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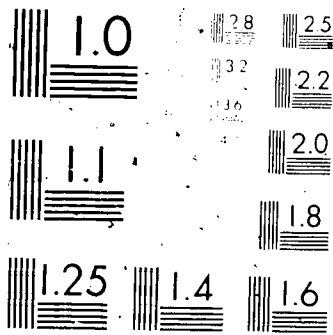
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ABSTRACT

This House of Representatives Bill specifies some of the conditions and needs that gave rise to legislation for school-age mothers: the increasing incidence of adolescent pregnancies; the disruption caused to families and educations of such pregnancies; the high risk status of infants born under such circumstances; and the lack of adequate helping agencies and resources for adolescent unwed mothers. The Bill outlines procedures to provide comprehensive services for school-age girls and their offspring. It provides for state grants, outlines the procedures state governments must follow in order to be eligible for such grants, and delineates the services state agencies must provide. Among the service provisions are: one responsible agency, confidentiality assurances, comprehensive health care, family planning services, comprehensive counseling services, and appropriate monitoring agencies for child abuse and neglect.

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94TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 15414

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 2, 1976

Mr. NOLAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Com-  
mittee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

## A BILL

To enact the National School-Age Mother and Child Health  
Act of 1976.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3 That this Act may be cited as the "National School-Age  
4 Mother and Child Health Act of 1976".

### FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

5  
6 SEC. 2. (a) The Congress finds that—

7 (1) pregnancy among adolescents is a serious and  
8 growing problem;

9 (2) such pregnancies are a leading cause of school  
10 dropout, familial disruption and increasing dependency  
11 upon welfare and other community resources;

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1 (3) abortion is an unacceptable way to deal with  
2 such pregnancies;

3 (4) the children of adolescent mothers are often  
4 at high risk during their early years, leading to increased  
5 infant morbidity and mortality; and

6 (5) health, education, counseling, and other social  
7 services to assist adolescent mothers who choose to bear  
8 their children are often inadequate, disorganized, and  
9 fragmented.

10 (b) The purpose of this Act is to—

11 (1) strengthen family life by encouraging the pro-  
12 vision and coordination of comprehensive health, edu-  
13 cation, psychological, and other social services to  
14 adolescent parents and their children (such as job and  
15 vocational training and placement and care for the in-  
16 fants and children of adolescent parents) thereby provid-  
17 ing a meaningful alternative to abortion;

18 (2) encourage coordination and improvement of  
19 existing services, as well as the provision of new services  
20 where necessary;

21 (3) encourage the protection of life;

22 (4) reduce the growing number of adolescent preg-  
23 nancies by encouraging family planning (including nat-  
24 ural family planning) and reduce the growing number

1 of school dropouts by encouraging adolescent parents to  
2 complete their education; and

3 (5) improve the health and parenting capabilities of  
4 adolescent parents, in order to maintain the integrity of  
5 families and to reduce illness and abuse the children now  
6 associated with adolescent parenthood.

7 SEC. 3, Title III of the Public Health Service Act (42  
8 U.S.C. 201) is amended by adding after section 319 the  
9 following new part:

10 "PART C—COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES FOR SCHOOL-AGE  
11 GIRLS, THEIR INFANTS AND CHILDREN

12 "FORMULA GRANTS TO STATES FOR COMPREHENSIVE  
13 SERVICES FOR SCHOOL-AGE GIRLS, THEIR INFANTS AND  
14 CHILDREN

15 "SEC. 320. (a) The Secretary is authorized and directed  
16 to make grants, from allotments made under subsection (b),  
17 to meet part of the costs to designated State agencies to  
18 assist in planning, establishing, maintaining, coordinating,  
19 and evaluating programs for comprehensive services for  
20 school-age girls, their infants and children in accordance with  
21 section 320A. No grant may be made to a designated State  
22 agency under this section unless such agency has submitted,  
23 and had approved by the Secretary, a State plan for a coordi-  
24 nated and comprehensive program in accordance with section  
25 320A.

1 " (b) The sums appropriated to carry out the provisions  
2 of the section shall be allotted to the States by the Secretary  
3 on the basis of the population, financial need, and number of  
4 live births to school-age girls per population in the calendar  
5 year 1973 of the respective States.

6 " (c) For the purposes of this section, the term 'State'  
7 includes the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American  
8 Samoa, the District of Columbia, and the Trust Territory of  
9 the Pacific Islands.

