

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4784

To amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide funding for American Health Benefit Exchanges navigator programs and outreach and promotional activities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 11, 2018

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. ELLISON, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. LEE, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide funding for American Health Benefit Exchanges navigator programs and outreach and promotional activities.

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 “Affordable Care Act
3 Outreach for the Uninsured, Transformative Recruitment,
4 and Enrollment Action for Compassionate Healthcare Act
5 of 2018” or the “ACA OUTREACH Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FUNDING AMERICAN HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGES**
7 **NAVIGATOR PROGRAMS AND OUTREACH AND**
8 **PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.**

9 (a) FUNDING FOR NAVIGATOR PROGRAM.—Section
10 1311(i) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
11 (42 U.S.C. 18031(i)) is amended by adding at the end
12 the following new paragraph:

13 “(7) APPROPRIATIONS.—Out of any funds in
14 the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is
15 appropriated to the Secretary of Health and Human
16 Services \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018
17 through 2021 for navigator programs under this
18 subsection.”.

19 (b) FEDERAL EXCHANGES OUTREACH AND PRO-
20 MOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.—Section 1321(c) of the Patient
21 Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 18041(c))
22 is amended by adding at the end the following new para-
23 graph:

24 “(3) OUTREACH AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVI-
25 TIES.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an Ex-
2 change established or operated by the Secretary
3 pursuant to this subsection, the Secretary may
4 carry out outreach and promotional activities as
5 necessary and appropriate for the successful op-
6 eration of such Exchange, including for pur-
7 poses of informing potential enrollees in quali-
8 fied health plans offered through the Exchange
9 of the availability of coverage under such plans
10 and financial assistance for coverage under
11 such plans.

12 “(B) DIVERSE CONSTITUENCIES.—The
13 Secretary shall carry out any outreach and pro-
14 motional activities under this paragraph in a
15 manner that reaches diverse constituencies, in-
16 cluding minority, rural, and underserved com-
17 munities; people with disabilities; young adults;
18 and individuals who are likely to be uninsured.

19 “(C) FUNDING.—Out of any funds in the
20 Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is
21 appropriated to the Secretary of Health and
22 Human Services \$100,000,000 for each of fis-
23 cal years 2018 through 2021 to carry out this
24 paragraph.”.

1 (c) STATE GRANTS FOR STATE-RUN EXCHANGES
2 OUTREACH AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.—Section
3 1311 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
4 (42 U.S.C. 18031) is amended by adding at the end the
5 following new subsection:

6 “(1) STATE-RUN EXCHANGES OUTREACH AND PRO-
7 MOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
9 out a grant program under which the Secretary
10 awards grants to States that are electing States
11 under section 1321(b) that have established Ex-
12 changes. Each such grant awarded to such a State
13 that has established an Exchange shall be used by
14 such Exchange for purposes of outreach and pro-
15 motional activities as necessary and appropriate for
16 the successful operation of the Exchange, including
17 for purposes of informing potential enrollees in
18 qualified health plans offered through the Exchange
19 of the availability of coverage under such plans and
20 financial assistance for coverage under such plans.

21 “(2) ELIGIBILITY.—

22 “(A) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a
23 grant under paragraph (1), a State described in
24 such paragraph shall submit an application to
25 the Secretary at such time, in such manner,

1 and containing such information as specified by
2 the Secretary. In establishing the process for
3 States to apply for such grants, the Secretary
4 shall ensure that applications are processed in
5 a timely manner.

6 “(B) DIVERSE CONSTITUENCIES.—To be
7 eligible for a grant under paragraph (1), a
8 State described in such paragraph shall provide
9 such assurances as are required by the Sec-
10 retary to ensure that the Exchange established
11 by such State carries out outreach and pro-
12 motional activities under such grant in a man-
13 ner that reaches diverse constituencies, includ-
14 ing minority, rural, and underserved commu-
15 nities; people with disabilities; young adults;
16 and individuals who are likely to be uninsured.

17 “(3) FUNDING.—Out of any funds in the
18 Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appro-
19 priated to the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
20 ices \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018
21 through 2021 to carry out this subsection.”.

○