

115TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. R. 6098

To amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and title 5, United States Code, to permit leave to care for a domestic partner, parent-in-law, adult child, sibling, grandchild, or grandparent who has a serious health condition, and to allow employees to take, as additional leave, parental involvement leave to participate in or attend their children's and grandchildren's educational and extracurricular activities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 13, 2018

Mrs. Carolyn B. Maloney of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and title 5, United States Code, to permit leave to care for a domestic partner, parent-in-law, adult child, sibling, grandchild, or grandparent who has a serious health condition, and to allow employees to take, as additional leave, parental involvement leave to participate in or attend their children's and grandchildren's educational and extracurricular activities.

- 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 "Family Medical Leave
3	Modernization Act".
4	SEC. 2. ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEE.
5	Section 101(2)(B)(ii) of the Family and Medical
6	Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2611(2)(B)(ii)) is amended
7	by striking "less than 50" each place it appears and in-
8	serting "fewer than 15".
9	SEC. 3. LEAVE TO CARE FOR A DOMESTIC PARTNER, PAR-
10	ENT-IN-LAW, ADULT CHILD, SIBLING, GRAND-
11	PARENT, GRANDCHILD, AUNT, UNCLE, OR
12	OTHER INDIVIDUAL RELATED BY BLOOD OR
13	AFFINITY.
14	(a) Definitions.—
15	(1) Inclusion of grandparents, grand-
16	CHILDREN, PARENTS-IN-LAW, SIBLINGS, AND DO-
17	MESTIC PARTNERS.—Section 101 of such Act is fur-
18	ther amended by adding at the end the following:
19	"(20) Domestic partner.—The term 'domes-
20	tic partner' means—
21	"(A) the person recognized as the domestic
22	partner of the employee under any domestic
23	partner registry or civil union laws of the State
24	or political subdivision of a State; or
25	"(B) in the case of an unmarried em-
26	ployee, an unmarried adult person who is in a

1	committed, personal relationship with the em-
2	ployee, is not a domestic partner to any other
3	person, and who is designated to the employer
4	by such employee as that employee's domestic
5	partner.
6	"(21) Grandchild.—The term 'grandchild
7	means the son or daughter of an employee's son or
8	daughter.
9	"(22) Grandparent.—The term 'grandparent
10	means a parent of a parent of an employee.
11	"(23) Parent-in-Law.—The term 'parent-in-
12	law' means a parent of the spouse or domestic part
13	ner of an employee.
14	"(24) Sibling.—The term 'sibling' means any
15	person who is a son or daughter of an employee's
16	parent.
17	"(25) Son-in-law and daughter-in-law.—
18	The terms 'son-in-law' and 'daughter-in-law', used
19	with respect to an employee, means any person who
20	is a spouse or domestic partner of a son or daughter
21	of the employee.
22	"(26) Aunt or uncle.—The term 'aunt or
23	uncle of the employee', means the sister or brother

of an employee's parent.

1	"(27) Any other individual related by
2	BLOOD OR AFFINITY WHOSE CLOSE ASSOCIATION IS
3	THE EQUIVALENT OF A FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.—
4	The term 'any other individual related by blood or
5	affinity whose close association is the equivalent of
6	a family relationship' means any person with whom
7	the employee has a significant personal bond that is
8	or is like a family relationship, regardless of biologi-
9	cal or legal relationship.".
10	(2) Inclusion of adult children and chil-
11	DREN OF A DOMESTIC PARTNER.—Section 101(12)
12	of such Act (29 U.S.C. 2611(12)) is amended—
13	(A) by inserting "a child of an individual's
14	domestic partner," after "a legal ward,"; and
15	(B) by striking "who is—" and all that
16	follows and inserting "and includes an adult
17	child".
18	(b) Leave Requirement.—Section 102 of the Fam-
19	ily and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2612) is
20	amended—
21	(1) in subsection (a)(1)(C), by striking "spouse,
22	or a son, daughter, or parent of the employee, if
23	such spouse, son, daughter, or parent" and inserting
24	"spouse or domestic partner, or a son, daughter,
25	parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sib-

