

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5429

To reauthorize the rural emergency medical services training and equipment assistance program under section 330J of the Public Health Service Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 5, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE (for himself, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Mr. DUFFY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To reauthorize the rural emergency medical services training and equipment assistance program under section 330J of the Public Health Service Act.

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 “Supporting and Im-
5 proving Rural EMS Needs Act of 2018” or the “SIREN
6 Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF RURAL EMERGENCY MED-**
2 **ICAL SERVICES TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT**
3 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

4 Section 330J of the Public Health Service Act (42
5 U.S.C. 254c-15) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “in rural
7 areas” and inserting “in rural areas or to residents
8 of rural areas”; and

9 (2) by striking subsections (b) through (g) and
10 inserting the following:

11 “(b) **ELIGIBILITY.**—To be eligible to receive grant
12 under this section, an entity shall be—

13 “(1) an emergency medical services agency op-
14 erated by a local or tribal government (including
15 fire-based and non-fire based); or

16 “(2) an emergency medical services agency that
17 is described in section 501(c) of the Internal Rev-
18 enue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under sec-
19 tion 501(a) of such Code.

20 “(c) **USE OF FUNDS.**—An entity shall use amounts
21 received through a grant under subsection (a) to—

22 “(1) recruit emergency medical services per-
23 sonnel;

24 “(2) train emergency medical services personnel
25 as appropriate to maintain licenses and certifications

1 relevant to service in an emergency medical services
2 agency described in subsection (b);

3 “(3) conduct courses that qualify graduates to
4 serve in an emergency medical services agency de-
5 scribed in subsection (b) in accordance with State
6 and local requirements;

7 “(4) fund specific training to meet Federal or
8 State licensing or certification requirements;

9 “(5) develop new ways to educate emergency
10 health care providers through the use of technology-
11 enhanced educational methods;

12 “(6) acquire emergency medical services equip-
13 ment; and

14 “(7) acquire personal protective equipment for
15 emergency medical services personnel as required by
16 the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

17 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 “(1) The term ‘emergency medical services’—

19 “(A) means resources used by a public or
20 private nonprofit licensed entity to deliver med-
21 ical care outside of a medical facility under
22 emergency conditions that occur as a result of
23 the condition of the patient; and

24 “(B) includes services delivered (either on
25 a compensated or volunteer basis) by an emer-

1 agency medical services provider or other pro-
2 vider that is licensed or certified by the State
3 involved as an emergency medical technician, a
4 paramedic, or an equivalent professional (as de-
5 termined by the State).

6 “(2) The term ‘rural area’ means—

7 “(A) a nonmetropolitan statistical area;

8 “(B) an area designated as a rural area by
9 any law or regulation of a State; or

10 “(C) a rural census tract of a metropolitan
11 statistical area (as determined under the most
12 recent Goldsmith Modification, originally pub-
13 lished in a notice of availability of funds in the
14 Federal Register on February 27, 1992, 57
15 Fed. Reg. 6725).

16 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
18 appropriated to carry out this section \$10,000,000
19 for each fiscal years 2018 through 2022.

20 “(2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Secretary
21 may use not more than 10 percent of the amount
22 appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) for a fiscal
23 year for the administrative expenses of carrying out
24 this section.”.

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