

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2292

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

APRIL 12, 2019

Ms. WATERS (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. COX of California, Mrs. LURIA, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. MENG, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. TLAIB) 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Affordable Care Act
5 Outreach for the Uninsured, Transformative Recruitment,

1 and Enrollment Action for Compassionate Healthcare Act
2 of 2019” or the “ACA OUTREACH Act”.

3 **SEC. 2. FUNDING AMERICAN HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGES**
4 **NAVIGATOR PROGRAMS AND OUTREACH AND**
5 **PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.**

6 (a) **FUNDING FOR NAVIGATOR PROGRAM.**—Section
7 1311(i) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
8 (42 U.S.C. 18031(i)) is amended by adding at the end
9 the following new paragraph:

10 “(7) **APPROPRIATIONS.**—Out of any funds in
11 the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is
12 appropriated to the Secretary of Health and Human
13 Services \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019
14 through 2022 for navigator programs under this
15 subsection.”.

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

21 “(3) **OUTREACH AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVI-**
22 **TIES.**—

23 “(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In the case of an Ex-
24 change established or operated by the Secretary
25 pursuant to this subsection, the Secretary may

1 carry out outreach and promotional activities as
2 necessary and appropriate for the successful op-
3 eration of such Exchange, including for pur-
4 poses of informing potential enrollees in quali-
5 fied health plans offered through the Exchange
6 of the availability of coverage under such plans
7 and financial assistance for coverage under
8 such plans.

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

16 “(C) FUNDING.—Out of any funds in the
17 Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is
18 appropriated to the Secretary of Health and
19 Human Services \$100,000,000 for each of fis-
20 cal years 2019 through 2022 to carry out this
21 paragraph.”.

22 (c) STATE GRANTS FOR STATE-RUN EXCHANGES
23 OUTREACH AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.—Section
24 1311 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

1 (42 U.S.C. 18031) is amended by adding at the end the
2 following new subsection:

3 “(1) STATE-RUN EXCHANGES OUTREACH AND PRO-
4 MOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.—

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

18 “(2) ELIGIBILITY.—

19 “(A) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a
20 grant under paragraph (1), a State described in
21 such paragraph shall submit an application to
22 the Secretary at such time, in such manner,
23 and containing such information as specified by
24 the Secretary. In establishing the process for
25 States to apply for such grants, the Secretary

1 shall ensure that applications are processed in
2 a timely manner.

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

14 “(3) FUNDING.—Out of any funds in the
15 Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appro-
16 priated to the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
17 ices \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019
18 through 2022 to carry out this subsection.”.

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