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2 dividual related by blood or affinity whose close as-3 sociation with the employee is the equivalent of a

ling, aunt, or uncle of the employee, or any other in-

- 4 family relationship, if such spouse, domestic partner,
- 5 son, daughter, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent,
- 6 grandchild, sibling, or such other individual";
- 7 (2) in subsection (a)(1)(E), by striking "spouse, or a son, daughter, or parent of the employee" and 8 9 inserting "spouse or domestic partner, or a son, 10 daughter, parent, parent-in-law, grandchild, sibling, aunt, or uncle of the employee, or any other indi-12 vidual related by blood or affinity whose close asso-13 ciation with the employee is the equivalent of a fam-14 ily relationship";
 - (3) in subsection (a)(3), by striking "spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin of a covered service member" and inserting "spouse or domestic partner, son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, sibling, aunt, or uncle, or next of kin of a covered service member, or any other individual related by blood or affinity to a covered service member who close association with such service member is the equivalent of a family relationship";

- 1 (4) in subsection (e)(2)(A), by striking "spouse, 2 parent, or covered service member of the employee" 3 and inserting "spouse or domestic partner, parent, 4 parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, 5 aunt, or uncle, or covered service member of the em-6 ployee, or any other individual related by blood or 7 affinity whose close association with the employee is 8 the equivalent of a family relationship"; 9 (5) in subsection (e)(3), by striking "spouse, or 10 a son, daughter, or parent, of the employee" and in-11 serting "spouse or domestic partner, or a son, 12 daughter, parent, parent-in-law, grandchild, sibling, 13 aunt, or uncle of the employee, or any other indi-14 vidual related by blood or affinity whose close asso-15 ciation with the employee is the equivalent of a fam-16 ily relationship"; and 17 (6) in subsection (f)— 18 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph 19 (A), by inserting "or domestic partners" after "husband and wife"; and 20 (B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting "or 21 22 parent-in-law" after "parent".
- 23 (c) Certification.—Section 103 of the Family and 24 Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2613) is amend-25 ed—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "spouse, or parent of the employee, or of the next of kin of an individual in the case of leave taken under such paragraph (3), as appropriate" and inserting "spouse or domestic partner, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, aunt, or uncle of the employee, or of the next of kin of an individual in the case of leave taken under such paragraph (3), as appropriate, or any other individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship";

(2) in subsection (b)(4)(A), by striking "spouse, or parent and an estimate of the amount of time that such employee is needed to care for the son, daughter, spouse, or parent" and inserting "spouse or domestic partner, parent, parent-in-law, grand-parent, grandchild, sibling, aunt, or uncle of the employee, or any other individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship and an estimate of the amount of time that such employee is needed to care for such son, daughter, spouse or domestic partner, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, sibling, aunt, or uncle, or such other individual"; and

- 1 (3) in subsection (b)(7), by striking "parent, or 2 spouse" and inserting "spouse or domestic partner, 3 parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sib-4 ling, aunt, or uncle of the employee, or any other in-5 dividual related by blood or affinity whose close as-6 sociation with the employee is the equivalent of a 7 family relationship".
- 8 (d) Employment and Benefits Protection.—
 9 Section 104(c)(3) of the Family and Medical Leave Act
 10 of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2614(c)(3)) is amended—
- 11 (1) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking "spouse, 12 or parent" and inserting "spouse or domestic part-13 ner, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, 14 sibling, aunt, or uncle, or any other individual re-15 lated by blood or affinity whose close association 16 with the employee is the equivalent of a family rela-17 tionship"; and
 - (2) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking "spouse, or parent" and inserting "spouse or domestic partner, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, aunt, or uncle of the employee, or any other individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship".

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1	SEC. 4. LEAVE TO CARE FOR A DOMESTIC PARTNER, PAR-
2	ENT-IN-LAW, ADULT CHILD, SIBLING, GRAND-
3	PARENT, GRANDCHILD, AUNT, OR UNCLE OF
4	THE EMPLOYEE, OR OTHER INDIVIDUAL RE-
5	LATED BY BLOOD OR AFFINITY FOR FED-
6	ERAL EMPLOYEES.
7	(a) Definitions.—
8	(1) Inclusion of domestic partners, par-
9	ENTS-IN-LAW, ADULT CHILDREN, SIBLING, AUNT, OR
10	UNCLE, GRANDPARENTS, GRANDCHILDREN, OR
11	OTHER INDIVIDUALS RELATED BY BLOOD OR AFFIN-
12	ITY.—Section 6381 of title 5, United States Code, is
13	amended—
14	(A) in paragraph (11) by striking "; and"
15	and inserting a semicolon;
16	(B) in paragraph (12), by striking the pe-
17	riod and inserting a semicolon; and
18	(C) by adding at the end the following:
19	"(13) the term 'domestic partner' means—
20	"(A) the person recognized as the domestic
21	partner of the employee under any domestic
22	partner registry or civil union laws of the State
23	or political subdivision of a State; or
24	"(B) in the case of an unmarried em-
25	ployee, an unmarried adult person who is in a
26	committed, personal relationship with the em-

