



## Republican Anti-Poverty Agenda

On Tuesday, June 7, 2016, Speaker Paul Ryan and House Republicans unveiled their new anti-poverty agenda (which can be found [here](#)). The document is the first piece of a larger agenda effort, titled “A Better Way”, that Ryan says demonstrate what Republicans aim to achieve if they win the White House in November.

The policy principles laid out tackle a wide range of poverty-related issues. The agenda aims to reward work by requiring states to ensure that any work-eligible recipients of welfare benefits under programs such as TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) and SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program) find work or prepare for work. This would include reforms that expand work requirements to include housing benefits, like federal rental assistance under the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The agenda would also give states the freedom to experiment with their unemployment insurance programs, with the intent of reforming the system and moving more unemployed workers toward employment in a quicker fashion.

Additionally, the agenda calls for further accountability through a pay-for-results partnership in which the government collaborates with the private sector to raise capital for effective social programs and a pay-for-outcomes program that encourages competition among the states and shuts down any ineffective programs.

On the topic of education, the agenda seeks to improve early childhood development, expand school choice, improve job training, and modernize the Pell Grant program.

Ryan and House Republicans also call for reforms that expand access to 401(k)s, banking services, and affordable retirement advice in order to make it easier for families to plan for the future.

The rest of the “Better Way” agenda will be rolled out by Republicans in the coming weeks, and will focus on the issues of national security, the economy, constitutional liberties, health care, and tax reform.