

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4555

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 9, 2021

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education,
Labor, and Pensions

AN ACT

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a public education campaign across all relevant programs of the Health Resources and Services Administration to increase oral health literacy and awareness.

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 “Oral Health Literacy
3 and Awareness Act of 2021”.

4 **SEC. 2. ORAL HEALTH LITERACY AND AWARENESS CAM-**
5 **PAIGN.**

6 The Public Health Service Act is amended by insert-
7 ing after section 340G–1 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 256g–
8 1) the following:

9 **“SEC. 340G–2. ORAL HEALTH LITERACY AND AWARENESS.**

10 “(a) CAMPAIGN.—The Secretary, acting through the
11 Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Ad-
12 ministration, shall establish a public education campaign
13 (referred to in this subsection as the ‘campaign’) across
14 all relevant programs of the Health Resources and Serv-
15 ices Administration (including the health center program,
16 oral health workforce programs, maternal and child health
17 programs, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, and rural
18 health programs) to increase oral health literacy and
19 awareness.

20 “(b) STRATEGIES.—In carrying out the campaign,
21 the Secretary shall identify oral health literacy and aware-
22 ness strategies that are evidence-based and focused on oral
23 health care education, including education on prevention
24 of oral disease such as early childhood and other caries,
25 periodontal disease, and oral cancer.

1 “(c) FOCUS.—The Secretary shall design the cam-
2 paign to communicate directly with specific populations,
3 including children, pregnant women, parents, the elderly,
4 individuals with disabilities, and ethnic and racial minority
5 populations, including Indians, Alaska Natives, and Na-
6 tive Hawaiians, in a culturally and linguistically appro-
7 priate manner.

8 “(d) OUTCOMES.—In carrying out the campaign, the
9 Secretary shall include a process for measuring outcomes
10 and effectiveness.

11 “(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 3 years
12 after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary
13 shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce
14 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
15 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a
16 report on the outcomes and effectiveness of the campaign.

17 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
18 carry out this section, there is authorized to be appro-
19 priated \$750,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through
20 2026.”.

Passed the House of Representatives December 8,
2021.

Attest:

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,

Clerk.