Prosperity Now helps households all over the United States advance toward achieving the American Dream: buying a home, pursuing higher education and saving for the future. We are particularly focused on communities of color left further behind by a growing racial wealth divide.

Below is our 2020 financial security policy agenda. By signing up for Prosperity Now’s Financial Security Campaign, you will learn how to advocate and build working families’ financial security.

Help working families reach prosperity through higher education, homeownership and access to jobs. By using twenty years of research from previous matched savings programs, Congress should create Promise Accounts; a flexible, scalable program that allows families to save, acquire financial skills and develop resilience to keep wealth over the long term. Through monetary, structural and financial capability supports envisioned by Promise Accounts, families could move up the economic ladder—by acquiring a home, a car, higher education and more.

Support emergency savings in the workplace. The Strengthening Financial Security Through Short-Term Savings Accounts Act (S. 1019 in the 116th Congress) would make it easier for workplaces to offer emergency savings accounts alongside their retirement plans or as separate accounts for employers that do not offer a retirement plan. Proposed by Sens. Cory Booker (D-NJ), Tom Cotton (R-AR), Doug Jones (D-AL) and Todd Young (R-IN), these accounts would help workers build short-term savings through automatic contributions, allowing families to prepare for the unexpected.

Expand access to emergency and retirement savings through the workplace. Introduced by Sens. Chris Coons (D-DE) and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) as well as Reps. Scott Peters (D-CA-52), Lucy McBath (D-GA-6) and Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE-AL), the Saving for the Future Act (S. 1053; H.R. 2120 in the 116th Congress) encourages employers to provide workplace-based savings solutions for short- and long-term savings. The bill calls on employers to contribute to a retirement plan for each employee and auto-enrolls workers into the program at a predetermined starting contribution. The accounts include an opt-in component for workers to contribute to an emergency savings account.

Remove savings penalties for TANF, LIHEAP and SNAP and reform SSI penalties. Sens. Chris Coons (D-DE) and Sherrod Brown (D-OH) as well as Reps. TJ Cox (D-CA-21), Kim Schrier, M.D. (D-WA-8), and Jimmy Gomez (D-CA-34) introduced the ASSET Act to eliminate savings penalties on the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) as well as increase Supplemental Security Income (SSI) limits to $10,000, indexed to inflation. This bill could protect low-income Americans’ access to critical benefits and removes barriers to their ability to save for their futures.