

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6097

To amend the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to authorize grants to ensure access for victims of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence to substance use disorder treatment that allows parents (or legal guardians) and their children, stepchildren, or other dependents to remain together throughout the course of treatment, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 26, 2023

Mr. MRVAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to authorize grants to ensure access for victims of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence to substance use disorder treatment that allows parents (or legal guardians) and their children, stepchildren, or other dependents to remain together throughout the course of treatment, 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. GRANTS FOR SAFE RECOVERY TOGETHER.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Family Violence Prevention
3 and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 315. GRANTS FOR SAFE RECOVERY TOGETHER.**

6 “(a) SAFE RECOVERY TOGETHER.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the sums appro-
8 priated under section 303(e) and available to carry
9 out this subsection for any fiscal year, the Secretary
10 may award grants to eligible entities to develop, im-
11 plement, and improve programs for ensuring access
12 for victims of family violence, domestic violence, and
13 dating violence to substance use disorder treatment
14 that allows parents (or legal guardians) and their
15 children, stepchildren, or other dependents to remain
16 together throughout the course of treatment.

17 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to re-
18 ceive a grant under this subsection, an entity shall
19 be—

20 “(A) a State;

21 “(B) a State Domestic Violence Coalition;

22 “(C) a nonprofit entity, including a Tribal,
23 culturally specific organization, or community-
24 based organization, with a history of effective
25 work in the fields of family violence, domestic
26 violence, or dating violence and substance use

1 disorder treatment, prevention, and recovery
2 support; or

3 “(D) a local or State department (or other
4 division) of health (including mental health, be-
5 havioral health, or substance abuse agencies), a
6 State Domestic Violence Coalition or victim
7 service provider, or any other nonprofit, non-
8 governmental organization with a history of ef-
9 fective work in the fields of family violence, do-
10 mestic violence, or dating violence and sub-
11 stance use disorder treatment, prevention, and
12 recovery support.

13 “(3) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a
14 grant under this subsection, an eligible entity shall
15 submit an application to the Secretary at such time,
16 in such manner, and containing such information as
17 the Secretary determines appropriate.

18 “(4) USE OF FUNDS.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity re-
20 ceiving a grant under this subsection shall, di-
21 rectly or through subgrants or contracts, de-
22 velop and implement a program for ensuring
23 access for victims of family violence, domestic
24 violence, and dating violence to substance use
25 disorder treatment that allows parents (or legal

1 guardians) and their children, stepchildren, or
2 other dependents to remain together throughout
3 the course of treatment by carrying out one or
4 more of the authorized activities described in
5 subparagraph (B).

6 “(B) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES DE-
7 SCRIBED.—The authorized activities described
8 in this subparagraph include the following:

9 “(i) The provision of residential and
10 nonresidential substance use disorder
11 treatment services.

12 “(ii) Notwithstanding section
13 308(d)(1), the provision or expansion of
14 transitional housing, temporary rental as-
15 sistance, and other supportive housing sta-
16 bility services, including direct cash assist-
17 ance.

18 “(iii) The provision of services that—

19 “(I) support victims of family vi-
20 olence, domestic violence, and dating
21 violence while receiving substance use
22 disorder treatment services, including
23 recovery and harm reduction; and

24 “(II) enable parents (or legal
25 guardians) and their children, step-

1 children, or other dependents to re-
2 main together throughout the course
3 of treatment, including—

4 “(aa) supportive services, in-
5 cluding advocacy, case manage-
6 ment, and information and refer-
7 ral services;

8 “(bb) health care services,
9 including prenatal wellness serv-
10 ices, and support services for
11 pregnant and postpartum vic-
12 tims; and

13 “(cc) services for children
14 and youth that are exposed to
15 family violence, domestic violence,
16 and dating violence, including
17 age-appropriate confidential
18 counseling and supportive serv-
19 ices.

20 “(iv) The cultivation of partnerships
21 between State, local, and Tribal policy-
22 makers in order to develop and implement
23 service and policy changes for victims of
24 family violence, domestic violence, and dat-
25 ing violence with substance use disorders

1 that ensure the safety of victims, and re-
2 duce barriers for victims disproportionately
3 affected by family violence.

4 “(v) The provision of training for
5 staff associated with delivering services to
6 ensure that each program developed using
7 a grant received under this subsection in-
8 cludes procedures that protect the safety,
9 privacy, and confidentiality of parents (or
10 legal guardians) and their children, step-
11 children, or other dependents in a manner
12 consistent with subparagraph (F).

13 “(vi) Such other activities as the Sec-
14 retary determines appropriate.

15 “(C) ADVANCE NOTICE OF INFORMATION
16 DISCLOSURE.—If the release of information is
17 compelled by statutory or court mandate, an eli-
18 gible entity receiving a grant under this section
19 shall—

20 “(i) provide advance notice to victims
21 affected by the release of such information
22 about the circumstances compelling the re-
23 lease of such information, such as manda-
24 tory reporting laws; and

1 “(ii) give victims the option to receive
2 information and referrals without affirma-
3 tively disclosing abuse.

