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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.**

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To establish a demonstration pilot program to test the innovative use of funds and outcomes-oriented benchmarks for initiatives to support low income households in accessing hygiene materials.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LAWLER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To establish a demonstration pilot program to test the innovative use of funds and outcomes-oriented benchmarks for initiatives to support low income households in accessing hygiene materials.

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 “TANF Hygiene Access  
5       Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM TO TEST INITIATIVES**2 **TO SUPPORT LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS IN**  
3 **ACCESSING HYGIENE MATERIALS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
5 Human Services (in this Act referred to as the “Sec-  
6 retary”), through the Office of Family Assistance, shall  
7 conduct a demonstration program to test innovative uses  
8 of funds and outcomes-oriented benchmarks for initiatives  
9 to improve the access of low income households to hygiene  
10 materials.

11 (b) DEFINITION OF HYGIENE MATERIALS.—In this  
12 Act, the term “hygiene materials” includes soap, deodor-  
13 ant, toothpaste, toothbrush, toilet paper, feminine hygiene  
14 products, shampoo, diapers, baby wipes, postpartum pads,  
15 antibacterial hand soap, laundry detergent, dish soap, and  
16 any other product related to hygiene as determined by the  
17 Secretary.

18 (c) APPLICATIONS.—

19 (1) SUBMISSION.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity may  
21 submit to the Secretary an application for a  
22 grant under this section.

23 (B) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.—In this  
24 Act, the term “eligible entity” means a State,  
25 an Indian tribe, or a tribal organization, as

1           such terms are defined in section 419 of the So-  
2           cial Security Act.

3           (2) CONSIDERATION.—

4           (A) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—The Secretary  
5           shall establish a process for considering applica-  
6           tions submitted pursuant to this section on a  
7           competitive basis.

8           (B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED.—The  
9           Secretary shall select applicants to receive  
10           grants under this section on the basis of—

11                   (i) the strength of the design of the  
12                   hygiene access initiative described in the  
13                   application submitted by the applicant;

14                   (ii) the capacity of the initiative to  
15                   serve the population targeted by the initia-  
16                   tive;

17                   (iii) the extent to which the applicant  
18                   will partner with basic needs banks or  
19                   similar entities with demonstrated experi-  
20                   ence in collecting, warehousing, and dis-  
21                   tributing hygiene materials or basic needs  
22                   items;

23                   (iv) the readiness of the applicant to  
24                   evaluate the initiative;

1 (v) the cost-effectiveness of the initia-  
2 tive;

3 (vi) the past performance of the appli-  
4 cant in carrying out the program of the  
5 applicant that is funded under part A of  
6 title IV of the Social Security Act; and

### 7 (vii) geographic diversity.

13 (d) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall admin-  
14 ister this section in a way that advances the goal of ex-  
15 panding access to hygiene materials for a significant num-  
16 ber of low-income households.

17 (e) DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT.—The Secretary shall  
18 disburse each grant awarded under this section, on the  
19 1st day of the fiscal year for which the grant is awarded.

20 (f) USE OF GRANT.—

5 (g) EVALUATION.—An entity to which a grant is  
6 made under this section shall submit to the Secretary a  
7 report on the performance of the initiative carried out with  
8 the grant funds, as assessed using the following indicators:

9 (1) The geographic area served.

10 (2) The number of families served.

11 (3) The number of materials distributed.

## 12 (4) The frequency of distributions.

13 (h) FUNDING.—Out of any money in the Treasury  
14 of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are  
15 appropriated to carry out this Act—

16 (1) \$25,000,000 for the 1st fiscal year that be-  
17 gins on or after the effective date of this Act;

21 (3) \$32,500,000 for each of the 4th and 5th  
22 fiscal years that begin on or after the effective date.

23 (i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall take effect 1  
24 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

1           (j) REPORT ON FEASIBILITY OF LARGE SCALE IM-  
2 PLEMENTATION.—Before the 5th fiscal year that begins  
3 on or after the effective date of this Act, the Secretary  
4 shall submit to the Congress a report that contains an  
5 evaluation of the demonstration program conducted under  
6 this section, and the recommendation of the Secretary as  
7 to whether it would be feasible to implement a program  
8 of this type on a large scale.