

104TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 3940

To provide for a reduction in the rate of teenage pregnancy through the evaluation of public and private prevention programs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 1, 1996

Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Mr. CASTLE, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. PORTER, Mrs. THURMAN, and Mrs. MORELLA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

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## A BILL

To provide for a reduction in the rate of teenage pregnancy through the evaluation of public and private prevention programs, 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 “Teenage Pregnancy  
5 Reduction Act of 1996”.

6 **SEC. 2. EVALUATION OF EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS FOR PRE-**  
7 **VENTION OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
9 Human Services shall (directly or through grants or con-

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1 tracts awarded to public or nonprofit private entities) ar-  
2 range for the evaluation of a wide variety of promising  
3 programs designed in whole or part to prevent pregnancy  
4 in teenagers, including programs that do not receive  
5 grants from the Federal Government for the operation of  
6 the programs. The purpose of the evaluation shall be the  
7 determination of—

8 (1) the factors contributing to the effectiveness  
9 of the programs; and

10 (2) methods for replicating the programs in  
11 other locations.

12 (b) PARTICIPATION OF FEDERAL AGENCIES AND  
13 PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS.—In carrying out the evalua-  
14 tion under subsection (a), the Secretary shall as appro-  
15 priate—

16 (1) provide for the participation of the Director  
17 of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,  
18 the Director of the Office of Population Affairs, the  
19 Assistant Secretary for Children and Families, and  
20 the Director of the National Institute of Child  
21 Health and Human Development; and

22 (2) provide for the participation of private orga-  
23 nizations, including the National Campaign to Pre-  
24 vent Teen Pregnancy, a nonpartisan organization.

1 (c) DESIGN OF EVALUATION.—Subject to subsection  
2 (d), the Secretary shall select a design for the evaluation  
3 under subsection (a) from among proposals that—

4 (1) provide for the evaluation of programs in  
5 various geographic regions;

6 (2) with respect to the populations served by  
7 the programs, provide for determining factors that  
8 are specific to various socioeconomic groups and var-  
9 ious racial and ethnic minority groups;

10 (3) provide for recommendations for future pro-  
11 grams designed to reduce the rate of teen preg-  
12 nancy; and

13 (4) meet such criteria as the Secretary may es-  
14 tablish.

15 (d) MEASURES OF EFFECTIVENESS.—The Secretary  
16 shall define the measures of effectiveness used in evaluat-  
17 ing the programs designed to reduce the rate of teenage  
18 pregnancy, and shall include a variety of measures of ef-  
19 fectiveness in the definition.

20 (e) SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW.—The Secretary may  
21 provide funds for a proposal pursuant to subsection (a)  
22 only if the proposal has been recommended for approval  
23 pursuant to a process of scientific peer review utilizing one  
24 or more panels of experts. Such panels shall include ex-  
25 perts from public entities and from private entities.

1 (f) SUBMISSION OF REPORT TO CONGRESS AND SEC-  
2 RETARY.—Not later than December 1, 1999, the evalua-  
3 tion under subsection (a) shall be completed and a report  
4 describing the findings made in the evaluation shall be  
5 submitted to the Congress and to the Secretary.

6 (g) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—After the  
7 submission of the report under subsection (f), the Sec-  
8 retary shall disseminate the findings presented in the re-  
9 port. The categories of individuals to whom the informa-  
10 tion is disseminated shall include administrators of pre-  
11 vention programs, public and private entities that provide  
12 financial support to such programs, professional medical  
13 associations, entities providing public health services, enti-  
14 ties providing social work services, and school administra-  
15 tors.

16 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the  
17 purpose of carrying out this section, there is authorized  
18 to be appropriated \$3,500,000 for each of the fiscal years  
19 1997 through 1999.

20 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON PREVENTION PRO-**  
21 **GRAMS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
23 completion of the evaluation under section 2, the Secretary  
24 shall (directly or through grants or contracts awarded to  
25 public or nonprofit private entities) establish an informa-

1 tion clearinghouse to be known as the National Clearing-  
2 house on Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Programs (in  
3 this section referred to as the “Clearinghouse”).

4 (b) FUNCTIONS.—The Clearinghouse shall carry out  
5 the following activities:

6 (1) Collect, maintain, and disseminate informa-  
7 tion on prevention programs, including information  
8 on the following:

9 (A) The state of program development.

10 (B) All types of prevention programs.

11 (C) Findings made in the report submitted  
12 under section 2(f).

13 (2) Develop networks of prevention programs  
14 for the purpose of sharing and disseminating infor-  
15 mation.

16 (3) Develop and disseminate materials that pro-  
17 vide technical assistance to public and private enti-  
18 ties in establishing or improving prevention pro-  
19 grams.

20 (4) Participate in activities designed to encour-  
21 age and enhance public media campaigns regarding  
22 pregnancy in teenagers.

23 (5) Such other activities as will assist in the de-  
24 velopment and carrying out of activities to reduce  
25 pregnancy in teenagers.

1       (c) DISSEMINATION TO CERTAIN ENTITIES.—The  
2 categories of entities to which the Clearinghouse dissemi-  
3 nates information shall include administrators of preven-  
4 tion programs, public and private entities that provide fi-  
5 nancial support to such programs, professional medical as-  
6 sociations, entities providing public health services, enti-  
7 ties providing social work services, and school administra-  
8 tors.

9       (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the  
10 purpose of carrying out this section, there are authorized  
11 to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for  
12 each of the fiscal years 2000 through 2003.

13 **SEC. 4. ONE-TIME INCENTIVE GRANTS FOR EFFECTIVE**  
14 **PREVENTION PROGRAMS.**

15       (a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a prevention pro-  
16 gram that pursuant to the evaluation under section 2 has  
17 been found to be effective, the Secretary may under this  
18 section make not more than one grant to the entity that  
19 operates the program. The purpose of the grant shall be  
20 to assist the entity with the expenses of operating the pro-  
21 gram.

22       (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For car-  
23 rying out subsection (a), there is authorized to be appro-  
24 priated \$10,000,000, in the aggregate, for the fiscal years  
25 2000 through 2003. Such authorization is in addition to

1 any other authorization of appropriations that is available  
2 for making grants for the operational expenses of preven-  
3 tion programs.

4 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

5 (a) PREVENTION PROGRAMS.—

6 (1) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The provisions  
7 of this Act apply with respect to a prevention pro-  
8 gram without regard to which of the various pro-  
9 grammatic approaches for the prevention of preg-  
10 nancy in teenagers (as defined in paragraph (2)) is  
11 the focus of the program.

12 (2) PROGRAMMATIC APPROACHES.—For pur-  
13 poses of this Act, the term “programmatic ap-  
14 proaches”, with respect to prevention programs, in-  
15 cludes advocating abstinence from sexual relations;  
16 providing family planning services (including contra-  
17 ception); fostering academic achievement; mentoring  
18 by adults; providing employment assistance or job  
19 training; providing professional counseling or peer  
20 counseling; providing for recreational or social  
21 events; and any combination thereof.

22 (b) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this Act:

23 (1) The term “prevention program” means a  
24 program for the prevention of pregnancy in teen-  
25 agers.

- 1           (2) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
2       of Health and Human Services.

