

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4395

To amend part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act to improve essential oral health care for lower-income individuals by breaking down barriers to care.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 3, 2014

Ms. KELLY of Illinois introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act to improve essential oral health care for lower-income individuals by breaking down barriers to care.

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 “Action for Dental
5 Health Act 2014”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEER DENTAL**
2 **PROJECTS AND PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNER-**
3 **SHIPS.**

4 Part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act
5 is amended by inserting after section 320A (42 U.S.C.
6 247d–8) the following new sections:

7 **“SEC. 320B. GRANTS TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEER DENTAL**
8 **PROJECTS.**

9 “(a) **AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.**—The Secretary
10 shall award grants to or enter into contracts with eligible
11 entities described in subsection (b) to obtain portable or
12 mobile dental equipment and to pay for appropriate oper-
13 ational costs, including direct health care or service deliv-
14 ery costs, for the provision of free dental services to under-
15 served populations that are delivered in a manner con-
16 sistent with State licensing laws.

17 “(b) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—An eligible entity under
18 this subsection is an organization, such as a State or local
19 dental association, State oral health program, or a dental
20 education, dental hygiene education, or postdoctoral den-
21 tal education program accredited by the Commission on
22 Dental Accreditation, or a community-based organization
23 that partners with an academic institution, that—

24 “(1) is exempt from tax under section 501(c) of
25 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

1 “(2) offers a free dental services program for
2 underserved populations.

3 “(c) APPLICATION.—An entity desiring a grant under
4 this section shall submit an application to the Secretary
5 in such manner as the Secretary may require.

6 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
7 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
8 \$10,000,000 for the first fiscal year beginning after the
9 date of enactment of the Action for Dental Health Act
10 2014 and for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.

11 **“SEC. 320C. GRANTS FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS**
12 **TO IMPROVE ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND**
13 **DENTAL DISEASE PREVENTION AND MED-**
14 **ICAID AND CHIP DENTAL PROGRAMS, AND**
15 **FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

16 “(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—The Secretary
17 shall award grants to or enter into contracts with eligible
18 entities described in subsection (b) to collaborate with
19 State, county, or local public officials and other stake-
20 holders in order to develop and implement initiatives to
21 accomplish any of the following goals:

22 “(1) To improve oral health education and den-
23 tal disease prevention, including community-wide
24 prevention programs, use of dental sealants and flu-
25 oride varnish, and increasing oral health literacy.

1 “(2) To reduce barriers (including low reim-
2 bursement and administrative impediments) in a
3 manner that increases dental provider participation
4 in Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance
5 Program (CHIP) under titles XIX and XXI of the
6 Social Security Act.

7 “(3) To make the health care delivery system
8 providing dental services under Medicaid or CHIP
9 more accessible and efficient by taking actions nec-
10 essary to facilitate the establishment of dental
11 homes for children, adults, and the aged, blind, and
12 disabled populations.

13 “(4) To address geographic, language, cultural,
14 and similar barriers in the provision of dental serv-
15 ices.

16 “(5) To reduce the use of emergency depart-
17 ments to seek dental services more appropriately de-
18 livered in a dental primary care setting.

19 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—An eligible entity under
20 this subsection is a State or local dental association or
21 a State dental association foundation that—

22 “(1) is exempt from tax under section 501(c) of
23 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

1 “(2) partners with public and private stake-
2 holders to facilitate the provision of dental services
3 for underserved populations.

4 “(c) APPLICATION.—An entity desiring a grant under
5 this section shall submit an application to the Secretary
6 in such manner as the Secretary may require.

7 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
8 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
9 \$10,000,000 for the first fiscal year beginning after the
10 date of enactment of the Action for Dental Health Act
11 2014 and for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.”.

○