

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8501

To prohibit abortion sanctuary States from receiving funds from the Department of Health and Human Services, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2022

Mr. LAMBORN (for himself, Mr. BANKS, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. BABIN, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. HICE of Georgia, and Mr. NORMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Natural Resources, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To prohibit abortion sanctuary States from receiving funds from the Department of Health and Human Services, 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 “Preventing Abortion  
5 Sanctuaries Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITING ABORTION SANCTUARY STATES**  
2 **FROM RECEIVING CERTAIN FEDERAL FUNDS.**

3 (a) FINDING.—Congress has the authority to enact  
4 this Act pursuant to its powers under the Commerce  
5 Clause of Article 1, section 8 of the Constitution of the  
6 United States, which includes the power to regulate those  
7 activities having substantial relation to interstate com-  
8 merce and activities that substantially affect interstate  
9 commerce in the aggregate.

10 (b) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds made available  
11 to the Secretary of Health and Human Services may be  
12 used to provide funds to any abortion sanctuary State.

13 (c) ANNUAL DETERMINATION OF INELIGIBLE  
14 STATES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enact-  
15 ment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary  
16 of Health and Human Services shall—

17 (1) determine which States are ineligible based  
18 on the criteria set forth in subsection (d)(2); and

19 (2) submit a list of such ineligible States, in-  
20 cluding the specific criteria in subsection (d)(2) upon  
21 which each such determination was based, to Con-  
22 gress.

23 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

24 (1) The term “abortion” means the use or pre-  
25 scription of any instrument, medicine, drug, or any  
26 other substance or device—

1 (A) to intentionally kill the unborn child of  
2 a woman known to be pregnant; or

3 (B) to intentionally terminate the preg-  
4 nancy of a woman known to be pregnant, with  
5 an intention other than—

6 (i) after viability to produce a live  
7 birth and preserve the life and health of  
8 the child born alive; or

9 (ii) to remove a dead unborn child.

10 (2) The term “abortion sanctuary State” means  
11 a State that—

12 (A) establishes a fund or commission (or  
13 similar entity) for the purpose of providing di-  
14 rect financial and logistical support to individ-  
15 uals traveling to such State to receive an abor-  
16 tion;

17 (B) does not have in effect any law with  
18 regards to gestational protections for an unborn  
19 child; or

20 (C) has in effect laws that prohibit the en-  
21 forcement of a law of another State that au-  
22 thorizes a person to bring a civil action against  
23 a person or entity that does any of the fol-  
24 lowing:

25 (i) Receives or seeks an abortion.

1 (ii) Performs or induces an abortion.

2 (iii) Knowingly engages in conduct  
3 that aids or abets the performance or in-  
4 ducement of an abortion.

5 (iv) Attempts or intends to engage in  
6 conduct described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii).

7 (3) The term “logistical support” means direct  
8 assistance, such as airfare, lodging, ground trans-  
9 portation, gas money, meals, or dependent childcare,  
10 to help a person access or obtain an abortion.

11 (4) The term “unborn child” means a member  
12 of the species homo sapiens, at any stage of develop-  
13 ment, who is carried in the womb.

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