

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 517

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to furnish tailored information to expecting mothers, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 25, 2023

Ms. MACE (for herself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. FALLON, Mr. LAMBORN, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Ms. FOXX) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to furnish tailored information to expecting mothers, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Standing with Moms  
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AWARENESS FOR EXPECTING MOTHERS.**

7 The Public Health Service Act is amended by adding  
8 at the end the following:

1 **“TITLE XXXIV—AWARENESS FOR**  
2 **EXPECTING MOTHERS**

3 **“SEC. 3401. WEBSITE AND PORTAL.**

4 “(a) WEBSITE.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
5 of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall publish  
6 a user-friendly public website, life.gov, to provide a com-  
7 prehensive list of Federal, State, local governmental, and  
8 private resources available to pregnant women including—

9 “(1) resources to mental health counseling,  
10 pregnancy counseling, and other prepartum and  
11 postpartum services;

12 “(2) comprehensive information on alternatives  
13 to abortion;

14 “(3) information about abortion risks, including  
15 complications and failures; and

16 “(4) links to information on child development  
17 from moment of conception.

18 “(b) PORTAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
19 of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall publish  
20 a portal on the public website of the Department of Health  
21 and Human Services that—

22 “(1) through a series of questions, will furnish  
23 specific tailored information to the user on what  
24 pregnancy-related information they are looking for,  
25 such as—

1           “(A) Federal, State, local governmental,  
2           and private resources that may be available to  
3           the woman within her ZIP Code, including the  
4           resources specified in subsection (c); and

5           “(B) risks related to abortion at all stages  
6           of fetal gestation; and

7           “(2) provides for the submission of feedback on  
8           how user-friendly and helpful the portal was in pro-  
9           viding the tailored information the user was seeking.

10          “(c) RESOURCES.—The Federal, State, local govern-  
11          mental, and private resources specified in this subsection  
12          are the following:

13           “(1) Mentorship opportunities, including preg-  
14           nancy help and case management resources.

15           “(2) Health and well-being services, including  
16           women’s medical services such as obstetrical and  
17           gynecological support services for women, abortion  
18           pill reversal, breastfeeding, general health services,  
19           primary care, and dental care.

20           “(3) Financial assistance, work opportunities,  
21           nutrition assistance, childcare, and education oppor-  
22           tunities.

23           “(4) Material or legal support, including trans-  
24           portation, food, nutrition, clothing, household goods,  
25           baby supplies, housing, shelters, maternity homes,

1 tax preparation, legal support for child support,  
2 family leave, breastfeeding protections, and custody  
3 issues.

4 “(5) Recovery and mental health services, in-  
5 cluding services with respect to addiction or suicide  
6 intervention, intimate partner violence, sexual as-  
7 sault, rape, sex trafficking, and counseling for  
8 women and families surrounding unexpected loss of  
9 a child.

10 “(6) Prenatal diagnostic services, including dis-  
11 ability support organizations, medical interventions  
12 for a baby, perinatal hospice resources, pregnancy  
13 and infant loss support, and literature on pregnancy  
14 wellness.

15 “(7) Healing and support services for abortion  
16 survivors and their families.

17 “(8) Services providing care for children, in-  
18 cluding family planning education, adoption, foster  
19 care, and short-term care resources.

20 “(d) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary may not del-  
21 egate implementation or administration of the portal es-  
22 tablished under subsection (b) below the level of the Office  
23 of the Secretary.

24 “(e) FOLLOW-UP.—The Secretary shall develop a  
25 plan under which—

1           “(1) the Secretary includes in the portal estab-  
2           lished under subsection (b), a mechanism for users  
3           of the portal to take an assessment through the por-  
4           tal and provide consent to use the user’s contact in-  
5           formation;

6           “(2) the Secretary conducts outreach via phone  
7           or email to follow up with users of the portal estab-  
8           lished under subsection (b) on additional resources  
9           that would be helpful for the users to review; and

10           “(3) upon the request of a user of the portal for  
11           specific information, after learning of the additional  
12           resources through the portal, agents of the Depart-  
13           ment of Health and Human Services make every ef-  
14           fort to furnish specific information to such user in  
15           coordination with Federal, State, local governmental,  
16           and private health care providers and resources.

