

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9041

To amend section 431 of the Social Security Act to include peer mentoring service programs in the provision of certain services, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2024

Mr. EVANS (for himself, Mr. BACON, and Ms. DELBENE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To amend section 431 of the Social Security Act to include peer mentoring service programs in the provision of certain services, 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 “Parents Engaging with  
5 Experienced Resilient Mentors Act of 2024” or the  
6 “PEER Mentors Act of 2024”.

7 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF PEER MENTORING SERVICES.**

8 (a) FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES.—Section  
9 431(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
10 629a(a)(1)) is amended—

1 (1) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and”  
2 after the semicolon;

3 (2) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period  
4 and inserting “; and”; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(G) service programs designed to assist a  
7 caregiver in a family at risk or in crisis, includ-  
8 ing peer-to-peer mentoring services providing  
9 the caregiver with a mentor who has direct lived  
10 experience as a caregiver of a child who re-  
11 mained with the family, or returned to the fam-  
12 ily after removal, with the assistance of family  
13 preservation services to address a similar risk  
14 or crisis.”.

15 (b) FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES.—Section  
16 431(a)(2)(B)(iii) of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
17 629a(a)(2)(B)(iii)) is amended by inserting “, such as  
18 through peer-to-peer mentoring of current foster parents  
19 by currently or formerly licensed foster parents with direct  
20 lived experience” before the period.

21 (c) FAMILY REUNIFICATION SERVICES.—Section  
22 431(a)(7)(B)(vi) of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
23 629a(a)(7)(B)(vi)) is amended by inserting “, including  
24 with peer mentors who have lived experience as parents  
25 or licensed foster parents with demonstrated success in de-

1 veloping constructive relationships between foster parents  
2 and birth parents of a child and in the reunification of  
3 a child with the birth parents of the child” before the pe-  
4 riod.

5 (d) ADOPTION PROMOTION AND SUPPORT SERV-  
6 ICES.—Section 431(a)(8) of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
7 629a(a)(8)) is amended by inserting “mentoring services”  
8 after “including”.

9 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this  
11 Act shall take effect on the 1st day of the 1st fiscal year  
12 that begins after the date of the enactment of this Act  
13 and shall apply to payments made under subpart 2 of part  
14 B of title IV of the Social Security Act for calendar quar-  
15 ters beginning on or after such date.

16 (b) DELAY PERMITTED IF STATE LEGISLATION IS  
17 REQUIRED.—If the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-  
18 ices determines that State legislation (other than legisla-  
19 tion appropriating funds) is required in order for any  
20 State plan approved under subpart 2 of part B of title  
21 IV of the Social Security Act to meet the additional re-  
22 quirements imposed by the amendments made by this Act,  
23 the plan shall not be regarded as failing to meet any of  
24 the additional requirements before the 1st day of the 1st  
25 calendar quarter beginning after the 1st regular session

1 of the State legislature that begins after the 1st day of  
2 the 1st fiscal year that begins after the date of the enact-  
3 ment of this Act. For purposes of the preceding sentence,  
4 if the State has a 2-year legislative session, each year of  
5 the session is deemed to be a separate regular session of  
6 the State legislature.

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