

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 922

To provide targeted funding for States and other eligible entities through the Social Services Block Grant program to increase the availability of menstrual products for individuals with limited access to such products.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

Mr. CASTEN (for himself, Ms. MENG, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. McIVER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. TONKO, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. TOKUDA, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide targeted funding for States and other eligible entities through the Social Services Block Grant program to increase the availability of menstrual products for individuals with limited access to such products.

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 “Period PROUD (Pro-
3 viding Resources for Our Underserved and Disadvan-
4 tagged) Act of 2025”.

5 **SEC. 2. TARGETED FUNDING FOR MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS**
6 **THROUGH THE SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK**
7 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

8 (a) INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR SOCIAL SERVICES
9 BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amount specified in
11 subsection (c) of section 2003 of the Social Security
12 Act (42 U.S.C. 1397b) for purposes of subsections
13 (a) and (b) of such section is deemed to be
14 \$1,900,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025
15 through 2028, of which the amount equal to
16 \$200,000,000, reduced by the amounts reserved
17 under paragraph (2)(B) for each such fiscal year,
18 shall be obligated by States in accordance with sub-
19 section (b).

20 (2) APPROPRIATION.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Out of any money in
22 the Treasury of the United States not otherwise
23 appropriated, there is appropriated
24 \$200,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026
25 through 2029, to carry out this section.

26 (B) RESERVATIONS.—

1 (i) PURPOSES.—The Secretary shall
2 reserve, from the amount appropriated
3 under subparagraph (A) to carry out this
4 section—

5 (I) for each of fiscal years 2026
6 through 2029, not more than 2 per-
7 cent of the amount appropriated for
8 the fiscal year for purposes of enter-
9 ing into an agreement with an eligible
10 entity described in subparagraph (C)
11 to assist in providing technical assist-
12 ance and training, to support effective
13 policy, practice, research, and cross-
14 system collaboration among grantees
15 and subgrantees, and to assist in the
16 administration of the program de-
17 scribed in this section; and

18 (II) for fiscal year 2026, an
19 amount, not to exceed \$2,000,000, for
20 purposes of conducting an evaluation
21 under subsection (d).

22 (ii) NO STATE ENTITLEMENT TO RE-
23 SERVED FUNDS.—The State entitlement
24 under section 2002(a) of the Social Secu-
25 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1397a(a)) shall not

1 apply to the amounts reserved under clause
2 (i).

3 (C) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DESCRIBED.—An el-
4 igible entity described in this subparagraph is a
5 nonprofit organization described in section
6 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
7 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a)
8 of such Code, that—

9 (i) has experience in the area of com-
10 munity distributions of basic need services,
11 including experience collecting,
12 warehousing, and distributing basic neces-
13 sities such as menstrual products;

14 (ii) demonstrates competency to im-
15 plement a project, provide fiscal account-
16 ability, collect data, and prepare reports
17 and other necessary documentation; and

18 (iii) demonstrates a willingness to
19 share information with researchers, practi-
20 tioners, and other interested parties.

21 (b) RULES GOVERNING USE OF ADDITIONAL
22 FUNDS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Funds are used in accord-
24 ance with this subsection if—

1 (A) the State, in consultation with relevant
2 stakeholders, including agencies, professional
3 associations, and nonprofit organizations, dis-
4 tributes the funds to eligible entities to—

5 (i) decrease the unmet need for men-
6 strual products by low-income menstru-
7 ating individuals through—

8 (I) the distribution of free men-
9 strual products;

10 (II) community outreach to assist
11 in participation in existing menstrual
12 product distribution programs; or

13 (III) improving access to men-
14 strual products among low-income in-
15 dividuals; and

16 (ii) increase the ability of communities
17 and low-income families in such commu-
18 nities to provide for the need for menstrual
19 products of low-income adults;

20 (B) the funds are used subject to the limi-
21 tations in section 2005 of the Social Security
22 Act (42 U.S.C. 1397d); and

23 (C) the funds are used to supplement, and
24 not supplant funds that are or have been made
25 available from Federal, State, local, or philan-

1 thropic sources to carry out subtitle A of title
2 XX of such Act.

3 (2) ALLOWABLE USES BY ELIGIBLE ENTI-
4 TIES.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity re-
6 ceiving funds made available under subsection
7 (a) shall use the funds for any of the following:

8 (i) To pay for the purchase of men-
9 strual products by, and the distribution of
10 menstrual products among low-income in-
11 dividuals.

12 (ii) To integrate activities carried out
13 under subparagraph (A) with other basic
14 needs assistance programs serving low-in-
15 come families, including the following:

16 (I) Programs funded by the tem-
17 porary assistance for needy families
18 program under part A of title IV of
19 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
20 601 et seq.), including the State
21 maintenance of effort provisions of
22 such program.

