

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6280

To amend title V of the Social Security Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to give priority to eligible entities that partner with certain community partners with respect to grants awarded under the maternal, infant, and early childhood home visitation program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

Mr. RUIZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on 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 title V of the Social Security Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to give priority to eligible entities that partner with certain community partners with respect to grants awarded under the maternal, infant, and early childhood home visitation program, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Ensuring Healthy Be-
3 ginnings Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. GIVING PRIORITY TO CERTAIN ELIGIBLE ENTITIES**
5 **UNDER MATERNAL, INFANT, AND EARLY**
6 **CHILDHOOD HOME VISITATION PROGRAM.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 511(c) of the Social Secu-
8 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 711(c)) is amended by adding at the
9 end the following new paragraphs:

10 “(5) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this
11 section, the Secretary shall give priority to applica-
12 tions submitted by an eligible entities that are work-
13 ing in partnership with qualified community part-
14 ners.

15 “(6) STANDARDIZED MATERIALS.—The Sec-
16 retary shall develop standard materials on the avail-
17 ability of the items and services described in sub-
18 section (k)(5) for dissemination by eligible entities
19 whose applications are given priority under para-
20 graph (5).”.

21 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 511(k) of the Social Se-
22 curity Act is amended by adding at the end the following
23 new paragraphs:

24 “(4) COMMUNITY PARTNER.—The term ‘com-
25 munity partner’ includes any of the following:

1 “(A) A local educational agency, elemen-
2 tary school, or secondary school (as those terms
3 are defined in section 8101 of the Elementary
4 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
5 U.S.C. 7801)).

6 “(B) A law enforcement agency.

7 “(C) A hospital, community health center,
8 or a local healthcare organization that furnishes
9 items and services primarily to pregnant
10 women, infants, and young children.

11 “(5) QUALIFIED COMMUNITY PARTNER.—The
12 term ‘qualified community partner’ means a commu-
13 nity partner that provides, with respect to pregnant
14 women, first-time mothers, and families described in
15 subsection (d)(4), any of the following items and
16 services:

17 “(A) Outreach services.

18 “(B) Literature, including pamphlets,
19 newsletters, or online mass distributions.

20 “(C) Assistance in obtaining any informa-
21 tion on assistance which a pregnant woman,
22 first-time mother, or a family described in such
23 subsection may be eligible to receive, including
24 counseling, employment and training assistance,
25 educational assistance, and health care services.

1 “(D) Assistance in obtaining and coordi-
2 nating the provision of other public benefits
3 provided through Federal, State or local agen-
4 cies or other community partners, including any
5 of the following services:

6 “(i) Marriage counseling.

7 “(ii) Child assistance services.

8 “(iii) Suicide prevention services.

9 “(iv) Substance abuse awareness and
10 treatment services.

11 “(v) Mental health awareness and
12 treatment services.

13 “(vi) Financial counseling.

14 “(vii) Anger management counseling.

15 “(viii) Domestic violence awareness
16 and prevention services.

17 “(ix) Employment assistance.

18 “(x) Transportation services.

19 “(xi) Child care services.

20 “(xii) Housing counseling.

21 “(xiii) Assistance with preparing and
22 updating family care plans.”.

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section shall apply with respect to grants awarded on
3 or after the date of the enactment of this section.

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