

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6096

To amend title V of the Social Security Act to include as a special project of regional and national significance the purchase, acquisition, and distribution to mothers of newborn infants newborn supply kits, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

Ms. LETLOW (for herself, Ms. SCHRIER, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Ms. BARRAGÁN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title V of the Social Security Act to include as a special project of regional and national significance the purchase, acquisition, and distribution to mothers of newborn infants newborn supply kits, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Newborns Essentials
5 Support Toolkit Act” or the “NEST Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NEWBORN SUPPLY KITS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 501(a)(2) of the Social
3 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 701(a)(2)) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “and for evidence-based pro-
5 grams” and inserting “for evidence-based pro-
6 grams”; and

7 (2) by inserting before “; and” at the end the
8 following: “, and for the purchase, acquisition, and
9 distribution of newborn supply kits distributed in ac-
10 cordance with subsection (d)”.

11 (b) NEWBORN SUPPLY KIT DEFINED.—Section
12 501(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 701(b)) is
13 amended by adding at the end the following:

14 “(5) The term ‘newborn supply kit’ means a kit
15 composed of essential goods to help mothers recover
16 from childbirth and care for newborn infants that
17 includes the following items:

18 “(A) Diapers, wipes, hygiene items, blan-
19 kets, and thermometers for newborn infants.

20 “(B) Postpartum pads, lotion, cold packs,
21 breastfeeding supplies, information on the Na-
22 tional Maternal Mental Health Hotline estab-
23 lished under section 399V–7 of the Public
24 Health Service Act, information on the National
25 Women’s Health and Breastfeeding Helpline
26 and additional educational material on

1 breastfeeding, information about Federal pro-
2 grams providing support to postpartum women
3 and children, such as the special supplemental
4 nutrition program for women, infants, and chil-
5 dren under section 17 of the Child Nutrition
6 Act of 1966, and evidence-based educational
7 material on the use of low-dose aspirin to ad-
8 dress hypertension, preeclampsia, and preterm
9 birth.

10 “(C) A blood pressure monitor.

11 “(D) Other items necessary to support in-
12 fant and postpartum health (as determined by
13 the Secretary).”.

14 (c) SET-ASIDE.—Section 501(c) of the Social Secu-
15 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 701(c)) is amended—

16 (1) by redesignating paragraph (5) as para-
17 graph (6); and

18 (2) by inserting after paragraph (4) the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(5) For each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030, of
21 the funds made available under subsection (a) for a fiscal
22 year, the Secretary may reserve not more than \$5,000,000
23 for the purpose of enabling the Secretary to provide for
24 special projects of regional and national significance for

1 the purchase, acquisition, and distribution of newborn
2 supply kits in accordance with subsection (d).”.

3 (d) ADMINISTRATION.—Section 501 of the Social Se-
4 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 701) is amended by adding at the
5 end the following:

6 “(d)(1) In purchasing or acquiring newborn supply
7 kits using funds made available under subsection (c)(5),
8 the Secretary shall make grants or enter into cooperative
9 agreements with nonprofit entities that have a multi-state
10 presence to procure such newborn supply kits for new
11 mothers, such as community-based organizations, Feder-
12 ally qualified health centers (as defined in section
13 1861(aa)), Tribal organizations (as defined in section 4
14 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assist-
15 ance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)), and birthing hospitals.

16 “(2) In distributing newborn supply kits purchased
17 or acquired using funds made available under subsection
18 (c)(5), the entity that distributes such kits shall, as a con-
19 dition on the receipt of such funds—

20 “(A) partner with a local organizations that
21 serve the locations where such newborn supply kits
22 are to be distributed;

23 “(B) to the maximum extent practicable, ensure
24 the geographical diversity of the recipients of such
25 newborn supply kits;

1 “(C) give priority to geographic areas with the
2 greatest need, such as maternity care deserts, rural
3 communities, and communities with the highest ma-
4 ternal mortality rates (such as the Delta region);
5 and

6 “(D) give priority to mothers or newborn in-
7 fants whose family income does not exceed 185 per-
8 cent of the poverty line (as defined in section 673(2)
9 of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42
10 U.S.C. 9902(2))) for a family of the size involved.”.

11 (e) REPORT.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
13 after the date on which the first grant or cooperative
14 agreement is awarded pursuant to the amendment
15 made by subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit
16 to the appropriate committees of Congress a report
17 on the progress of the grants or cooperative agree-
18 ments so awarded, including—

19 (A) the number of mothers served under
20 the grants or cooperative agreements during the
21 period covered by the report (disaggregated by
22 race, family income level, and number of indi-
23 viduals in the household);

1 (B) the regions in the United States in
2 which newborn supply kits are being distributed
3 through such grants or cooperative agreements;

4 (C) feedback from mothers who have re-
5 ceived newborn supply kits through such grants
6 or cooperative agreements; and

7 (D) such other information, as determined
8 necessary by the Secretary.

9 (2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
10 after the date on which the last grant or cooperative
11 agreement is awarded pursuant to the amendment
12 made by subsection (a) for fiscal year 2030, the Sec-
13 retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of
14 Congress a report on the results of the grants or co-
15 operative agreements awarded pursuant to the
16 amendment made by subsection (a) with respect to
17 maternal and infant health outcomes.

18 (3) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS
19 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “appro-
20 priate committees of Congress” means—

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

23 (B) the Committee on Health, Education,
24 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

1 (C) the Committee on Appropriations of
2 the House of Representatives; and

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

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