

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9796

To amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to reestablish the National Technical Assistance Center on Grandfamilies and Kinship Families.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 21, 2026

Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, the Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce, 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 amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to reestablish the National Technical Assistance Center on Grandfamilies and Kinship Families.

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 “Supporting
5 Grandfamilies Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

2 Section 2922 of the American Rescue Plan Act of
3 2021 (20 U.S.C. 3020g) is amended—

4 (1) by amending subsection (a) to read as fol-
5 lows:

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to amounts other-
7 wise available, there is authorized to be appropriated, and
8 there is appropriated, to the Secretary of Health and
9 Human Services for fiscal year 2027, out of any money
10 in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$10,000,000,
11 to remain available through September 30, 2031, for the
12 Secretary, acting through the Assistant Secretary for
13 Aging and in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for
14 the Administration for Children and Families, to operate,
15 through a grant or contract, a National Technical Assist-
16 ance Center on Grandfamilies and Kinship Families (in
17 this section referred to as the ‘Center’) to conduct the ac-
18 tivities described in subsection (c).”,

19 (2) redesignating subsection (b) as subsection
20 (c),

21 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Center shall be
24 to provide training, technical assistance, coordination, and
25 resources to community-based organizations, government
26 programs, and other organizations that serve

1 grandfamilies and kinship families, to support the health,
2 academic achievement, and well-being, including economic
3 well-being, of members of these families, including care-
4 givers, children, and their parents. The Center shall focus
5 primarily on serving grandfamilies or kinship families in
6 which the primary caregiver is an adult age 55 or older,
7 or on grandfamilies or kinship families in which the child
8 has one or more disabilities, as defined under the Develop-
9 mental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of
10 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002).”,

11 (4) in subsection (c), as so redesignated—

12 (A) in paragraph (1)—

13 (i) by striking “stimulate the develop-
14 ment of” and inserting “develop”, and

15 (ii) by striking “and substance use”
16 and inserting “, opioid and other substance
17 use,”,

18 (B) in paragraph (2) by striking “and to
19 promote” and all that follows through “them”,
20 and inserting “with a priority on evidence-based
21 practices or programs developed or identified
22 under paragraph (1)”,

23 (C) by amending paragraphs (3), (4), and
24 (5) to read as follows:

1 “(3) promote coordination of services for
2 grandfamilies and kinship families across systems
3 that support them;

4 “(4) facilitate learning across States, terri-
5 tories, Indian Tribes, urban Indian organizations,
6 and Tribal organizations, for providing technical as-
7 sistance, resources, and training related to issues de-
8 scribed in paragraph (1) to individuals and entities
9 across systems that directly work with grandfamilies
10 and kinship families;

11 “(5) help community-based organizations, gov-
12 ernment programs, Indian Tribes, urban Indian or-
13 ganizations, and Tribal organizations, serving
14 grandfamilies and kinship families, to plan and co-
15 ordinate programs and services to assist
16 grandfamilies and kinship families; and”, and

17 (D) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(6) assist community-based organizations and
19 government programs in tailoring services to the
20 unique needs of grandfamilies and kinship families
21 to serve them most effectively and efficiently.”, and

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

23 “(d) GRANT OR CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.—The
24 organization that carries out the activities of the Center

1 with a grant or contract made under subsection (a) shall
2 be a nonprofit organization that has—

3 “(1) a history of demonstrated expertise in
4 issues impacting grandfamilies and kinship families,
5 including those in contact with the child welfare sys-
6 tem;

7 “(2) experience providing technical assistance
8 to a range of organizations that serve grandfamilies,
9 kinship families, and kinship families, including In-
10 dian Tribes, urban Tribal organizations, and Tribal
11 organizations;

12 “(3) experience facilitating peer to peer learn-
13 ing networks and building connections between pro-
14 viders across systems of care;

15 “(4) an established process and history of en-
16 gagement of grandfamilies and kinship families in
17 providing guidance, input, and feedback into the or-
18 ganization’s work; and

19 “(5) experience assisting community-based or-
20 ganizations, government programs, and other orga-
21 nizations serving grandfamilies and kinship families
22 in tailoring services to their unique needs.”.

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