1	ployee, is not a domestic partner to any other
2	person, and who is designated to the employing
3	agency by such employee as that employee's do-
4	mestic partner;
5	"(14) the term 'parent-in-law' means a parent
6	of the spouse or domestic partner of an employee;
7	"(15) the term 'grandchild' means the son or
8	daughter of an employee's son or daughter;
9	"(16) the term 'grandparent' means a parent of
10	a parent of an employee;
11	"(17) the term 'sibling' means any person who
12	is a son or daughter of an employee's parent; and
13	"(18) the terms 'son-in-law and daughter-in-
14	law', used with respect to an employee, means any
15	person who is a spouse or domestic partner of a son
16	or daughter of the employee.
17	"(19) Aunt or uncle.—The term 'aunt or
18	uncle of the employee', means the sister or brother
19	of an employee's parent.
20	"(20) Any other individual related by
21	BLOOD OR AFFINITY WHOSE CLOSE ASSOCIATION IS
22	THE EQUIVALENT OF A FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.—
23	The term 'any other individual related by blood or
24	affinity whose close association is the equivalent of
25	a family relationship' means any person with whom

1	the employee has a significant personal bond that is
2	or is like a family relationship, regardless of biologi-
3	cal or legal relationship.".
4	(2) Inclusion of adult children and chil-
5	DREN OF A DOMESTIC PARTNER.—Section 6381(6)
6	of such title is amended—
7	(A) by inserting "a child of an individual's
8	domestic partner," after "a legal ward,"; and
9	(B) by striking "who is—" and all that
10	follows and inserting "and includes an adult
11	child".
12	(b) Leave Requirement.—Section 6382 of title 5,
13	United States Code, is amended—
14	(1) in subsection $(a)(1)(C)$, by striking "spouse,
15	or a son, daughter, or parent of the employee, if
16	such spouse, son, daughter, or parent" and inserting
17	"spouse or domestic partner, or a son, daughter,
18	parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, or
19	sibling, aunt, or uncle of the employee, or any other
20	individual related by blood or affinity whose close as-
21	sociation with the employee is the equivalent of a
22	family relationship, if such spouse, domestic partner,
23	son, daughter, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent,

grandchild, sibling, or such other individual";

- 1 (2) in subsection (a)(1)(E), by striking "spouse, 2 or a son, daughter, or parent" and inserting "spouse 3 or domestic partner, or a son, daughter, parent, par-4 ent-in-law, grandchild, sibling, aunt, or uncle of the 5 employee, or any other individual related by blood or 6 affinity whose close association with the employee is 7 the equivalent of a family relationship";
 - (3) in subsection (a)(3), by striking "spouse, son, daughter, parent," and inserting "spouse or domestic partner, son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, sibling, aunt, or uncle of the employee, or any other individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship,";
 - (4) in subsection (e)(2)(A), by striking "spouse, parent," and inserting "spouse or domestic partner, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, aunt, or uncle of the employee, or any other individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship,"; and
 - (5) in subsection (e)(3), by striking "spouse, or a son, daughter, or parent," and inserting "spouse or domestic partner, or a son, daughter, parent, par-

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- 1 ent-in-law, grandchild, sibling, aunt, or uncle of the
- 2 employee, or any other individual related by blood or
- affinity whose close association with the employee is
- 4 the equivalent of a family relationship,".
- 5 (c) Certification.—Section 6383 of title 5, United
- 6 States Code, is amended—
- 7 (1) in subsection (a), by striking "spouse, or
- 8 parent" and inserting "spouse or domestic partner,
- 9 parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sib-
- ling, aunt, or uncle of the employee, or any other in-
- dividual related by blood or affinity whose close as-
- sociation with the employee is the equivalent of a
- family relationship,"; and
- 14 (2) in subsection (b)(4)(A), by striking "spouse,
- or parent, and an estimate of the amount of time
- that such employee is needed to care for such son,
- daughter, spouse, or parent" and inserting "spouse
- or domestic partner, parent, parent-in-law, grand-
- parent, grandchild, sibling, aunt, or uncle of the em-
- 20 ployee, or any other individual related by blood or
- affinity whose close association with the employee is
- 22 the equivalent of a family relationship and an esti-
- 23 mate of the amount of time that such employee is
- needed to care for such son, daughter, spouse or do-

