

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3232

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize funding for the Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center for the Aging Network to engage in certain research and evaluation activities with respect to family caregivers and to revise the definition of the term “family caregiver”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 20, 2025

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KIM) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize funding for the Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center for the Aging Network to engage in certain research and evaluation activities with respect to family caregivers and to revise the definition of the term “family caregiver”.

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 “Family Caregiving Re-
5 search and Innovation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FAMILY CAREGIVERS.**

2 (a) RESEARCH AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES.—Sec-
 3 tion 216(b) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42
 4 U.S.C. 3020f(b)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (3), by striking “; and” and
 6 inserting a semicolon;

7 (2) in paragraph (4), by striking the period and
 8 inserting “; and”; and

9 (3) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(5) to carry out research and evaluation activi-
 11 ties under section 201(g) that bolster data, research,
 12 and evidence-based practices with respect to family
 13 caregivers (as defined in section 302), \$30,000,000
 14 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030.”.

15 (b) DEFINITION OF FAMILY CAREGIVER.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 302 of the Older
 17 Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3022) is amend-
 18 ed—

19 (A) by amending paragraph (3) to read as
 20 follows:

21 “(3) The term ‘family caregiver’—

22 “(A) means—

23 “(i) an adult family member, or an-
 24 other individual, who is an informal pro-
 25 vider of in-home and community care to an
 26 older individual or to an individual of any

1 age with Alzheimer’s disease or a related
 2 disorder with neurological and organic
 3 brain dysfunction; or

4 “(ii) an older relative caregiver; and

5 “(B) does not include an individual pro-
 6 viding care whose primary relationship with the
 7 individual receiving the care is based on a fi-
 8 nancial or professional agreement.”;

9 (B) by redesignating paragraph (4) as
 10 paragraph (5); and

11 (C) by inserting after paragraph (3) the
 12 following:

13 “(4) The term ‘older relative caregiver’ means
 14 a caregiver who—

15 “(A)(i) is age 55 or older; and

16 “(ii) lives with, is the informal provider of
 17 in-home and community care to, and is the pri-
 18 mary caregiver for, a child or an individual with
 19 a disability;

20 “(B) in the case of a caregiver for a
 21 child—

22 “(i) is the grandparent,
 23 stepgrandparent, or other relative (other
 24 than the parent) by blood, marriage, or
 25 adoption, of the child;

1 “(ii) is the primary caregiver of the
 2 child because the biological or adoptive
 3 parents are unable or unwilling to serve as
 4 the primary caregivers of the child; and

5 “(iii) has a legal relationship to the
 6 child, such as legal custody, adoption, or
 7 guardianship, or is raising the child infor-
 8 mally; and

9 “(C) in the case of a caregiver for an indi-
 10 vidual with a disability, is the parent, grand-
 11 parent, or other relative by blood, marriage, or
 12 adoption, of the individual with a disability.”.

13 (2) NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT
 14 PROGRAM.—

15 (A) DEFINITIONS.—Section 372(a) of the
 16 Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C.
 17 3030s(a)) is amended—

18 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking “or
 19 older relative caregiver”; and

20 (ii) by striking paragraph (4).

21 (B) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—Section 373
 22 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C.
 23 3030s–1) is amended—

24 (i) in subsection (a), by striking “sys-
 25 tems” and all that follows through the pe-

riod and inserting “systems of support services for family caregivers.”;

(ii) by amending subsection (c)(1) to read as follows:

“(1) POPULATION SERVED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), services under a State program under this part shall be provided to family caregivers.

“(B) RESPITE CARE AND SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES.—With regard to the services specified in paragraphs (4) and (5) of subsection (b), in the case of a caregiver described in clause (i) of section 302(3)(A), such services shall be provided only to such a caregiver who is providing care to an older individual who meets the condition specified in subparagraph (A)(i) or (B) of section 102(22).”;

(iii) in subsection (f)(3), by striking “family caregivers, or older relative caregivers,” and inserting “family caregivers”; and

(iv) in subsection (i)(1), by striking “family caregivers and older relative caregivers” and inserting “family caregivers”.

1 (3) ADDITIONAL CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
2 Section 417(a)(1)(F)(i) of the Older Americans Act
3 of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032f(a)(1)(F)(i)) is amended
4 by striking “(as defined in section 372(a))” and in-
5 serting “(as defined in section 302)”.

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