



## Social Determinants Accelerator Act (S. 2986)

### SECTION BY SECTION

#### SECTION 1 – SHORT TITLE

- The Social Determinants Accelerator Act of 2019 (S. 2986)

#### SECTION 2 – SOCIAL DETERMINANTS ACCELERATOR COUNCIL

- Part A of title XI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 1139B, the following new section: “Section 1139C. Social Determinants Accelerator Council.”
  - **(a) Establishment** – This bill creates an interagency, intergovernmental technical advisory council, known as the Social Determinants Accelerator Interagency Council (the Council)
  - **(b) Membership** - The Council will include designees from federal agencies and up to six state, local and tribal health and human service agencies, public housing authorities, state and local government budget offices, state Medicaid agencies, or national consumer advocacy organizations. The Chair of the Council will be a representative from the Office of Management and Budget
  - **(c) Duties** - The Council will be responsible for (1) making recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) regarding the criteria for making awards; (2) identifying federal authorities and opportunities to improve coordination of funding and administration of federal programs; (3) providing targeted technical assistance to states; (4) providing an annual report to Congress; (5) developing and disseminating evaluation guidelines and standards that may be used to assess planned interventions and approaches; (6) seeking feedback on how to improve the Council’s technical assistance; and (7) coordinating with other relevant cross-agency initiatives.
  - **(d) Schedule** – The Council will convene within 60 days after enactment to develop a schedule and plan for carrying out this act.
  - **(e) Report to Congress** – The Council will submit an annual report to Congress on its activities.
  - **(f) Council Procedures** – The Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Comptroller General of the U.S. will organize and establish procedures for the Council.
  - **(g) Grants to State, Local, and Tribal Governments** – Up to twenty-five grants to state, local or tribal governments to develop Social Determinants Accelerator Plans will be awarded by the Secretary of HHS in consultation with the Council within six months of enactment.
    - **Applications for Grants** – Applications must include information related to the target population that would benefit from the Social Determinants Accelerator Plan, the objective or goals, the proposed interventions, and key stakeholders that will participate in developing the plan, among other details as determined by the Secretary.



- **Use of Grants** – Grants may be used to convene and coordinate with relevant government entities and stakeholders, to collaborate with the Council on developing a Social Determinants Accelerator Plan, and to prepare and submit a final Plan to the Council.
- **Social Determinants Accelerator Plans** – Social Determinants Accelerator Plans developed by state, local, and tribal governments must include information on the target population that would benefit, the proposed interventions or approaches and the intended objectives and outcome goals, a plan for accessing and linking data to enable coordinated benefits and services, the stakeholders involved in the planning process, and a proposed rigorous evaluation plan, among other information.
- **(h) Funding** - Authorizes \$20 million in funding, of which up to \$5 million may be used to fund the Council’s activities. The bill also sets aside up to 20 percent of the funding – with limited exceptions – to award grants to develop plans that will primarily serve rural populations.