

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5033

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out programs to provide youth in racial or ethnic minority or immigrant communities the information and skills needed to reduce teenage pregnancies.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 15, 2010

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (for herself and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out programs to provide youth in racial or ethnic minority or immigrant communities the information and skills needed to reduce teenage pregnancies.

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 “Communities of Color
5 Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Act of 2010”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 It is the purpose of this Act to develop and carry out
8 research and demonstration projects on new and existing

1 program interventions to provide youth in racial or ethnic
2 minority or immigrant communities the information and
3 skills needed to reduce teenage pregnancies, build healthy
4 relationships, and improve overall health and well-being.

5 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

6 The Congress finds the following:

7 (1) Teenage pregnancy is one of the most crit-
8 ical issues facing the Nation today. The United
9 States has the highest teenage pregnancy rate of
10 any developed nation, with nearly 750,000 teenage
11 girls (ages 15 to 19) becoming pregnant each year,
12 and 80 percent of those pregnancies unplanned.

13 (2) Nationally, teenage pregnancy has signifi-
14 cant fiscal implications, costing taxpayers at least
15 \$9,100,000,000 annually.

16 (3) Communities of color disproportionately suf-
17 fer from teenage pregnancy. Fifty-two percent of
18 Latinas and 50 percent of African-American girls
19 will become pregnant at least once before they turn
20 20. In comparison, only 19 percent of non-Hispanic
21 white teenage girls under the age of 20 become preg-
22 nant.

23 (4) Between 2005 and 2006, the teen preg-
24 nancy rate increased for every racial/ethnic sub-

1 group. Hispanic teens continue to have the highest
2 rates of both teen pregnancy and birth.

3 (5) Research shows that starting a family too
4 soon may have significant social, educational, and fi-
5 nancial impacts on the lives of young people. Less
6 than half of teenage mothers finish high school and
7 less than 2 percent go on to finish college, making
8 it difficult to find and maintain a job.

9 (6) New research shows that teenage dating vi-
10 olence and abuse are serious public health problems
11 and are associated with higher levels of teenage
12 pregnancy and unplanned pregnancy. Studies show
13 that 1 in 5 teenage girls in the United States report
14 having experienced physical or sexual intimate part-
15 ner violence.

16 (7) Promoting and building healthy relation-
17 ships are fundamental to prevent teenage preg-
18 nancies and unplanned pregnancies.

19 **SEC. 4. DEMONSTRATION GRANTS TO REDUCE TEENAGE**
20 **PREGNANCIES.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award com-
22 petitive grants to eligible entities for new and existing pro-
23 gram interventions to provide youth in racial or ethnic mi-
24 nority or immigrant communities the information and

1 skills needed to reduce teenage pregnancies and develop
2 healthy relationships.

3 (b) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-
4 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants pro-
5 posing to carry out projects in racial or ethnic minority
6 or immigrant communities.

7 (c) PROJECT SETTINGS.—Funds received under this
8 section may be used to provide information and skills as
9 described in subsection (a)—

10 (1) through classroom-based settings, such as
11 school health education or family and consumer
12 science education; after-school programs; commu-
13 nity-based programs; workforce development pro-
14 grams; and health clinics; or

15 (2) in collaboration with systems that serve
16 large numbers of at-risk youth such as juvenile jus-
17 tice or foster care systems.

18 (d) PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.—As a condition on re-
19 ceipt of a grant under this section, an entity shall agree
20 that information and skills provided through the grant will
21 be—

22 (1) age-appropriate;

23 (2) evidence-based;

24 (3) provided in accordance with section 7(b);

25 and

1 (4) culturally sensitive and relevant to the tar-
2 get population

3 (e) EVALUATION.—Of the total amount made avail-
4 able to carry out this section for a fiscal year, the Sec-
5 retary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Dis-
6 ease Control and Prevention, shall use 10 percent of such
7 amount to carry out a rigorous, independent evaluation
8 to determine the extent and the effectiveness of activities
9 funded through this section in changing attitudes and be-
10 havior.

11 (f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “eligible
12 entity” means a State, local, or tribal agency; a school
13 or postsecondary institution; an after-school program; a
14 nonprofit coalition; a community or faith-based organiza-
15 tion; or any other entity determined appropriate by the
16 Secretary.

17 **SEC. 5. MULTIMEDIA CAMPAIGNS TO REDUCE TEENAGE**
18 **PREGNANCIES.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award com-
20 petitive grants to carry out multimedia campaigns to pro-
21 vide public education and increase public awareness re-
22 garding teenage pregnancy and related social and emo-
23 tional issues.

24 (b) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-
25 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants pro-

1 posing to carry out campaigns developed for racial or eth-
2 nic minority or immigrant communities.

3 (c) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED.—As a condition
4 on receipt of a grant under this section, an entity shall
5 agree to use the grant to carry out multimedia campaigns
6 described in subsection (a) that—

7 (1) at a minimum, shall provide information
8 on—

9 (A) the prevention of teenage pregnancy;
10 and

11 (B) healthy relationship development; and

12 (2) may provide information on the prevention
13 of dating violence.

14 **SEC. 6. RESEARCH ON REDUCING TEENAGE PREGNANCIES.**

15 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to pro-
16 vide for the conduct, support, or coordination of research
17 among culturally and linguistically specific communities,
18 including projects that—

19 (1) examine factors that contribute to dis-
20 proportionately high rates of teenage and unintended
21 pregnancy or sexual abuse in such communities;

22 (2) explore research-based strategies for ad-
23 dressing high rates of teenage pregnancy and unin-
24 tended pregnancies through programs that empha-
25 size healthy relationships; and

1 (3) study the role which violence and abuse play
2 in the decisions made by young people about rela-
3 tionships, sex, pregnancy, and childbearing.

