

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1815

To provide targeted funding for States and other eligible entities through the Social Services Block Grant program to address the increased burden that maintaining the health and hygiene of infants and toddlers, medically complex children, and low-income adults or adults with disabilities who rely on adult incontinence materials and supplies place on families in need, the resultant adverse health effects on children and families, and the limited child care options available for infants and toddlers who lack sufficient diapers and diapering supplies, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 20, 2025

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. KELLY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To provide targeted funding for States and other eligible entities through the Social Services Block Grant program to address the increased burden that maintaining the health and hygiene of infants and toddlers, medically complex children, and low-income adults or adults with disabilities who rely on adult incontinence materials and supplies place on families in need, the resultant adverse health effects on children and families, and the limited child care options available for infants and toddlers who lack sufficient diapers and diapering supplies, 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 “End Diaper Need Act
 5 of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. TARGETED FUNDING FOR DIAPER ASSISTANCE (IN-**
 7 **CLUDING DIAPERING SUPPLIES AND ADULT**
 8 **INCONTINENCE MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES)**
 9 **THROUGH THE SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK**
 10 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

11 (a) INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR SOCIAL SERVICES
 12 BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amount specified in
 14 subsection (c) of section 2003 of the Social Security
 15 Act (42 U.S.C. 1397b) for purposes of subsections
 16 (a) and (b) of such section is deemed to be
 17 \$1,900,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026
 18 through 2029. Each State shall use the increase in
 19 funding the State receives as a result of this section
 20 in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

21 (2) APPROPRIATION.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—Out of any money in
 23 the Treasury of the United States not otherwise
 24 appropriated, there is appropriated

1 \$200,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026
2 through 2029, to carry out this section.

3 (B) RESERVATIONS.—

4 (i) PURPOSES.—The Secretary shall
5 reserve, from the amount appropriated
6 under subparagraph (A) to carry out this
7 section—

8 (I) for each of fiscal years 2026
9 through 2029, not more than 2 per-
10 cent of the amount appropriated for
11 the fiscal year for purposes of enter-
12 ing into an agreement with a national
13 entity described in subparagraph (C)
14 to assist in providing technical assist-
15 ance and training, to support effective
16 policy, practice, research, and cross-
17 system collaboration among grantees
18 and subgrantees, and to assist in the
19 administration of the program de-
20 scribed in this section; and

21 (II) for fiscal year 2026, an
22 amount, not to exceed \$3,000,000, for
23 purposes of conducting an evaluation
24 under subsection (d).

1 (ii) NO STATE ENTITLEMENT TO RE-
 2 SERVED FUNDS.—The State entitlement
 3 under section 2002(a) of the Social Secu-
 4 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1397a(a)) shall not
 5 apply to the amounts reserved under clause
 6 (i).

7 (C) NATIONAL ENTITY DESCRIBED.—A na-
 8 tional entity described in this subparagraph is
 9 a nonprofit organization described in section
 10 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
 11 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a)
 12 of such Code, that—

13 (i) has experience in more than 1
 14 State in the area of—

15 (I) community distributions of
 16 basic need services, including experi-
 17 ence collecting, warehousing, and dis-
 18 tributing basic necessities such as dia-
 19 pers, food, or menstrual products;

20 (II) child care;

21 (III) child development activities
 22 in low-income communities; or

23 (IV) motherhood, fatherhood, or
 24 parent education efforts serving low-
 25 income parents of young children;

1 (ii) demonstrates competency to im-
 2 plement a project, provide fiscal account-
 3 ability, collect data, and prepare reports
 4 and other necessary documentation; and

5 (iii) demonstrates a willingness to
 6 share information with researchers, practi-
 7 tioners, and other interested parties.