17           “(f) RESOURCE LIST AGGREGATION.—

18           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to criteria devel-  
19           oped in subsection (e)(2), each State shall provide  
20           recommendations of State, local governmental, and  
21           private resources under subsection (b)(1)(A) to in-  
22           clude in the portal.

23           “(2) CRITERIA FOR MAKING RECOMMENDA-  
24           TIONS.—The Secretary shall develop criteria to pro-  
25           vide to the States to determine whether resources

1 recommended as described in paragraph (1) for in-  
2 clusion in the portal can appear in the portal. Such  
3 criteria shall include the requirement that the re-  
4 source provider is not a prohibited entity and the re-  
5 quirement that the resource provider has been en-  
6 gaged in providing services for a minimum of 3 con-  
7 secutive years.

8 “(3) GRANT PROGRAM.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may  
10 provide grants to States to establish or support  
11 a system that aggregates the resources de-  
12 scribed in subsection (b)(1)(A), in accordance  
13 with the criteria developed under paragraph  
14 (2), and that may be coordinated, to the extent  
15 determined appropriate by the State, by a  
16 statewide, regionally-based, or community-based  
17 public entity or private nonprofit.

18 “(B) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to re-  
19 ceive a grant under subparagraph (A), a State  
20 shall submit an application to the Secretary at  
21 such time, in such manner, and containing such  
22 information as the Secretary may require, in-  
23 cluding a plan for outreach and awareness ac-  
24 tivities, and a list of service providers that

1           would be included in the State system sup-  
2           ported by the grant.

3           “(g) MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE.—The  
4 Secretary shall ensure that the Maternal Mental Health  
5 Hotline of the Health Resources and Services Administra-  
6 tion—

7           “(1) disseminates information regarding, and  
8 linkages to, the life.gov website and portal described  
9 in subsections (a) and (b);

10           “(2) has the capacity to help families in every  
11 State and community in the Nation; and

12           “(3) includes live chat features, 24 hours a day,  
13 to connect individuals to the information the portal  
14 hosts.

15           “(h) PROHIBITION REGARDING CERTAIN ENTI-  
16 TIES.—The resources listed on the life.gov website, and  
17 made available through the portal and hotline established  
18 under this section may not include any resource offered  
19 by a prohibited entity.

20           “(i) SERVICES IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES.—The  
21 life.gov website and hotline shall ensure the widest possible  
22 access to services for families who speak languages other  
23 than English.

24           “(j) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
2 after the date on which the life.gov website and por-  
3 tal are established under subsection (a), the Sec-  
4 retary shall submit to Congress a report on—

5                   “(A) the traffic of the website and the  
6 interactive portal;

7                   “(B) user feedback on the accessibility and  
8 helpfulness of the website and interactive portal  
9 in tailoring to the user’s needs;

10                  “(C) insights on gaps in Federal, State,  
11 local governmental, and private programming  
12 with respect to services for pregnant and  
13 postpartum women; and

14                  “(D) suggestions on how to improve user  
15 experience and accessibility based on user feed-  
16 back and missing resources that would be help-  
17 ful to include in future updates.

18           “(2) CONFIDENTIALITY.—The report under  
19 paragraph (1) shall not include any personal identi-  
20 fying information regarding individuals who have  
21 used the website or portal.

22           “(k) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23                   “(1) ABORTION.—The term ‘abortion’ means  
24 the use or prescription of any instrument, medicine,  
25 drug, or other substance or device to intentionally—



1           “(A) kill the unborn child of a woman  
2 known to be pregnant; or

3           “(B) prematurely terminate the pregnancy  
4 of a woman known to be pregnant, with an in-  
5 tention other than to—

6                 “(i) increase the probability of a live  
7 birth or of preserving the life or health of  
8 the child after live birth; or

9                 “(ii) remove a dead unborn child.

10           “(2) BORN ALIVE.—The term ‘born alive’ has  
11 the meaning given such term in section 8(b) of title  
12 1, United States Code.

13           “(3) PROHIBITED ENTITY.—The term ‘prohib-  
14 ited entity’ means an entity, including its affiliates,  
15 subsidiaries, successors, and clinics that performs,  
16 induces, refers for, or counsels in favor of abortions,  
17 or provides financial support to any other organiza-  
18 tion that conducts such activities.

19           “(4) UNBORN CHILD.—The term ‘unborn child’  
20 means an individual organism of the species homo  
21 sapiens, beginning at fertilization, until the point of  
22 being born alive.”.

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