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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize funding for nutrition education and chronic disease prevention at federally qualified health centers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize funding for nutrition education and chronic disease prevention at federally qualified health centers, 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 “Nutrition Education
5 and Chronic Disease Prevention in Community Health
6 Centers Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. NUTRITION EDUCATION AND CHRONIC DISEASE**
2 **PREVENTION AT FEDERALLY QUALIFIED**
3 **HEALTH CENTERS.**

4 Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42
5 U.S.C. 254b) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsection (r) as sub-
7 section (s); and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (q) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(r) NUTRITION EDUCATION AND CHRONIC DISEASE
11 PREVENTION INITIATIVE.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting
13 through the Administrator of the Health Resources
14 and Services Administration, (in this subsection re-
15 ferred to as the ‘Secretary’) shall support health
16 centers in integrating and expanding evidence-based
17 nutrition education and counseling into primary care
18 delivery and workforce training.

19 “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—In carrying out para-
20 graph (1), the Secretary may utilize existing fund-
21 ing, made available under section 10503(a)(1) of the
22 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, to
23 award a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement,
24 and may provide technical assistance, to a health
25 center for—

1 “(A) patient-centered nutrition education
2 and counseling services;

3 “(B) integration of nutrition assessment
4 and dietary counseling into chronic disease
5 management;

6 “(C) training and continuing education in
7 nutrition science and dietary counseling for
8 health center providers in health centers;

9 “(D) establishing and maintaining inter-
10 disciplinary models of care that incorporate reg-
11 istered dietitians, community health workers,
12 and other appropriate professionals;

13 “(E) developing culturally and linguis-
14 tically appropriate nutrition education mate-
15 rials; and

16 “(F) evaluating clinical and cost outcomes
17 associated with nutrition interventions.

18 “(3) PARTICIPATION OF AFFILIATED ENTI-
19 TIES.—A health center may affiliate with an aca-
20 demic medical center or medical school in carrying
21 out activities receiving assistance under this sub-
22 section.

23 “(4) PRIORITY.—In making awards under this
24 subsection, the Secretary shall prioritize health cen-
25 ters serving populations with high rates of diet-re-

1 lated chronic disease, food insecurity, or other nutri-
2 tion-related health disparities.

3 “(5) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds
4 made available to carry out this subsection shall
5 supplement, and not supplant, other Federal, State,
6 local, or private funding used for similar purposes.

7 “(6) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not
8 later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the
9 Nutrition Education and Chronic Disease Prevention
10 in Community Health Centers Act of 2026, and an-
11 nually thereafter through fiscal year 2031, the Sec-
12 retary shall submit to Congress a report that—

13 “(A) describes the use of funds under this
14 subsection;

15 “(B) evaluates improvements in patient
16 outcomes related to chronic disease indicators
17 attributable to activities receiving assistance
18 under this subsection;

19 “(C) assesses improvements in workforce
20 training participation and competency develop-
21 ment attributable to activities receiving assist-
22 ance under this subsection; and

23 “(D) estimates potential cost savings to
24 Federal health care programs attributable to

1 nutrition interventions receiving assistance
2 under this subsection.”.