAVINGS.**

20 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall
21 conduct a study to—

22 (1) examine the effects of inflation on the real
23 value of savings and the incentive to save for indi-
24 viduals in the United States, including an analysis
25 of—

1 (A) whether low or negative real returns
2 affect savings rates;

3 (B) how negative real interest rates affect
4 individuals living on fixed incomes, such as re-
5 tirees;

6 (C) how negative real interest rates affect
7 economic mobility;

8 (D) the aggregate loss of purchasing power
9 of savings that is attributed to inflation with re-
10 spect to common savings tools, including Treas-
11 ury bonds, bills, and notes, interest on savings
12 accounts, money market accounts and funds,
13 and certificates of deposit; and

14 (E) how inflation will affect savings re-
15 turns over the next 5 years; and

16 (2) assess the feasibility and impact of raising
17 the current limit, per individual, on purchases of in-
18 flation-protected Series I bonds issued by the De-
19 partment of the Treasury.

20 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date
21 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to
22 the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Rep-
23 resentatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and

- 1 Urban Affairs of the Senate a report on the results of the
- 2 study required under subsection (a).