1	mestic partner, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent,
2	grandchild, sibling, or such other individual".
3	SEC. 5. ENTITLEMENT TO ADDITIONAL LEAVE UNDER THE
4	FMLA FOR PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND
5	FAMILY WELLNESS.
6	(a) Leave Requirement.—Section 102(a) of the
7	Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C.
8	2612(a)) is further amended by adding at the end the fol-
9	lowing new paragraph:
10	"(5) Entitlement to additional leave for
11	PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND FAMILY
12	WELLNESS.—
13	"(A) In General.—Subject to
14	subparagraph (B) and section 103(g), an eligi-
15	ble employee shall be entitled to leave under
16	this paragraph to—
17	"(i) participate in or attend an activ-
18	ity that is sponsored by a school or com-
19	munity organization and relates to a pro-
20	gram of the school or organization that is
21	attended by a son or daughter or a grand-
22	child of the employee; or
23	"(ii) meet routine family medical care
24	needs, including for medical and dental ap-
25	pointments of the employee or a son,

1	daughter, spouse, or grandchild of the em-
2	ployee, or to attend to the care needs of el-
3	derly individuals who are related to the eli-
4	gible employee, including visits to nursing
5	homes and group homes.
6	"(B) Limitations.—
7	"(i) In general.—An eligible em-
8	ployee is entitled to—
9	"(I) not to exceed 4 hours of
10	leave under this paragraph during any
11	30-day period; and
12	"(II) not to exceed 24 hours of
13	leave under this paragraph during any
14	12-month period.
15	"(ii) Coordination rule.—Leave
16	under this paragraph shall be in addition
17	to any leave provided under any other
18	paragraph of this subsection.
19	"(C) Definitions.—As used in this para-
20	graph:
21	"(i) School.—The term 'school'
22	means an elementary school or secondary
23	school (as such terms are defined in sec-
24	tion 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-
25	ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.

1 7801)), a Head Start program assisted 2 under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 3 et seq.), or a child care facility. 4 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION.— The term 'community organization' means 6 a private nonprofit organization that is 7 representative of a community or a signifi-8 cant segment of a community and provides 9 activities for individuals described in sub-10 paragraph (A) or (B) of section 101(12), 11 such as a scouting or sports organiza-12 tion.". 13 (b) Schedule.—Section 102(b)(1) of such Act (29) 14 U.S.C. 2612(b)(1)) is amended by inserting after the third 15 sentence the following new sentence: "Leave under subsection (a)(5) may be taken intermittently or on a reduced 16 17 leave schedule.". 18 Substitution Paid Leave.—Section OF19 102(d)(2) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 2612(d)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph: 20 "(C) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT LEAVE AND 21 22 FAMILY WELLNESS LEAVE.—An eligible em-23 ployee may elect, or an employer may require 24 the employee, to substitute any of the accrued 25 paid vacation leave, personal leave, or family

1 leave of the employee for any leave under sub-2 section (a)(5). In addition, an eligible employee 3 may elect, or an employer may require the em-4 ployee, to substitute any of the accrued paid 5 medical or sick leave of the employee for leave 6 provided under clause (ii) of subsection 7 (a)(5)(A) for any part of the leave under such 8 clause, except that nothing in this title shall re-9 quire an employer to provide paid sick leave or 10 paid medical leave in any situation in which 11 such employer would not normally provide any 12 such paid leave. If the employee elects or the 13 employer requires the substitution of accrued 14 paid leave for leave provided under subsection 15 (a)(5)(A), the employer shall not restrict or 16 limit this substitution or impose any additional 17 terms and conditions on such leave that are 18 more stringent on the employee than the terms 19 and conditions set forth in this Act.".

