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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program for providing services to individuals experiencing gambling addiction.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. HOUCHIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program for providing services to individuals experiencing gambling addiction.

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 “Providing Opportuni-
5 ties for Individuals in Need of Treatment and Support Act
6 of 2026” or the “POINTS Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR PROVIDING SERVICES TO INDIVID-**
2 **UALS EXPERIENCING GAMBLING ADDICTION.**

3 Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act
4 (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.) is amended by adding at the
5 end the following:

6 **“SEC. 554. GRANTS FOR PROVIDING SERVICES TO INDIVID-**
7 **UALS EXPERIENCING GAMBLING ADDICTION.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall
9 make grants to States, Indian Tribes, and Tribal organi-
10 zations (as such terms are defined in section 4 of the In-
11 dian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act
12 (25 U.S.C. 5304)) on a competitive basis to establish, im-
13 prove, or expand programs providing prevention, screen-
14 ing, assessment, intervention, and treatment services, in-
15 cluding culturally and linguistically appropriate services,
16 to individuals at risk of or experiencing clinical gambling
17 addiction.

18 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—A State, Indian Tribe, or
19 Tribal organization that receives a grant under this sec-
20 tion shall use funds received through such grant to, with
21 respect to gambling addiction—

22 “(1) provide training on screening, brief inter-
23 vention, referral for treatment, and treatment to
24 health care providers and health paraprofessionals
25 who practice in primary care, behavioral health, or
26 other relevant health care settings;

1 “(2) implement a prevention strategy, including
2 public outreach and awareness, in the State or In-
3 dian Tribe that receives such funds;

4 “(3) provide a specialized treatment service, in-
5 cluding—

6 “(A) in-person or telehealth outpatient
7 treatment; or

8 “(B) a peer support group, including a
9 program operated by Gamblers Anonymous;

10 “(4) establish or expand help lines or such
11 other real-time service for prevention or intervention,
12 including coordinating with the National Problem
13 Gambling Helpline operated by the National Council
14 on Problem Gambling, for individuals in the State or
15 Indian Tribe that receives such funds; or

16 “(5) implement such other innovative preven-
17 tion, intervention, or treatment services determined
18 appropriate by the Assistant Secretary.

19 “(c) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this sec-
20 tion, the Assistant Secretary shall give priority to a State,
21 Indian Tribe, or Tribal organization that—

22 “(1) proposes to establish, improve, or expand
23 a program described under subsection (a) that
24 serves individuals who are disproportionately im-
25 pacted by gambling addiction, including men, youth,

1 Native Americans (as defined in section 103 of the
2 Native American Languages Act (25 U.S.C. 2902)),
3 members of the Armed Forces, and veterans;

4 “(2) proposes to establish, improve, or expand
5 a program described under subsection (a) in a pri-
6 mary care setting;

7 “(3) partners with, or proposes to partner with,
8 at least one community-based organization to ad-
9 dress gambling addiction; or

10 “(4) operates in a health professional shortage
11 area (as defined in section 332), including a rural
12 target area.

13 “(d) APPLICATION.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State, Indian Tribe, or
15 Tribal organization seeking to receive a grant under
16 this section shall submit an application to the Assist-
17 ant Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
18 containing such information as the Assistant Sec-
19 retary may require.

20 “(2) REQUIRED CONTENT.—At a minimum, an
21 application submitted under this subsection shall ex-
22 plain how the applicant establishing, improving
23 upon, or expanding a program described under sub-
24 section (a) would increase—

1 “(A) access to services for gambling addic-
2 tion in the communities served by such appli-
3 cant; and

4 “(B) the percentage of individuals served
5 by such program in at least one such commu-
6 nity.

7 “(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Assistant Sec-
8 retary shall provide technical assistance related to the
9 services described under subsection (b) to each State, In-
10 dian Tribe, or Tribal organization that receives a grant
11 under this section.

12 “(f) REPORT.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December
14 29, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Assistant
15 Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congres-
16 sional committees a report on the effectiveness of
17 grants made under this section for establishing, im-
18 proving, or expanding programs.

19 “(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COM-
20 MITTEE DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘ap-
21 propriate congressional committee’ means—

22 “(A) the Committee on Energy and Com-
23 merce of the House of Representatives;

24 “(B) the Committee on Appropriations of
25 the House of Representatives;

1 “(C) the Committee on Health, Education,
2 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate; and

3 “(D) the Committee on Appropriations of
4 the Senate.

5 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
7 appropriated to carry out this section for fiscal year
8 2027 an amount that is equal to 33 percent of the
9 amounts received by the Secretary of the Treasury
10 under section 4401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code
11 of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 4401(a)), with respect to the
12 2025 calendar year.

13 “(2) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—For fiscal
14 years 2028 through 2032, the amount authorized by
15 this subsection shall be adjusted by the percentage
16 increase, if any, in the Consumer Price Index for All
17 Urban Consumers (CPI–U) published by the Bureau
18 of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor for
19 the most recent 12-month period for which data is
20 available.”.