8 (b) RULES GOVERNING USE OF ADDITIONAL
 9 FUNDS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Funds are used in accord-
 11 ance with this subsection if—

12 (A) the State, in consultation with relevant
 13 stakeholders, including agencies, professional
 14 associations, and nonprofit organizations, dis-
 15 tributes the funds to eligible entities to—

16 (i) decrease the need for diapers and
 17 diapering supplies and adult incontinence
 18 materials and supplies in low-income fami-
 19 lies and meet such unmet needs of infants
 20 and toddlers, medically complex children,
 21 and low-income adults and adults with dis-
 22 abilities in such families through—

23 (I) the distribution of free dia-
 24 pers and diapering supplies, medically

1 necessary diapers, and adult inconti-
2 nence materials and supplies; and

3 (II) improving access to diapers
4 and diapering supplies, medically nec-
5 essary diapers, and adult incontinence
6 materials and supplies;

7 (ii) carry out community outreach to
8 assist in participation in diaper distribu-
9 tion programs or programs that distribute
10 medically necessary diapers or adult incon-
11 tinence materials and supplies; and

12 (iii) increase the ability of commu-
13 nities and low-income families in such com-
14 munities to provide for the need for dia-
15 pers and diapering supplies, medically nec-
16 essary diapers, and adult continence mate-
17 rials and supplies, of infants and toddlers,
18 medically complex children, and low-income
19 adults and adults with disabilities;

20 (B) the funds are used subject to the limi-
21 tations in section 2005 of the Social Security
22 Act (42 U.S.C. 1397d); and

23 (C) the funds are used to supplement, not
24 supplant, State general revenue funds provided
25 for the purposes described in subparagraph (A).

1 (2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—A State receiving
 2 funds made available under subsection (a) may use
 3 not more than 5 percent of the funds for State ad-
 4 ministrative costs, which may include costs of con-
 5 tracting, monitoring, and reporting.

6 (3) ALLOWABLE USES BY ELIGIBLE ENTI-
 7 TIES.—An eligible entity receiving funds made avail-
 8 able under subsection (a) shall use the funds for any
 9 of the following:

10 (A) To pay for the purchase and distribu-
 11 tion of diapers and diapering supplies, medically
 12 necessary diapers, and funding diaper (includ-
 13 ing medically necessary diapers) distribution
 14 that serves low-income families with—

15 (i) 1 or more children 3 years of age
 16 or younger; or

17 (ii) 1 or more medically complex chil-
 18 dren.

19 (B) To pay for the purchase and distribu-
 20 tion of adult incontinence materials and sup-
 21 plies and funding distribution of the materials
 22 and supplies for low-income families with 1 or
 23 more low-income adults, adults with disabilities,
 24 or children with a disability who have attained
 25 3 years of age and have not attained 19 years

1 of age, who rely on adult incontinence materials
2 and supplies.

3 (C) To integrate activities carried out
4 under subparagraph (A) with other basic needs
5 assistance programs serving eligible children
6 and their families, including the following:

7 (i) Programs funded by the temporary
8 assistance for needy families program
9 under part A of title IV of the Social Secu-
10 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), including
11 the State maintenance of effort provisions
12 of such program.

13 (ii) Programs designed to support the
14 health of eligible children, such as the Chil-
15 dren's Health Insurance Program under
16 title XXI of the Social Security Act, the
17 Medicaid program under title XIX of such
18 Act, or State funded health care programs.

19 (iii) Programs funded through the
20 special supplemental nutrition program for
21 women, infants, and children under section
22 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.

23 (iv) Programs that offer early home
24 visiting services, including the maternal,
25 infant, and early childhood home visiting

1 program (including the Tribal home vis-
2 iting program) under section 511 of the
3 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 711).

4 (v) Programs to provide improved and
5 affordable access to child care, including
6 programs funded through the Child Care
7 and Development Fund, the temporary as-
8 sistance for needy families program under
9 part A of title IV of the Social Security
10 Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), or a State-
11 funded program.

12 (vi) Programs funded under part C of
13 the Individuals with Disabilities Education
14 Act (20 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.).

15 (4) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—

16 (A) FUNDS DISTRIBUTED TO ELIGIBLE
17 ENTITIES.—Funds made available under sub-
18 section (a) that are distributed to an eligible en-
19 tity by a State for a fiscal year may be ex-
20 pended by the eligible entity only in such fiscal
21 year or the succeeding fiscal year.

22 (B) EVALUATION.—Funds reserved under
23 subsection (a)(2)(B)(i)(II) to carry out the eval-
24 uation under subsection (d) shall be available

1 for expenditure during the 3-year period that
2 begins on the date of enactment of this Act.