4 (b) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the
5 Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
6 tion, shall make grants to public and private entities to
7 conduct, support, or coordinate research that—

8 (1) investigates the incidence and prevalence of
9 teenage pregnancy and births in racial and ethnic
10 minority or immigrant communities;

11 (2) examines—

12 (A) the relationships between teenage preg-
13 nancy or dating abuse and one or more of—

14 (i) the mental and physical health and
15 well-being of teenagers in such commu-
16 nities;

17 (ii) the scholastic achievement of such
18 teenagers, including with respect to school
19 completion;

20 (iii) family communication; and

21 (iv) exposure to violence, sexual abuse,
22 pregnancy coercion, and birth control sabo-
23 tage;

24 (B) effective interventions to reduce preg-
25 nancy coercion and birth control sabotage;

1 (C) the variance in the rates of teenage
2 pregnancy by—

3 (i) location (such as inner cities, inner
4 suburbs, outer suburbs, and rural areas);

5 (ii) population subgroup (such as His-
6 panic, Asian, African-American, Pacific Is-
7 lander, American Indian, and Alaskan Na-
8 tive);

9 (iii) level of acculturation; or

10 (iv) socioeconomic status (such as in-
11 come, educational attainment of the par-
12 ents of the teenager, and school attendance
13 of the teenager);

14 (D) the importance of the physical and so-
15 cial environment as a factor in placing commu-
16 nities at risk of increased rates of teenage preg-
17 nancy or dating violence abuse; and

18 (E) the importance of aspirations and mo-
19 tivations as factors affecting young people's risk
20 of teenage pregnancy or dating abuse;

21 (3) improves data collection on—

22 (A) sexual and reproductive health, includ-
23 ing teenage pregnancies and births, among all
24 minority communities and subpopulations, with

1 an emphasis on American Indian and Alaska
2 Native youth;

3 (B) sexual behavior, sexual or reproductive
4 coercion, birth control sabotage, and teenage
5 contraceptive use patterns at the State level; or

6 (C) teenage pregnancies among youth in
7 and aging out of foster care or juvenile justice
8 systems;

9 (4) examines underlying factors that lead to
10 teenage pregnancy among youth in foster care or ju-
11 venile justice systems;

12 (5) identifies strategies to address the dis-
13 proportionate rates of teenage and unintended preg-
14 nancies and dating violence in racial or ethnic mi-
15 nority or immigrant communities;

16 (6) examines the effectiveness of media cam-
17 paigns addressing healthy relationship development,
18 dating violence prevention, and teenage pregnancy;
19 or

20 (7) examines how effective interventions can be
21 replicated or adapted in other settings to serve racial
22 or ethnic minority or immigrant communities.

23 (c) PRIORITY.—In carrying out this section, the Sec-
24 retary shall give priority to research that incorporates—

25 (1) interdisciplinary approaches; or

1 (2) a strong emphasis on community-based
2 participatory research.

3 **SEC. 7. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

4 (a) APPLICATIONS.—To seek a grant under this Act,
5 an entity shall submit an application to the Secretary in
6 such form, in such manner, and containing such agree-
7 ments, assurances, and information as the Secretary may
8 require.

9 (b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—A grant may be
10 made under this Act only if the applicant involved agrees
11 that information, activities, and services under the
12 grant—

13 (1) will be evidence-based;

14 (2) will be factually and medically accurate and
15 complete; and

16 (3) if directed to a particular population group,
17 will be provided in an appropriate language and cul-
18 tural context.

19 (c) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Of the total amount made
21 available to carry out this Act for a fiscal year, the
22 Secretary shall use 10 percent to provide, directly or
23 through a competitive grant process, training and
24 technical assistance to the grant recipients under
25 this section, including by disseminating research and

1 information regarding effective and promising prac-
2 tices, providing consultation and resources on a
3 broad array of teenage and unintended pregnancy
4 and violence prevention strategies, and developing
5 resources and materials.

6 (2) COLLABORATION.—In carrying out this sub-
7 section, the Secretary shall collaborate with a variety
8 of entities that have expertise in the prevention of
9 teenage pregnancy, healthy relationship development,
10 and violence prevention.

11 **SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.**

12 In this Act:

13 (1) MEDICALLY ACCURATE AND COMPLETE.—
14 The term “medically accurate and complete” means
15 verified or supported by the weight of research con-
16 ducted in compliance with accepted scientific meth-
17 ods and—

18 (A) published in peer-reviewed journals,
19 where applicable; or

20 (B) comprising information that leading
21 professional organizations and agencies with
22 relevant expertise in the field recognize as accu-
23 rate, objective, and complete.

24 (2) RACIAL OR ETHNIC MINORITY OR IMMI-
25 GRANT COMMUNITIES.—The term “racial or ethnic

1 minority or immigrant communities” means commu-
2 nities with a substantial number of residents who
3 are members of racial or ethnic minority groups or
4 who are immigrants.

5 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
6 the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

7 (4) YOUTH.—The term “youth” means individ-
8 uals who are 11 to 19 years of age.

9 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10 There are authorized to be appropriated—

11 (1) to carry out section 4, \$45,000,000 for each
12 of fiscal years 2011 through 2015;

13 (2) to carry out section 5, \$5,000,000 for each
14 of fiscal years 2011 through 2015; and

15 (3) to carry out section 6, \$10,000,000 for each
16 of fiscal years 2011 through 2015.

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