4 “(D) ADMINISTRATION AND TECHNICAL
5 ASSISTANCE.—Each eligible entity that receives
6 a grant under this subsection may use—

7 “(i) up to 6 percent of the grant
8 amount to procure technical assistance, in-
9 cluding technical assistance provided by
10 the National Capacity Building Center to
11 Prevent Substance Use Coercion estab-
12 lished under subsection (b); and

13 “(ii) up to 5 percent of the grant
14 amount for evaluation, monitoring, staff
15 training, and other administrative costs
16 under this subsection.

17 “(E) REPORTS AND EVALUATIONS.—Each
18 eligible entity receiving a grant under this sub-
19 section shall submit to the Secretary at such
20 time as shall be reasonably required by the Sec-
21 retary, a report that—

22 “(i) describes the activities that have
23 been carried out with such grant funds;

24 “(ii) includes an evaluation of the ef-
25 fectiveness of such activities; and

1 “(iii) provides such additional infor-
2 mation as the Secretary determines appro-
3 priate.

4 “(F) PRIVACY.—Each eligible entity re-
5 ceiving a grant under this subsection shall en-
6 sure that each program developed or imple-
7 mented with such grant protects victim privacy,
8 confidentiality, and safety in compliance with
9 applicable confidentiality, privacy, and non-
10 disclosure requirements of this Act.

11 “(b) NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING CENTER TO
12 PREVENT SUBSTANCE USE COERCION.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the sums appro-
14 priated under section 303(e) and available to carry
15 out this subsection for any fiscal year, the Secretary
16 may award a grant to an eligible entity for the es-
17 tablishment and maintenance of a National Capacity
18 Building Center to Prevent Substance Use Coercion
19 that will undertake the activities described in para-
20 graph (3).

21 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to re-
22 ceive a grant under this subsection, an eligible enti-
23 ty—

24 “(A) shall be a nonprofit private organiza-
25 tion that focuses primarily on domestic violence;

1 “(B) shall provide documentation to the
2 Secretary demonstrating experience working di-
3 rectly on issues of domestic violence;

4 “(C) shall provide documentation to the
5 Secretary demonstrating experience working di-
6 rectly on the intersection of domestic violence,
7 substance use, and substance use coercion;

8 “(D) shall—

9 “(i) include on the entity’s advisory
10 board representatives who are from domes-
11 tic violence service programs and who are
12 geographically and culturally diverse; or

13 “(ii) procure equivalent involvement
14 of, and feedback from, individuals who
15 have such qualifications, if the entity does
16 not have an advisory board; and

17 “(E) shall demonstrate the strong support
18 of domestic violence service programs from
19 across the Nation for the entity’s demonstrated
20 history in providing training and technical as-
21 sistance on the intersection of domestic vio-
22 lence, substance misuse, and substance use co-
23 ercion.

24 “(3) REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.—The eligible
25 entity awarded a grant under this subsection,

1 through the National Capacity Building Center to
2 Prevent Substance Use Coercion, shall use the
3 grant—

4 “(A) to provide training and technical as-
5 sistance to entities receiving grants under sub-
6 section (a) in the implementation of programs
7 funded under such subsection;

8 “(B) to conduct evaluations of programs
9 funded under subsection (a);

10 “(C) to identify and disseminate best prac-
11 tices that emerge from programs funded under
12 subsection (a); and

13 “(D) to carry out such other activities as
14 the Secretary determines appropriate.

15 “(c) FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION.—From the sums
16 appropriated under section 303(e) for any fiscal year, not
17 more than \$4,000,000 for such fiscal year may be used
18 by the Secretary for evaluation, monitoring, and other ad-
19 ministrative expenses.

20 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 “(1) SUBSTANCE USE COERCION.—The term
22 ‘substance use coercion’ means any act, threatened
23 act, or pattern of acts of physical or sexual violence,
24 or any other form of abuse involving substance mis-
25 use through the use of force, threat, or coercion,

1 that results in, or exacerbates, a substance use dis-
2 order, a substance-induced mental disorder, or any
3 other form of substance dependence, directed
4 against—

5 “(A) a dating partner or other person
6 similarly situated to a dating partner under the
7 laws of the jurisdiction where such an act oc-
8 curs;

9 “(B) a person who is cohabitating with or
10 has cohabitated with the person committing
11 such an act;

12 “(C) a current or former spouse or other
13 person similarly situated to a current or former
14 spouse under the laws of the jurisdiction where
15 such an act occurs;

16 “(D) a person who shares a child, step-
17 child, or other dependent in common with the
18 person committing such an act;

19 “(E) a person who is related by marriage,
20 blood, or is otherwise legally related; or

21 “(F) any other person who is protected
22 from any such act under the domestic or family
23 violence laws, policies, or regulations of the ju-
24 risdiction where the act occurs.

1 “(2) VICTIM.—The term ‘victim’ means an indi-
2 vidual against whom an act of domestic violence,
3 dating violence, or family violence is carried out.”.

4 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
5 303 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act
6 (42 U.S.C. 10403) is amended by adding at the end the
7 following:

8 “(e) SAFE RECOVERY TOGETHER GRANTS.—There is
9 authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 315
10 \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.”.

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