3 (5) NO EFFECT ON OTHER PROGRAMS.—Any
4 assistance or benefits received by a family through
5 funds made available under subsection (a) shall be
6 disregarded for purposes of determining the family’s
7 eligibility for, or amount of, benefits under any other
8 Federal needs-based programs.

9 (c) ANNUAL REPORTS.—A State shall include in the
10 annual report required under section 2006 of the Social
11 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397e) covering each of fiscal
12 years 2026 through 2029, information detailing how eligi-
13 ble entities, including subgrantees, used funds made avail-
14 able under subsection (a) to distribute diapers and dia-
15 pering supplies and adult incontinence materials and sup-
16 plies to families in need. Each such report shall include
17 the following:

18 (1) The number and age of infants, toddlers,
19 medically complex children, and low-income adults
20 and adults with disabilities who received assistance
21 or benefits through such funds.

22 (2) The number of families that have received
23 assistance or benefits through such funds.

24 (3) The number of diapers, medically necessary
25 diapers, or adult incontinence materials and supplies

1 (such as adult diapers, briefs, protective underwear,
2 pull-ons, pull-ups, liners, shields, guards, pads, un-
3 dergarments), and the number of each type of dia-
4 pering or adult incontinence supply, distributed
5 through the use of such funds.

6 (4) The ZIP Code or ZIP Codes where the eli-
7 gible entity (or subgrantee) distributed diapers and
8 diapering supplies and adult incontinence materials
9 and supplies.

10 (5) The method or methods the eligible entity
11 (or subgrantee) uses to distribute diapers and dia-
12 pering supplies and, adult incontinence materials
13 and supplies.

14 (6) Such other information as the Secretary
15 may specify.

16 (d) EVALUATION.—The Secretary, in consultation
17 with States, the national entity described in subsection
18 (a)(2)(C), and eligible entities receiving funds made avail-
19 able under this section, shall—

20 (1) not later than 2 years after the date of en-
21 actment of this Act—

22 (A) complete an evaluation of the effective-
23 ness of the assistance program carried out pur-
24 suant to this section, such as the effect of ac-
25 tivities carried out under this Act on mitigating

1 the health and developmental risks of unmet di-
2 aper need among infants, toddlers, medically
3 complex children, and other family members in
4 low-income families, including the risks of dia-
5 per dermatitis, urinary tract infections, and pa-
6 rental and child depression and anxiety;

7 (B) submit to the relevant congressional
8 committees a report on the results of such eval-
9 uation; and

10 (C) publish the results of the evaluation on
11 the internet website of the Department of
12 Health and Human Services;

13 (2) not later than 3 years after the date of en-
14 actment of this Act, update the evaluation required
15 by paragraph (1)(A); and

16 (3) not later than 120 days after completion of
17 the updated evaluation under paragraph (2)—

18 (A) submit to the relevant congressional
19 committees a report describing the results of
20 such updated evaluation; and

21 (B) publish the results of such evaluation
22 on the internet website of the Department of
23 Health and Human Services.

24 (e) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after enact-
25 ment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue guidance re-

1 garding how the provisions of this section should be car-
 2 ried out, including information regarding eligible entities,
 3 allowable use of funds, and reporting requirements.

4 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) ADULT INCONTINENCE MATERIALS AND
 6 SUPPLIES.—The term “adult incontinence materials
 7 and supplies” means those supplies that are used to
 8 assist adults or adults with disabilities and includes
 9 adult diapers, briefs, protective underwear, pull-ons,
 10 pull-ups, liners, shields, guards, pads, undergar-
 11 ments, disposable wipes, over-the-counter adult dia-
 12 per rash cream products, intermittent catheteriza-
 13 tion, indwelling catheters, condom catheters, urinary
 14 drainage bags, external collection devices, wearable
 15 urinals, and penile clamps.

16 (2) ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.—The term
 17 “adults with disabilities” means individuals who—

18 (A) have attained 18 years of age; and

19 (B) have a disability (as such term is de-
 20 fined, with respect to an individual, in section
 21 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of
 22 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)).

23 (3) DIAPER.—The term “diaper” means an ab-
 24 sorbent garment that—

1 (A) is washable or disposable that may be
 2 worn by an infant or toddler who is not toilet-
 3 trained; and

4 (B) if disposable—

5 (i) does not use any latex or common
 6 allergens; and

7 (ii) meets or exceeds the quality
 8 standards for diapers commercially avail-
 9 able through retail sale in the following
 10 categories:

11 (I) Absorbency (with acceptable
 12 rates for first and second wetting).