- 20 (d) Notice.—Section 102(e) of such Act (29 U.S.C.
- 21 2612(e)) is further amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 22 lowing new paragraph:
- 23 "(4) Notice relating to parental in-
- VOLVEMENT AND FAMILY WELLNESS LEAVE.—In
- any case in which an employee requests leave under

- 1 paragraph (5) of subsection (a), the employee 2 shall—
- "(A) provide the employer with not less
 than 7 days' notice or as much notice as is
 practicable before the date the leave is to be
 taken, of the employee's intention to take leave
 under such paragraph; and
- "(B) in the case of leave to be taken under subparagraph (A)(ii), make a reasonable effort to schedule the leave so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the employer, subject to the approval of the health care provider involved (if any).".
- 14 (e) CERTIFICATION.—Section 103 of such Act (29 15 U.S.C. 2613) is further amended by adding at the end 16 the following new subsection:
- "(g) CERTIFICATION RELATED TO PARENTAL IN-18 VOLVEMENT AND FAMILY WELLNESS LEAVE.—An em-19 ployer may require that a request for leave under section 20 102(a)(5) be supported by a certification issued at such 21 time and in such manner as the Secretary may by regula-
- 22 tion prescribe.".

1	SEC. 6. ENTITLEMENT OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES TO LEAVE
2	FOR PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND FAMILY
3	WELLNESS.
4	(a) Leave Requirement.—Section 6382(a) of title
5	5, United States Code, is further amended by adding at
6	the end the following new paragraph:
7	"(5)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B)(i) and section
8	6383(f), an employee shall be entitled to leave under this
9	paragraph to—
10	"(i) participate in or attend an activity that is
11	sponsored by a school or community organization
12	and relates to a program of the school or organiza-
13	tion that is attended by a son or daughter or a
14	grandchild of the employee; or
15	"(ii) meet routine family medical care needs, in-
16	cluding for medical and dental appointments of a
17	son, daughter, spouse, or grandchild of the em-
18	ployee, or to attend to the care needs of elderly indi-
19	viduals who are related to the eligible employee, in-
20	cluding visits to nursing homes and group homes.
21	"(B)(i) An employee is entitled to—
22	"(I) not to exceed 4 hours of leave under this
23	paragraph during any 30-day period; and
24	"(II) not to exceed 24 hours of leave under this
25	paragraph during any 12-month period.

1	"(ii) Leave under this paragraph shall be in addition
2	to any leave provided under any other paragraph of this
3	subsection.
4	"(C) For the purpose of this paragraph—
5	"(i) the term 'school' means an elementary
6	school or secondary school (as such terms are de-
7	fined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-
8	ondary Education Act of 1965), a Head Start pro-
9	gram assisted under the Head Start Act, and a child
10	care facility licensed under State law; and
11	"(ii) the term 'community organization' means
12	a private nonprofit organization that is representa-
13	tive of a community or a significant segment of a
14	community and provides activities for individuals de-
15	scribed in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section
16	6381(6), such as a scouting or sports organization.".
17	(b) Schedule.—Section 6382(b)(1) of such title is
18	amended—
19	(1) by inserting after the second sentence the
20	following new sentence: "Leave under subsection
21	(a)(5) may be taken intermittently or on a reduced
22	leave schedule."; and
23	(2) in the last sentence, by striking "involved,"
24	and inserting "involved (or, in the case of leave

- 1 under subsection (a)(5), for purposes of any 30-day
- or 12-month period),".
- 3 (c) Substitution of Paid Leave.—Section
- 4 6382(d) of such title is further amended—
- 5 (1) by inserting "(1)" after the subsection des-
- 6 ignation; and
- 7 (2) by adding at the end the following:
- 8 "(2) An employee may elect to substitute for leave
- 9 under subsection (a)(5), any of the employee's accrued or
- 10 accumulated annual or sick leave under subchapter I. If
- 11 the employee elects to substitute accumulated annual or
- 12 sick leave for leave provided under subsection (a)(5), the
- 13 employing agency shall not restrict or limit this substi-
- 14 tution or impose any additional terms and conditions on
- 15 such leave that are more stringent on the employee than
- 16 the terms and conditions set forth in this subchapter.".
- 17 (d) Notice.—Section 6382(e) of such title is further
- 18 amended by adding at the end the following new para-
- 19 graph:
- 20 "(3) In any case in which an employee requests leave
- 21 under paragraph (5) of subsection (a), the employee
- 22 shall—
- 23 "(A) provide the employing agency with not less
- 24 than 7 days' notice, before the date the leave is to

- be taken, of the employee's intention to take leave
 under such paragraph; and
- "(B) in the case of leave to be taken under subparagraph (A)(ii), make a reasonable effort to schedule the leave so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the employer, subject to the approval of the health care provider involved (if any).".
- 8 (e) CERTIFICATION.—Section 6383(f) of such title is 9 amended by striking "6382(a)(3)" and inserting "para-10 graph (3) or (5) of section 6382(a)".

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