

Committee Print

[SHOWING THE TEXT OF H.R. 2422 AS FORWARDED BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE
ON HEALTH ON JUNE 29, 2017]

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2422

To amend the Public Health Service Act to improve essential oral health care for low-income and other underserved individuals by breaking down barriers to care, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2017

Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself and Mr. SIMPSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to improve essential oral health care for low-income and other underserved individuals by breaking down barriers to care, 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 “Action for Dental
5 Health Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. VOLUNTEER DENTAL PROJECTS AND ACTION FOR**
2 **DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM.**

3 Section 317M of the Public Health Service Act (42
4 U.S.C. 247b-14) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as
6 subsections (f) and (g), respectively;

7 (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-
8 lowing new subsection:

9 “(e) ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consulta-
11 tion with the Director of the Centers for Disease
12 Control and Prevention and the Administrator of the
13 Health Resources and Service Administration, may
14 award grants to or enter into contracts with eligible
15 entities to collaborate with State, county, or local
16 public officials and other stakeholders to develop and
17 implement initiatives to accomplish any of the fol-
18 lowing goals:

19 “(A) To improve oral health education and
20 dental disease prevention, including through
21 community-wide prevention programs, through
22 the use of dental sealants and fluoride varnish,
23 and by increasing oral health literacy.

24 “(B) To reduce geographic barriers, lan-
25 guage barriers, cultural barriers, and other

1 similar barriers to the provision of dental serv-
2 ices.

3 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this subsection, the
4 term ‘eligible entity’ means an entity that is—

5 “(A) a State or local dental association;

6 “(B) a State oral health program;

7 “(C) a dental education, dental hygiene, or
8 postdoctoral dental education program accred-
9 ited by the Commission on Dental Accredita-
10 tion; or

11 “(D) a community-based organization
12 that—

13 “(i) partners with an academic insti-
14 tution;

15 “(ii) is exempt from tax under section
16 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of
17 1986; and

18 “(iii) partners with public and private
19 stakeholders to facilitate the provision of
20 dental services for underserved popu-
21 lations.”; and

22 (3) in subsection (g), as redesignated by para-
23 graph (1), by striking “such sums as may be nec-
24 essary for each of the fiscal years 2001 through

1 2005” and inserting “\$18,000,000 for each of the
2 fiscal years 2018 through 2022”.

3 **SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS.**

4 Section 340G of the Public Health Service Act (42
5 U.S.C. 256g) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)(5)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking
8 “and” at the end; and

9 (B) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(D) the establishment of dental homes for
11 children and adults, including for the aged,
12 blind, and disabled populations;

13 “(E) the establishment of initiatives to re-
14 duce the use of emergency departments by indi-
15 viduals who seek dental services more appro-
16 priately delivered in a dental primary care set-
17 ting; and

18 “(F) the provision of dental care to nurs-
19 ing home residents;” and

20 (2) in subsection (f), by striking “\$25,000,000
21 for the 5-fiscal year period beginning with fiscal year
22 2008” and inserting “\$13,903,000 for each of fiscal
23 years 2018 through 2022”.