

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 485

To establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 25, 2021

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families.

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 “Family Support Serv-  
5 ices for Addiction Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS**  
 2 **STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE DIS-**  
 3 **ORDER.**

4 Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act  
 5 (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.) is amended by adding at the  
 6 end the following:

7 **“SEC. 553. FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS**  
 8 **STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE DIS-**  
 9 **ORDER.**

10 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

11 “(1) the term ‘family community organization’  
 12 means an independent nonprofit organization that—

13 “(A) mobilizes resources within and out-  
 14 side of the community of families that include  
 15 an individual living with a substance use dis-  
 16 order, to provide a support network, education,  
 17 and evidence-informed tools for families and  
 18 loved ones of individuals struggling with sub-  
 19 stance use disorders; and

20 “(B) is governed by experts in the field of  
 21 substance use disorder, which may include—

22 “(i) experts in evidence-informed  
 23 interventions for family members;

24 “(ii) experts in the impact of sub-  
 25 stance use disorder on family systems;

1 “(iii) families who have experience  
2 with substance use disorder; and

3 “(iv) other experts in the field of sub-  
4 stance use disorder; and

5 “(2) the term ‘family support services’ means  
6 resources or programs that support families that in-  
7 clude an individual with substance use disorder.

8 “(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall  
9 award grants to family community organizations to enable  
10 such organizations to develop, expand, and enhance evi-  
11 dence-informed family support services.

12 “(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the  
13 costs of a program funded by a grant under this section  
14 may not exceed 85 percent.

15 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under sub-  
16 section (b)—

17 “(1) shall be used to develop, expand, and en-  
18 hance community and statewide evidence-informed  
19 family support services; and

20 “(2) may be used to—

21 “(A) build connections between family sup-  
22 port networks, including providing technical as-  
23 sistance between family community organiza-  
24 tions and peer support networks, and with  
25 other family support services, focused on en-

hancing knowledge of evidence-informed interventions for family members and loved ones of individuals living with substance use disorders and reducing harm by educating service providers on current evidence regarding substance use disorder and the family, including—

“(i) behavioral health providers, including such providers focused specifically on family and couples therapy in the context of substance use disorder;

“(ii) primary care providers;

“(iii) providers of foster care services or support services for grandparents, guardians, and other extended family impacted by substance use disorder; and

“(iv) other family support services that connect to community resources for individuals with substance use disorders, including non-clinical community services;

“(B) reduce stigma associated with families that include an individual with a substance use disorder by improving knowledge about substance use disorder and its treatment, providing compassionate support, and dispelling myths that perpetuate such stigma;

1           “(C) conduct outreach on issues relating to  
 2           substance use disorders and family support,  
 3           which may include education, training, and re-  
 4           sources with respect to—

5                   “(i) building a resilience- and  
 6                   strengths-based approach to prevention of,  
 7                   and living with, substance use disorder in  
 8                   the family;

9                   “(ii) identifying the signs of substance  
 10                  use disorder;

11                  “(iii) adopting an approach that mini-  
 12                  mizes harm to all family members; and

13                  “(iv) families that include an indi-  
 14                  vidual with a substance use disorder, in-  
 15                  cluding with respect to—

16                   “(I) navigating the treatment  
 17                   and recovery systems;

18                   “(II) paying for substance use  
 19                   disorder treatment;

20                   “(III) education about substance  
 21                   use disorder; and

22                   “(IV) avoiding predatory treat-  
 23                   ment programs; and

24                  “(D) connect families to evidence-informed  
 25                  peer support programs.

1       “(e) DATA REPORTING AND PROGRAM OVER-  
 2 SIGHT.—With respect to a grant awarded under sub-  
 3 section (a), not later than 90 days after the end of the  
 4 first year of the grant period, and annually thereafter for  
 5 the duration of the grant period, the entity shall submit  
 6 data, as appropriate and to the extent practicable, to the  
 7 Secretary regarding—

8               “(1) the programs and activities funded by the  
 9 grant;

10              “(2) health outcomes of the population of indi-  
 11 viduals with a substance use disorder who received  
 12 services through programs supported by the grant,  
 13 as evaluated by an independent program evaluator  
 14 through the use of outcomes measures, as deter-  
 15 mined by the Secretary; and

16              “(3) any other information that the secretary  
 17 may require for the purpose of ensuring that the  
 18 grant recipient is complying with all the require-  
 19 ments of the grant.

20       “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
 21 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
 22 \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.”.

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