

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5406

To provide grants for the conduct of demonstration projects designed to provide education and training for eligible individuals to enter and follow a career pathway in the field of pregnancy, childbirth, or postpartum, under the Health Profession Opportunity Grant Program under section 2008 of the Social Security Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To provide grants for the conduct of demonstration projects designed to provide education and training for eligible individuals to enter and follow a career pathway in the field of pregnancy, childbirth, or postpartum, under the Health Profession Opportunity Grant Program under section 2008 of the Social Security Act.

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 “Opportunities to Sup-
5 port Mothers and Deliver Children Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS TO PRO-**
2 **VIDE CAREER PATHWAYS IN THE FIELD OF**
3 **PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, OR POST-**
4 **PARTUM.**

5 Section 2008 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
6 1397g) is amended by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
7 section (e) and inserting after subsection (c) the following:

8 “(d) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS TO PROVIDE CA-
9 REER PATHWAYS IN THE FIELD OF PREGNANCY, CHILD-
10 BIRTH, OR POSTPARTUM.—

11 “(1) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary, in
12 consultation with the Secretary of Labor and the
13 Secretary of Education, shall award grants in ac-
14 cordance with this subsection to eligible entities to
15 conduct demonstration projects for the purpose of
16 providing education and training for eligible individ-
17 uals to enter and follow a career pathway in the field
18 of pregnancy, childbirth, or postpartum, in a State
19 that recognizes doulas or midwives and that provides
20 payment for services provided by doulas or midwives,
21 as the case may be, under private or public health
22 insurance plans.

23 “(2) DURATION.—A demonstration project shall
24 be conducted under this subsection for not less than
25 3 years.

1 “(3) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An appli-
2 cant seeking a grant under this subsection for a
3 demonstration project shall submit to the Secretary
4 an application for the grant, that includes the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(A) A description of the partnerships,
7 strategic staff hiring decisions, tailored program
8 activities, or other programmatic elements of
9 the project that are designed to support a
10 strong career pathway in pregnancy, birth, or
11 postpartum services.

12 “(B) A demonstration that the State in
13 which the project is to be conducted recognizes
14 and permits doulas and midwives to practice in
15 the State.

16 “(C) A demonstration that the applicant
17 has experience working with low-income popu-
18 lations, or a description of the plan of the appli-
19 cant to work with a partner that has the experi-
20 ence.

21 “(4) EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary shall, by
22 grant, contract, or interagency agreement, conduct
23 rigorous and well-designed evaluations of the dem-
24 onstration projects for which a grant is made under
25 this section, which shall include identification of suc-

1 cessful activities for creating opportunities for devel-
2 oping and sustaining, particularly with respect to
3 low-income individuals and other entry-level workers,
4 a doula, midwife, or other pregnancy or postpartum
5 workforce career pathway that has accessible entry
6 points, that meets high standards for education,
7 training, certification, and professional development,
8 and that provides increased wages and affordable
9 benefits, including health care coverage, that are re-
10 sponsive to the needs of the workforce.

11 “(5) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

12 “(A) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligi-
13 ble entity’ means any of the following entities
14 that demonstrates in an application submitted
15 under this subsection that the entity has the ca-
16 pacity to fully develop and administer the dem-
17 onstration project described in the application:

18 “(i) A local workforce development
19 board established under section 107 of the
20 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
21 Act.

22 “(ii) A State or territory, a political
23 subdivision of a State or territory, or an
24 agency of a State, territory, or such a po-
25 litical subdivision.

1 “(iii) An Indian tribe, a tribal organi-
2 zation, or a tribal college or university.

3 “(iv) An institution of higher edu-
4 cation (as defined in the Higher Education
5 Act of 1965).

6 “(v) A hospital (as defined in section
7 1861(e)).

8 “(vi) A skilled nursing facility (as de-
9 fined in section 1819(h)(1)(A)).

10 “(vii) A Federally qualified health
11 center (as defined in section 1861(aa)(4)).

12 “(viii) A nonprofit organization de-
13 scribed in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal
14 Revenue Code of 1986, a labor organiza-
15 tion, or an entity with shared labor-man-
16 agement oversight, that has a dem-
17 onstrated history of providing health pro-
18 fession training to eligible individuals.

19 “(ix) An entity recognized by a State,
20 Indian tribe, or tribal organization as
21 qualified to train doulas or midwives, if
22 midwives or doulas, as the case may be,
23 are permitted to provide services in the
24 State involved.

1 “(x) An opioid treatment program (as
2 defined in section 1861(iii)(2)) and other
3 high quality comprehensive addiction care
4 providers.

5 “(B) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term
6 ‘eligible individual’ means an individual whose
7 income does not exceed 138 percent of the Fed-
8 eral poverty level.

9 “(C) MIDWIFE.—The term ‘midwife’
10 means a midwife who meets, at a minimum, the
11 international definition of the midwife and glob-
12 al standards for midwifery education as estab-
13 lished by the International Confederation of
14 Midwives.

15 “(D) TRIBALLY-RECOGNIZED MIDWIFE.—
16 The term ‘tribally-recognized midwife’ means
17 an individual who is recognized by an Indian
18 tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian
19 Health Care Improvement Act) to practice mid-
20 wifery for the tribe.

21 “(E) DOULA.—The term ‘doula’ means,
22 with respect to an application to conduct a
23 demonstration project under this subsection, an
24 individual who—

1 “(i)(I) has completed 60 hours of
2 training in providing non-medical informa-
3 tion, emotional support, and physical sup-
4 port to clients during pregnancy, child-
5 birth, and the postpartum period;

6 “(II) is certified by an organization,
7 that has been established for not less than
8 5 years and requires the completion of con-
9 tinuing education to maintain the certifi-
10 cation, to provide the information and sup-
11 port referred to in subclause (I); and

12 “(III) maintains the certification by
13 completing the required continuing edu-
14 cation; or

15 “(ii) has the permission of the local
16 government in the State in which the ap-
17 plicant intends to conduct the demonstra-
18 tion project, to provide the information
19 and support referred to in clause (i)(I).

20 “(6) APPROPRIATION.—Out of any funds in the
21 Treasury of the United States not otherwise appro-
22 priated, there are appropriated to the Secretary to
23 carry out this subsection \$10,000,000 for fiscal year
24 2026.”.

1 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2 The amendment made by this Act shall take effect
3 on October 1, 2025.

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