

**Calendar No. 554**115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION**S. 3016**

To amend the Public Health Service Act to improve essential oral health care for low-income and other underserved individuals by breaking down barriers to care, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

JUNE 6, 2018

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. SCOTT) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

AUGUST 15, 2018

Reported by Mr. ALEXANDER, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

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**A BILL**

To amend the Public Health Service Act to improve essential oral health care for low-income and other underserved individuals by breaking down barriers to care, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Action for Dental  
3 Health Act of 2018”.

4 **SEC. 2. VOLUNTEER DENTAL PROJECTS AND ACTION FOR**  
5 **DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM.**

6 Section 317M of the Public Health Service Act (42  
7 U.S.C. 247b–14) is amended—

8 (1) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as  
9 subsections (f) and (g), respectively;

10 (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-  
11 lowing new subsection:

12 “(e) ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consulta-  
14 tion with the Director of the Centers for Disease  
15 Control and Prevention and the Administrator of the  
16 Health Resources and Service Administration, may  
17 award grants to or enter into contracts with eligible  
18 entities to collaborate with State or local public offi-  
19 cials and other stakeholders to develop and imple-  
20 ment initiatives to—

21 “(A) improve oral health education and  
22 dental disease prevention, including—

23 “(i) through community-wide preven-  
24 tion programs, such as programs that pro-  
25 mote the use of dental sealants and fluo-  
26 ride varnish; and

1                   “(ii) by increasing public awareness  
2                   and education related to oral health and  
3                   dental disease prevention; or

4                   “(B) reduce barriers to the provision of  
5                   dental services.

6                   “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this subsection, the  
7                   term ‘eligible entity’ means an entity that is—

8                   “(A) a State or local dental association;

9                   “(B) a State oral health program;

10                  “(C) a dental education, dental hygiene, or  
11                  postdoctoral dental education program accredited  
12                  by the Commission on Dental Accreditation;  
13                  or

14                  “(D) a community-based organization  
15                  that—

16                         “(i) partners with an academic institution;  
17                         

18                         “(ii) is exempt from tax under section  
19                         501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of  
20                         1986; and

21                         “(iii) partners with public and private  
22                         stakeholders to facilitate the provision of  
23                         dental services for underserved populations.”; and  
24

1           (2) in subsection (g), as redesignated by para-  
 2           graph (1), by striking “such sums as may be nec-  
 3           essary for each of the fiscal years 2001 through  
 4           2005” and inserting “\$18,000,000 for each of the  
 5           fiscal years 2018 through 2022”.

6 **SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS.**

7           Section 340G of the Public Health Service Act (42  
 8 U.S.C. 256g) is amended—

9           (1) in subsection (b)(5)—

10           (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
 11           “and” at the end; and

12           (B) by adding at the end the following:

13           “(D) the establishment of dental homes for  
 14           children and adults, including for the aged,  
 15           blind, and disabled populations;

16           “(E) the establishment of initiatives to re-  
 17           duce the use of emergency departments by indi-  
 18           viduals who seek dental services more appro-  
 19           priately delivered in a dental primary care set-  
 20           ting; and

21           “(F) the provision of dental care to nurs-  
 22           ing home residents;” and

23           (2) in subsection (f), by striking “\$25,000,000  
 24           for the 5-fiscal year period beginning with fiscal year

1       2008” and inserting “\$13,903,000 for each of fiscal  
2       years 2018 through 2022”.

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       *This Act may be cited as the “Action for Dental Health*  
5       *Act of 2018”.*

6       **SEC. 2. ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION.**

7       (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 399LL of the Public Health  
8       Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280k) is amended—

9               (1) *in subsection (a)—*

10                       (A) *in the subsection heading, by inserting*  
11                       *“OF ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION CAMPAIGN”*  
12                       *after “ESTABLISHMENT”; and*

13                       (B) *by striking “focused on oral healthcare*  
14                       *prevention and education” and inserting “fo-*  
15                       *cused on oral health education”;*

16               (2) *in subsection (b), in the matter preceding*  
17       *paragraph (1), by striking “campaign” and inserting*  
18       *“campaign under subsection (a)”;* and

19               (3) *by striking subsection (c) and inserting the*  
20       *following:*

21       “(c) *ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM.*—

22               “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary, in consulta-*  
23       *tion with the Director of the Centers for Disease Con-*  
24       *trol and Prevention and the Administrator of the*  
25       *Health Resources and Services Administration, may*

1        *award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to*  
 2        *eligible entities to collaborate with State or local pub-*  
 3        *lic health officials, tribal health officials, oral health*  
 4        *professional organizations, and others, as appro-*  
 5        *priate, to develop and implement initiatives to im-*  
 6        *prove oral health, including activities to prevent den-*  
 7        *tal disease and reduce barriers to the provision of*  
 8        *dental services, including—*

9                *“(A) through community-wide dental dis-*  
 10                *ease prevention programs; and*

11                *“(B) by increasing public awareness and*  
 12                *education related to oral health and dental dis-*  
 13                *ease prevention.*

14                *“(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to re-*  
 15                *ceive a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement*  
 16                *under this subsection, an entity shall be—*

17                *“(A) a dental association;*

18                *“(B) a State or tribal health department or*  
 19                *State or tribal oral health program;*

20                *“(C) an accredited dental education, dental*  
 21                *hygiene, or postdoctoral dental education pro-*  
 22                *gram; or*

23                *“(D) a non-profit community-based organi-*  
 24                *zation that partners with public and private*  
 25                *non-profit entities, such as an academic institu-*

1            *tion, to facilitate the provision of dental services*  
 2            *to underserved populations.”;*

3            *(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 399LL-1(d) of*  
 4 *the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280k-1(d)) is*  
 5 *amended—*

6            *(1) by striking “shall” and inserting “shall, as*  
 7 *practicable and appropriate,” before “utilize”; and*

8            *(2) by striking “public education campaign”*  
 9 *and inserting “oral health education campaign and*  
 10 *action for dental health program”.*

11          *(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 3 years*  
 12 *after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of*  
 13 *Health and Human Services shall submit to the Committee*  
 14 *on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate*  
 15 *and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House*  
 16 *of Representatives, a report on the outcomes and effective-*  
 17 *ness of programs and activities conducted under sections*  
 18 *399LL and 399LL-1 of the Public Health Service Act (42*  
 19 *U.S.C. 280k and 280k-1).*

20 **SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS.**

21          *Section 340G of the Public Health Service Act (42*  
 22 *U.S.C. 256g) is amended—*

23            *(1) in subsection (b)(5)—*

24            *(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and”*  
 25            *at the end; and*

1                   (B) by adding at the end the following:

2                   “(D) the establishment or development of  
3                   models for the provision of dental services to  
4                   children and adults, such as dental homes, in-  
5                   cluding for the elderly, blind, individuals with  
6                   disabilities, and individuals living in long-term  
7                   care facilities; and

8                   “(E) the establishment of initiatives to re-  
9                   duce the use of emergency departments by indi-  
10                  viduals who seek dental services more appro-  
11                  priately delivered in a dental primary care set-  
12                  ting;” and

13                  (2) in subsection (f), by striking “\$25,000,000  
14                  for the 5-fiscal year period beginning with fiscal year  
15                  2008” and inserting “\$13,903,000 for each of fiscal  
16                  years 2019 through 2023”.





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