

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6666

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities to conduct diagnostic testing for COVID–19, and related activities such as contact tracing, through mobile health units and, as necessary, at individuals’ residences, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 1, 2020

Mr. RUSH (for himself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BASS, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CORREA, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MOORE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. SIRES, Mr. SOTO, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities to conduct diagnostic testing for COVID–19, and related activities such as contact tracing, through mobile health units and, as necessary, at individuals’ residences, 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 “COVID–19 Testing,
3 Reaching, And Contacting Everyone (TRACE) Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. COVID–19 TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING USING**
5 **MOBILE HEALTH UNITS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
7 Human Services, acting through the Director of the Cen-
8 ters for Disease Control and Prevention, may award
9 grants to eligible entities to conduct diagnostic testing for
10 COVID–19, to trace and monitor the contacts of infected
11 individuals, and to support the quarantine of such con-
12 tacts, through—

13 (1) mobile health units; and

14 (2) as necessary, testing individuals and pro-
15 viding individuals with services related to testing and
16 quarantine at their residences.

17 (b) PERMISSIBLE USES OF FUNDS.—A grant recipi-
18 ent under this section may use the grant funds, in support
19 of the activities described in subsection (a)—

20 (1) to hire, train, compensate, and pay the ex-
21 penses of individuals; and

22 (2) to purchase personal protective equipment
23 and other supplies.

24 (c) PRIORITY.—In selecting grant recipients under
25 this section, the Secretary shall give priority to—

1 (1) applicants proposing to conduct activities
2 funded under this section in hot spots and medically
3 underserved communities; and

4 (2) applicants that agree, in hiring individuals
5 to carry out activities funded under this section, to
6 hire residents of the area or community where the
7 activities will primarily occur, with higher priority
8 among applicants described in this paragraph given
9 based on the percentage of individuals to be hired
10 from such area or community.

11 (d) DISTRIBUTION.—In selecting grant recipients
12 under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that grants
13 are distributed across urban and rural areas.

14 (e) FEDERAL PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in
15 this section shall be construed to supersede any Federal
16 privacy or confidentiality requirement, including the regu-
17 lations promulgated under section 264(c) of the Health
18 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996
19 (Public Law 104–191; 110 Stat. 2033) and section 543
20 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd–2).

21 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 (1) The term “eligible entity” means—

23 (A) a Federally qualified health center (as
24 defined in section 1861(aa) of the Social Secu-
25 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(aa)));

1 (B) a school-based health clinic;

2 (C) a disproportionate share hospital (as
3 defined under the applicable State plan under
4 title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
5 1396 et seq.) pursuant to section 1923(a)(1)(A)
6 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-4));

7 (D) an academic medical center;

8 (E) a nonprofit organization (including any
9 such faith-based organization);

10 (F) an institution of higher education (as
11 defined in section 101 of the Higher Education
12 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001));

13 (G) a high school (as defined in section
14 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
15 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801)); or

16 (H) any other type of entity that is deter-
17 mined by the Secretary to be an eligible entity
18 for purposes of this section.

19 (2) The term “emergency period” has the
20 meaning given to that term in section 1135(g)(1)(B)
21 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-
22 5(g)(1)(B)).

23 (3) The term “hot spot” means a geographic
24 area where the rate of infection with the virus that
25 causes COVID-19 exceeds the national average.

1 (4) The term “medically underserved commu-
2 nity” has the meaning given to that term in section
3 799B of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
4 295p).

5 (5) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
6 of Health and Human Services.

7 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
8 out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated—
9 (1) \$100,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2020; and
10 (2) such sums as may be necessary for each of
11 fiscal year 2021 and any subsequent fiscal year dur-
12 ing which the emergency period continues.

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