13 (II) Waterproof outer cover.

14 (III) Flexible leg openings.

15 (IV) Refastening closures.

16 (4) DIAPER BANK.— The term “diaper bank”
 17 means a nonprofit organization that—

18 (A) is described in section 501(c)(3) of the
 19 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt
 20 from taxation under section 501(a) of such
 21 Code;

22 (B) is established and operating primarily
 23 for the purpose of collecting or purchasing dia-
 24 pers and diapering supplies; and

1 (C) distributes diapers and diapering sup-
 2 plies either directly or through partnerships for
 3 eventual distribution to individuals free of
 4 charge.

5 (5) DIAPERING SUPPLIES.—The term “dia-
 6 pering supplies” means items, including diaper wipes
 7 and diaper cream, necessary to ensure that—

8 (A) an eligible child using a diaper is prop-
 9 erly cleaned and protected from diaper rash; or

10 (B) a medically complex child who uses a
 11 medically necessary diaper is properly cleaned
 12 and protected from diaper rash.

13 (6) ELIGIBLE CHILD.—The term “eligible
 14 child” means a child who—

15 (A) has not attained 4 years of age; and

16 (B) is a member of a low-income family.

17 (7) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The term “eligible
 18 entity” means a State or local governmental entity,
 19 an Indian tribe or tribal organization (as defined in
 20 section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
 21 cation Assistance Act), or a diaper bank or other
 22 nonprofit organization described in section 501(c)(3)
 23 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt
 24 from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code
 25 that—

1 (A) has at least 1 year of demonstrated ex-
2 perience in the area of—

3 (i) community distributions of diapers
4 and diapering supplies and other basic
5 need services, such as food or menstrual
6 products;

7 (ii) child care;

8 (iii) child development activities in
9 low-income communities; or

10 (iv) motherhood, fatherhood, or par-
11 ent education efforts serving low-income
12 parents of young children;

13 (B) demonstrates competency to implement
14 a project, provide fiscal accountability, collect
15 data, and prepare reports and other necessary
16 documentation; and

17 (C) demonstrates a willingness to share in-
18 formation with researchers, practitioners, and
19 other interested parties.

20 (8) FEDERAL POVERTY LINE.—The term “Fed-
21 eral poverty line” means the Federal poverty line as
22 defined by the Office of Management and Budget
23 and revised annually in accordance with section
24 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of

1 1981 (42 U.S.C. 9902(2)) applicable to a family of
2 the size involved.

3 (9) LOW-INCOME.—The term “low-income”,
4 with respect to a family, means a family whose self-
5 certified income is not more than 200 percent of the
6 Federal poverty line.

7 (10) MEDICALLY COMPLEX CHILD.—The term
8 “medically complex child” means an individual who
9 has attained 3 years of age and for whom a licensed
10 health care provider has provided a diagnosis of 1 or
11 more significant chronic conditions.

12 (11) MEDICALLY NECESSARY DIAPER.—The
13 term “medically necessary diaper” means an absorb-
14 ent garment that is—

15 (A) washable or disposable;

16 (B) worn by a medically complex child who
17 has been diagnosed with bowel or bladder incon-
18 tinence, a bowel or bladder condition that
19 causes excess urine or stool (such as short gut
20 syndrome or diabetes insipidus), or a severe
21 skin condition that causes skin erosions (such
22 as epidermolysis bullosa) and needs such gar-
23 ment to correct or ameliorate such condition;
24 and

25 (C) if disposable—

1 (i) does not use any latex or common
 2 allergens; and

3 (ii) meets or exceeds the quality
 4 standards for diapers commercially avail-
 5 able through retail sale in the following
 6 categories:

7 (I) Absorbency (with acceptable
 8 rates for first and second wetting).

9 (II) Waterproof outer cover.

10 (III) Flexible leg openings.

11 (IV) Refastening closures.

12 (12) STATE.—The term “State” means the 50
 13 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth
 14 of Puerto Rico the United States Virgin Islands,
 15 Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
 16 Islands, American Samoa, the Republic of the Mar-
 17 shall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia,
 18 and the Republic of Palau.