10 "STATE PLANS FOR COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES FOR SCHOOL-  
11 GIRLS, THEIR INFANTS AND CHILDREN

12 "SEC. 320A. In order to be approved for purposes of  
13 this subsection, a State plan for comprehensive services for  
14 school-age girls, their infants and children must—

15 " (a) designate, or provide for the establishment  
16 of, a designated State agency as the sole agency for  
17 administering or supervising the administration of the  
18 State's program under the plan;

19 " (b) contain satisfactory evidence that the desig-  
20 nated State agency will have authority to carry out such  
21 plan in conformity with this part;

22 ~~" (c) (1) provide for the establishment of a State~~  
23 ~~advisory council on comprehensive special services for~~  
24 ~~school-age girls, their infants and children, which shall~~

1 include representatives of State health, education, and  
2 social service agencies and other appropriate local agencies  
3 and nongovernmental organizations and groups. The coun-  
4 cil shall advise the designated State agency in carrying  
5 out its functions under the plan, to assure the coordi-  
6 nation of services provided by the health, education,  
7 social service, and voluntary agencies, and to approve  
8 the State plan prior to its submission to the Secretary;

9 “(2) in selecting membership for the categories of  
10 representation in this paragraph, emphasis shall be placed  
11 on choosing individuals from day care and child care  
12 services, nursing, law, ethics, social services, individuals  
13 with expertise in the physical and emotional develop-  
14 ment of infants and children, and parents who have  
15 worked in appropriate organizations in the community;

16 “(d) set forth policies and procedures for the ex-  
17 penditure of funds under the plan, which, in the judg-  
18 ment of the Secretary, are designed to assure effective  
19 continuing State planning, evaluation, and delivery of  
20 services (both public and private) for school-age girls,  
21 their infants and children;

22 “(e) provide for cooperative efforts among gov-  
23 ernmental or nongovernmental agencies, organizations,  
24 and groups concerned with special services for school-age



1 girls, their infants, and children, and for cooperative  
2 efforts between such agencies, organizations, and groups  
3 in the fields of health, education, and welfare;

4 " (f) provide such methods of administration (in-  
5 cluding methods relating to the establishment and main-  
6 tenance of personnel standards on a merit basis, except  
7 that the Secretary shall exercise no authority with re-  
8 spect to the selection, tenure of office, and compensation  
9 of any individual employed in accordance with such  
10 methods) as are found by the Secretary to be necessary  
11 for the proper and efficient operation of the plan;

12 " (g) provide that the designated State agency will  
13 make sure reports, in such form and containing such  
14 information as the Secretary may from time to time rea-  
15 sonably require, and will keep such records and afford  
16 such access thereto as the Secretary finds necessary to  
17 assure the correctness and verification of such reports;

18 " (h) provide that the designated State agency will  
19 from time to time, but not less often than annually, re-  
20 view its State plan approved under this subsection and  
21 submit to the Secretary appropriate modifications  
22 thereof;

23 " (i) define the extent of the problem, the services  
24 currently being provided, the deficiencies in the provi-  
25 sion of services, and steps planned to organize, coordi-

1       nate, and provide comprehensive statewide services di-  
2       rectly and through agreement with other agencies:

3       “(j) (1) set forth policies and procedures to assure  
4       that the names and any other identifying information of  
5       persons receiving services under these programs shall not  
6       be submitted to or collected by the Federal Government,  
7       State government, and by any individual or organization  
8       other than (A) the program actually delivering the  
9       services; and (B) third-party payers and in such cases  
10      not without the prior informed consent of the individual  
11      or the individual’s legal guardian;

12      “(2) set forth policies and procedures to assure that  
13      the names and any other identifying information of per-  
14      sons receiving services under these programs, which are  
15      disclosed to third-party payers, are kept strictly confi-  
16      dential and are not further disclosed;

17      “(k) include and provide for the origination, con-  
18      tinuation, extension, and improvement of the following  
19      services, but not limited to, directly or through coopera-  
20      tive agreements—

21              “(1) comprehensive health care to school-age  
22              girls associated with the continuation of pregnancy,  
23              including but not limited to—

24                      “(A) tests for pregnancy;

25                      “(B) screening and diagnosis and treat-

1 ment of all prenatal and postnatal conditions,  
 2 including nutritional deficiencies, for a period of  
 3 one year after birth; and

4 " (C) referrals when appropriate to other  
 5 agencies for treatments not covered under this  
 6 section;

7 " (2) comprehensive health care to infants and  
 8 children of school-age girls during infancy and pre-  
 9 school years, including but not limited to—

10 " (A) comprehensive health care, includ-  
 11 ing but not limited to, neonatal intensive care;

12 " (B) medical examinations;

13 " (C) diagnosis and screening of—

14 " (i) nutritional deficiencies,

15 " (ii) visual and hearing defects,

16 " (iii) mental retardation and learning  
 17 disorders,

18 " (iv) crippling and handicapping con-  
 19 ditions, and

20 " (v) catastrophic illness;

21 " (D) referrals when appropriate to other  
 22 agencies for services not covered under this  
 23 section;

