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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.

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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.”.