19 (g) EXEMPTION OF PROGRAM FROM SEQUESTRA-
 20 TION.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 255(h) of the Bal-
 22 anced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of
 23 1985 (2 U.S.C. 905(h)) is amended by inserting
 24 after “Supplemental Security Income Program (28–
 25 0406–0–1–609).” the following:

1 “Targeted funding for States for diaper assist-
 2 ance (including diapering supplies and adult inconti-
 3 nence materials and supplies) through the Social
 4 Services Block Grant Program.”.

5 (2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by
 6 this subsection shall apply to any sequestration
 7 order issued under the Balanced Budget and Emer-
 8 gency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et
 9 seq.) on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

10 **SEC. 3. INCLUSION OF DIAPERS AND DIAPERING SUPPLIES**
 11 **AS QUALIFIED MEDICAL EXPENSES.**

12 (a) HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.—Section
 13 223(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amend-
 14 ed—

15 (1) by inserting “, medically necessary diapers,
 16 and diapering supplies” after “menstrual care prod-
 17 ucts” in the last sentence of subparagraph (A); and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
 19 paragraph:

20 “(E) MEDICALLY NECESSARY DIAPERS
 21 AND DIAPERING SUPPLIES.—For purposes of
 22 this paragraph—

23 “(i) MEDICALLY NECESSARY DIA-
 24 PERS.—The term ‘medically necessary dia-
 25 per’ means an absorbent garment which is

1 washable or disposable and which is worn
2 by an individual who has attained 3 years
3 of age because of medical necessity, such
4 as someone who has been diagnosed with
5 bowel or bladder incontinence, a bowel or
6 bladder condition that causes excess urine
7 or stool (such as short gut syndrome or di-
8 abetes insipidus), or a severe skin condi-
9 tion that causes skin erosions (such as
10 epidermolysis bullosa) and needs such gar-
11 ment to correct or ameliorate such condi-
12 tion, to serve a preventative medical pur-
13 pose, or to correct or ameliorate defects or
14 physical or mental illnesses or conditions
15 diagnosed by a licensed health care pro-
16 vider, and, if disposable—

17 “(I) does not use any latex or
18 common allergens; and

19 “(II) meets or exceeds the quality
20 standards for diapers commercially
21 available through retail sale in the fol-
22 lowing categories:

23 “(aa) Absorbency (with ac-
24 ceptable rates for first and sec-
25 ond wetting).

1 “(bb) Waterproof outer
2 cover.

3 “(cc) Flexible leg openings.

4 “(dd) Refastening closures.

5 “(ii) DIAPERING SUPPLIES.—The
6 term ‘diapering supplies’ means items, in-
7 cluding diaper wipes and diaper creams,
8 necessary to ensure that an individual
9 wearing medically necessary diapers is
10 properly cleaned and protected from diaper
11 rash.”.

12 (b) ARCHER MSAs.—The last sentence of section
13 220(d)(2)(A) of such Code is amended by inserting “,
14 medically necessary diapers (as defined in section
15 223(d)(2)(E)), and diapering supplies (as defined in sec-
16 tion 223(d)(2)(E))” after “menstrual care products (as
17 defined in section 223(d)(2)(D))”.

18 (c) HEALTH FLEXIBLE SPENDING ARRANGEMENTS
19 AND HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENTS.—Sec-
20 tion 106(f) of such Code is amended—

21 (1) by inserting “, medically necessary diapers
22 (as defined in section 223(d)(2)(E)), and diapering
23 supplies (as defined in section 223(d)(2)(E))” after
24 “menstrual care products (as defined in section
25 223(d)(2)(D))”; and

1 (2) in the heading, by inserting “, MEDICALLY
2 NECESSARY DIAPERS, AND DIAPERING SUPPLIES”
3 after “MENSTRUAL CARE PRODUCTS”.

4 (d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

5 (1) DISTRIBUTIONS FROM CERTAIN AC-
6 COUNTS.—The amendments made by subsections (a)
7 and (b) shall apply to amounts paid after December
8 31, 2025.

9 (2) REIMBURSEMENTS.—The amendment made
10 by subsection (c) shall apply to expenses incurred
11 after December 31, 2025.

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