

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1666

To amend part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act to improve essential oral health care for lower-income individuals by breaking down barriers to care.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 2, 2011

Mr. SIMPSON (for himself and Mr. ROSS of Arkansas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To amend part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act to improve essential oral health care for lower-income individuals by breaking down barriers to care.

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 “Breaking Barriers to  
5 Oral Health Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEER DENTAL**  
2 **PROJECTS AND PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNER-**  
3 **SHIPS.**

4 Part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act  
5 is amended by inserting after section 320A (42 U.S.C.  
6 247d–8) the following new sections:

7 **“SEC. 320B. GRANTS TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEER DENTAL**  
8 **PROJECTS.**

9 “(a) **AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.**—The Secretary  
10 shall award grants to or enter into contracts with eligible  
11 entities described in subsection (b) to purchase portable  
12 or mobile dental equipment and to pay for appropriate  
13 operational costs, including direct health care or service  
14 delivery costs, for the provision of free dental services to  
15 underserved populations that are delivered in a manner  
16 consistent with State licensing laws.

17 “(b) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—An eligible entity under  
18 this subsection is an organization, such as a State or local  
19 dental association, or a dental education, dental hygiene  
20 education, or postdoctoral dental education program ac-  
21 credited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, or  
22 a community-based organization that partners with an  
23 academic institution, that is exempt from tax under sec-  
24 tion 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and that  
25 offers a free dental services program for underserved pop-  
26 ulations.

1       “(c) APPLICATION.—An entity desiring a grant under  
2 this section shall submit an application to the Secretary  
3 in such manner as the Secretary may require.

4       “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
5 are authorized to be appropriated to make grants under  
6 this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012  
7 through 2016.

8       **“SEC. 320C. GRANTS FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS**  
9                   **TO IMPROVE ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND**  
10                   **DENTAL DISEASE PREVENTION AND MED-**  
11                   **ICAID AND CHIP DENTAL PROGRAMS, AND**  
12                   **FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

13       “(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—The Secretary  
14 shall award grants to or enter into contracts with eligible  
15 entities described in subsection (b) to collaborate with  
16 State, county, or local public officials and other stake-  
17 holders in order to develop and implement initiatives to  
18 accomplish any of the following goals:

19               “(1) To improve oral health education and den-  
20 tal disease prevention.

21               “(2) To reduce barriers (including low reim-  
22 bursement and administrative impediments) in a  
23 manner that increases dental provider participation  
24 in Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance

1 Program (CHIP) under titles XIX and XXI of the  
2 Social Security Act.

3 “(3) To make the dental delivery system pro-  
4 viding dental services under Medicaid or CHIP more  
5 efficient by taking actions necessary to facilitate the  
6 establishment of dental homes.

7 “(4) To address geographic, language, or cul-  
8 tural barriers in the provision of dental services.

9 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—An eligible entity under  
10 this subsection is a State or local dental association or  
11 a State dental association foundation that is exempt from  
12 tax under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of  
13 1986 and that partners with public and private stake-  
14 holders to facilitate the provision of dental services for un-  
15 derserved populations.

16 “(c) APPLICATION.—An entity desiring a grant under  
17 this section shall submit an application to the Secretary  
18 in such manner as the Secretary may require.

19 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
20 are authorized to be appropriated to make grants under  
21 this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012  
22 through 2016.”.

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