23 (II) Programs designed to sup-
24 port the health of eligible children,
25 such as the Children's Health Insur-

1 ance Program under title XXI of the
2 Social Security Act, the Medicaid pro-
3 gram under title XIX of such Act, or
4 State funded health care programs.

5 (III) Programs funded through
6 the special supplemental nutrition
7 program for women, infants, and chil-
8 dren under section 17 of the Child
9 Nutrition Act of 1966.

10 (IV) Programs that offer early
11 home visiting services, including the
12 maternal, infant, and early childhood
13 home visiting program (including the
14 Tribal home visiting program) under
15 section 511 of the Social Security Act
16 (42 U.S.C. 711).

17 (iii) To provide training or technical
18 assistance in carrying out activities under
19 this section.

20 (iv) To cover administrative costs.

21 (B) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR
22 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—An eligible entity re-
23 ceiving funds made available under this section
24 shall not use more than 9 percent of the funds

1 for administrative costs incurred pursuant to
2 this section.

3 (C) NO LIMITS ON WHERE MENSTRUAL
4 PRODUCTS MAY BE DISTRIBUTED.—The Sec-
5 retary may not limit the locations at which
6 menstrual products may be distributed pursu-
7 ant to this section.

8 (3) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—

9 (A) FUNDS DISTRIBUTED TO ELIGIBLE
10 ENTITIES.—Funds made available under sub-
11 section (a) that are distributed to an eligible en-
12 tity by a State for a fiscal year may be ex-
13 pended by the eligible entity only in such fiscal
14 year or the succeeding fiscal year.

15 (B) EVALUATION.—Funds reserved under
16 subsection (a)(2)(B)(i)(II) to carry out the eval-
17 uation under subsection (d) shall be available
18 for expenditure through September 30, 2028.

19 (4) NO EFFECT ON OTHER PROGRAMS.—Any
20 assistance or benefits received by a family through
21 funds made available under subsection (a) shall be
22 disregarded for purposes of determining the family's
23 eligibility for, or amount of, benefits under any other
24 Federal needs-based programs.

1 (c) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Section 2004 of the Social
2 Security Act shall apply with respect to payments made
3 to a State under this section in the same way it applies
4 with respect to payments made to a State under section
5 2002 of such Act.

6 (d) EVALUATION.—The Secretary, in consultation
7 with States and the eligible entities described in subsection
8 (a)(2)(C) receiving funds made available under this sec-
9 tion, shall—

10 (1) not later than December 30, 2031, complete
11 an evaluation of the effectiveness of the assistance
12 program carried out pursuant to this section, such
13 as the effect of activities carried out under this Act
14 on mitigating the health risks of unmet menstrual
15 products need among individuals in low-income fami-
16 lies;

17 (2) not later than March 31, 2032, submit to
18 the Committees on Energy and Commerce and on
19 Ways and Means of the House of Representatives
20 and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a re-
21 port on the results of the evaluation; and

22 (3) not later than April 30, 2032, publish the
23 results of the evaluation on the internet website of
24 the Department of Health and Human Services.

1 (e) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the
2 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue
3 guidance regarding how the provisions of this section
4 should be carried out, including information regarding eli-
5 gible entities, allowable use of funds, and reporting re-
6 quirements.

7 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 (1) MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS.—The term “men-
9 strual products” means menstrual cups, menstrual
10 discs, menstrual underwear, and sanitary napkins
11 and tampons, that conform to applicable industry
12 standards.

13 (2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The term “eligible
14 entity” means a State or local governmental entity,
15 an Indian tribe or tribal organization (as defined in
16 section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
17 cation Assistance Act), or a nonprofit organization
18 described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Rev-
19 enue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under
20 section 501(a) of such Code that—

21 (A) has experience in the area of commu-
22 nity distributions of basic need services, includ-
23 ing experience collecting, warehousing, and dis-
24 tributing basic necessities such as diapers, food,
25 or menstrual products;

1 (B) demonstrates competency to implement
2 a project, provide fiscal accountability, collect
3 data, and prepare reports and other necessary
4 documentation; and

5 (C) demonstrates a willingness to share in-
6 formation with researchers, practitioners, and
7 other interested parties.

8 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

10 (4) STATE.—The term “State” has the mean-
11 ing given in section 1101(a)(1) of the Social Secu-
12 rity Act for purposes of title XX of such Act.

13 (g) LIMITATION ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
14 TIONS.—For the administration of this section, there are
15 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary not more
16 than \$6,000,000 for fiscal years 2026 through 2029.

17 (h) EXEMPTION FROM SEQUESTRATION.—Funds
18 made available to carry out this section shall be exempt
19 from reduction under any order issued under the Balanced
20 Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

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