

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 7720
OFFERED BY MR. MESSMER OF INDIANA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Child Care Payment
3 Integrity and Fraud Accountability Act of 2026”.

4 SEC. 2. FRAUDULENT PAYMENTS.

5 Section 658J(b) of the Child Care and Development
6 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858h(b)) is amend-
7 ed—

8 (1) in paragraph (1) by inserting “(including
9 fraudulent payments)” after “overpayments”, and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(3) REPORT.—The State shall submit to the
12 Secretary an annual report that identifies the dollar
13 and percentage amount of improper payments made
14 by the State, disaggregated as specified by the Sec-
15 retary by standardized payment categories (includ-
16 ing suspected and verified fraudulent payments, non-
17 fraudulent overpayments, underpayments, and tech-

1 nically improper payments (e.g., system error pay-
2 ments)).”.