24 " (3) health education;

1 " (4) community outreach and information  
2 services;

3 " (5) family planning services (including nat-  
4 ural family planning services and excluding abortion  
5 services) and counseling (except abortion referrals);

6 " (6) continuing education of mothers (includ-  
7 ing vocational training and assistance in locating  
8 employment);

9 " (7) counseling for the mother and father of  
10 the child and the appropriate families;

11 " (8) infant and child day care;

12 " (9) adoption and foster care services;

13 " (10) a coordinated program of social serv-  
14 ices, including educational, vocational, legal, ethical,  
15 social, counseling, and referral services (including  
16 adoption counseling) designated for school-age girls  
17 until the agency finds that the services are no longer  
18 necessary; and

19 " (11) appropriate services for infant and child  
20 abuse and neglect;

21 " (l) provide assurances that each and every pro-  
22 gram has made or will make and will continue to make  
23 every reasonable effort to collect appropriate reimburse-  
24 ment for its costs in providing health services to persons

1 who are entitled to insurance benefits under title XVIII  
 2 of the Social Security Act, to medical assistance under a  
 3 State plan approved under title XIX of such Act, or  
 4 to assistance for medical expenses under any other  
 5 public assistance program or private health insurance  
 6 program;

7 “(m) total evaluation of individual needs—medical,  
 8 nutritional, social, educational, and psychological with  
 9 management protocol; and

10 “(n) not provide for provision of (or payment  
 11 for) abortion services or referral to such services.

12 “CONFIDENTIALITY

13 “SEC. 320B. The names and other identifying informa-  
 14 tion of persons receiving services under these programs shall  
 15 not be submitted to or collected by the Federal Government,  
 16 State government, and by any individual or organization  
 17 other than (1) the program actually delivering the services,  
 18 and (2) third-party payers, and in such case not without  
 19 the prior informed consent of the individual or the indi-  
 20 vidual’s legal guardian.

21 “VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION

22 “SEC. 320C. The acceptance by any individual of family  
 23 planning services (including natural family planning serv-  
 24 ices) or family planning or population growth information  
 25 (including educational materials) provided through financial

1 assistance under this title (whether by grant or contract)  
 2 shall be voluntary and shall not be a prerequisite to eligibility  
 3 for or receipt of any other service or assistance from, or to  
 4 participation in, any other program of the entity or indi-  
 5 vidual that provided such service or information.

#### 6 "MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT

7 "SEC. 230D. Applications for grants under this part may  
 8 be approved by the Secretary only if the application contains  
 9 or is supported by reasonable assurances that the grants will  
 10 not result in any decrease in the level of State, local, and  
 11 other non-Federal funds for services for school-aged girls,  
 12 their infants and children, and training of persons to provide  
 13 such services which would (except for such grant) be avail-  
 14 able to the applicant, but that such grants will be used to  
 15 supplement and, to the extent practicable, to increase the  
 16 level of such funds.

#### 17 "AUTHORIZATION

18 "SEC. 320E. There are authorized to be appropriated to  
 19 carry out the purposes of sections 320 and 320A of the Act  
 20 \$30,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1978, and  
 21 for each of the next two succeeding fiscal years.

#### 22 "COORDINATION; REPORTS

23 "SEC. 320F. There is hereby established within the  
 24 Maternal and Child Health Service, hereinafter referred to as  
 25 'Service', of the Department of Health, Education, and

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1 Welfare an identifiable unit to administer, evaluate, and  
 2 coordinate the program established by this part. The Serv-  
 3 ice shall submit an annual report to the Secretary which  
 4 shall include, but not be limited to, suggested modifications  
 5 to increase and improve the program. The Service shall  
 6 submit to each designated State agency on at least an  
 7 annual basis reports on the status of all programs receiving  
 8 Federal funds under section 320 of this Act.

9 "DEFINITIONS

10 "SEC. 320G. For purposes of sections 320 and 320A the  
 11 term—

12 "(a) 'school-age girls' means any pregnant female  
 13 of primary and secondary school age without regard  
 14 to marital status; and

15 "(b) 'designated State agency' means a public or  
 16 private nonprofit entity which is designated by the  
 17 Governor of a State to carry out the purposes of sec-  
 18 tions 320A, 320B, 320C, and 320D of this Act."

19 SEC. 4. Parts C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, and K of Public  
 20 Health Service Act, as in effect the day before the date of  
 21 enactment of this Act, are redesignated as parts D, E, F,  
 22 G, H, I, J, K, and L, respectively.



94TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 15414

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## A BILL

To enact the National School-Age Mother and  
Child Health Act of 1976.

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By Mr. NIXON

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SEPTEMBER 2, 1976

Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign  
Commerce