

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1081

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide information and outreach for the prevention of osteoporosis.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 3, 2005

Ms. BERKLEY (for herself, Ms. BORDALLO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. OWENS, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. CUMMINGS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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 Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide information and outreach for the prevention of osteoporosis.

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 “Osteoporosis Edu-
5 cation and Prevention Act of 2005” .

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Osteoporosis is a major public health prob-
2 lem affecting 44,000,000 Americans: 10,000,000
3 who already have the disease and 34,000,000 more
4 who have low bone mass placing them at risk for
5 fractures.

6 (2) Although there is currently no cure for
7 osteoporosis, it is preventable in most cases if proper
8 steps are taken to preserve bone mass as an indi-
9 vidual ages.

10 (3) Osteoporosis is a silent disease that often is
11 not discovered until a fracture occurs. One out of
12 two women and one out of four men over age 50 will
13 have an osteoporosis-related fracture in their life-
14 times.

15 (4) While both men and women may develop
16 osteoporosis, 80 percent of the individuals who de-
17 velop the disease are women. Most adult women are
18 not aware of their personal risk factors for
19 osteoporosis. A woman's risk hip fracture is equal to
20 her combined risk of breast, uterine, and ovarian
21 cancer.

22 (5) Osteoporosis is responsible for more than
23 1,500,000 fractures annually, including over
24 300,000 hip fractures, approximately 700,000

1 vertebral fractures, 250,000 wrist fractures, and
2 300,000 other fractures.

3 (6) The estimated nationwide medical costs di-
4 rectly attributable to osteoporosis-related treatment
5 was \$17,000,000,000 in 2001—\$47,000,000 each
6 day—and the cost is rising. Much of this cost might
7 be avoidable with proper education about prevention,
8 diagnosis, and treatment of osteoporosis.

9 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.**

10 The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall
11 carry out a national campaign to increase awareness and
12 knowledge with respect to osteoporosis. As part of such
13 campaign, the Secretary shall provide public service an-
14 nouncements, in accordance with applicable law and regu-
15 lations, by developing and placing in telecommunications
16 media announcements intended to encourage at-risk popu-
17 lations to discuss their risks of osteoporosis with their phy-
18 sicians, and to call attention to early warning signs and
19 risks factors based on the best available medical informa-
20 tion.

21 **SEC. 4. AMENDMENT.**

22 Section 202 of the Older Americans Act of 1995 (42
23 U.S.C. 3012) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing:

1 “(g)(1) The Assistant Secretary shall carry out an
2 osteoporosis prevention demonstration program by making
3 grants to public and private nonprofit agencies, organiza-
4 tions, and institutions for purposes of—

5 “(A) determining the best practices for
6 providing information and outreach services (in-
7 cluding programs and information, such as fo-
8 rums, seminars, and large-print, easy-to-under-
9 stand, multilingual literature) relating to pre-
10 vention, diagnosis, and treatment of
11 osteoporosis; and

12 “(B) measuring the effectiveness of such
13 program over a 3-year-period, as shown by an
14 increase in the percentages of individuals who
15 have demonstrated expanded awareness and
16 knowledge of osteoporosis (including knowledge
17 of personal risk factors).

18 “(2) In carrying out such program, the Assistant Sec-
19 retary shall collaborate with the leading nonprofit health
20 organization, as well as other health entities, with a mis-
21 sion both to promote lifelong bone health nationwide and
22 to provide outreach to State and local governments and
23 communities, for the purpose of determining the best prac-
24 tices for providing bone-health information and outreach
25 services to at-risk populations.

1 “(3) The Assistant Secretary shall include in the an-
2 nual report required by section 207(a) to be submitted by
3 the Assistant Secretary, a description of the program car-
4 ried out under paragraph (1) and of the collaboration pro-
5 vided under paragraph (2).”.

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