

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To establish a program to assist States in establishing or enhancing community integration network infrastructure for health and social services.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SULLIVAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish a program to assist States in establishing or enhancing community integration network infrastructure for health and social services.

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 “Leveraging Integrated
5 Networks in Communities to Address Social Needs Act of
6 2020” or the “LINC To Address Social Needs Act of
7 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROGRAM TO SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OR EN-**
2 **HANCEMENT OF STATE COMMUNITY INTE-**
3 **GRATION NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE.**

4 (a) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall award
5 grants on a competitive basis to States to support such
6 States, through public-private partnerships, to establish
7 new or enhance existing community integration network
8 infrastructure through authorized activities under sub-
9 section (b).

10 (b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—A State shall use a
11 grant under this section to carry out activities and services
12 to establish new or enhance existing community integra-
13 tion network infrastructure, on a statewide basis through
14 direct network operations or collaborations among mul-
15 tiple associated entities, which may include such entities
16 that operate regionally. Such activities and services shall
17 include—

18 (1) establishing a new or enhancing an existing
19 technology platform that—

20 (A) enables the coordination of public and
21 private providers and payors of services for in-
22 dividuals in the State, including services such
23 as—

24 (i) nutritional assistance;
25 (ii) housing;

16 (C) ensures that—

17 (i) reasonable measures are taken to
18 promote connectivity among associated en-
19 tities; and

1 (3) providing technical assistance and sup-
2 porting associated entities in connecting and partici-
3 pating in the community integration network infra-
4 structure;

5 (4) planning for and implementing actions de-
6 signed to create sustainable funding models to sup-
7 port long-term access to community integration net-
8 work infrastructure;

9 (5) designing and implementing a financial
10 structure to make the community integration net-
11 work infrastructure financially self-sustaining not
12 later than 3 years after receiving funds under this
13 section; and

14 (6) evaluating the use of any funds provided
15 under this section, as described in subsection (d).

16 (c) AWARD OF GRANTS.—A grant under this Act
17 shall be awarded under such terms and conditions as the
18 Secretary shall prescribe.

19 (d) APPLICATION.—A State desiring a grant under
20 this section shall—

21 (1) enter into a public-private partnership
22 with—

23 (A) one or more private, nonprofit, or phil-
24 anthropic organizations; or

12 (B) a plan for the establishment or en-
13 hancement of a community integration network
14 infrastructure including—

15 (i) the planned governance structure
16 within the community integration network
17 infrastructure:

18 (ii) proposed associated entities and
19 services to be included in the community
20 integration network infrastructure; and

(E) a description of the objectives and outcome goals of developing the community integration network infrastructure, including—

14 (i) one or more health outcomes;
15 (ii) one or more other important social
16 outcomes:

19 (iv) how progress toward the outcomes
20 described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and
21 (C) will be measured through internal per-
22 formance metrics.

23 (e) SEPARATE TRIBAL INFRASTRUCTURE.—Nothing
24 in this section shall preclude Indian Tribes, Tribal organi-
25 zations, or urban Indian organizations from establishing

1 a community integration network infrastructure that is
2 separate from any other public-private partnership receiv-
3 ing funding under this section.

4 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
6 appropriated to carry out this section \$200,000,000
7 for fiscal year 2021.

8 (2) ADMINISTRATION.—Of the amounts appro-
9 priated pursuant to paragraph (1), up to \$5,000,000
10 may be used for administrative expenses.

11 (3) DURATION OF AVAILABILITY.—Amounts ap-
12 propriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall remain
13 available until the date that is 5 years after the date
14 of enactment of this Act.

15 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) ASSOCIATED ENTITIES.—The term “associ-
17 ated entities” means any—

18 (A) community-based organization that ac-
19 cepts referrals from health care organizations
20 and that provides services such as—

21 (i) nutritional assistance;

22 (ii) housing;

23 (iii) health care, including preventa-
24 tive health intervention, chronic disease
25 management, and behavioral health care;

1 referral management of services, with respect to
2 services such as—

- 3 (A) nutritional assistance;
- 4 (B) housing;
- 5 (C) health care, including preventative
6 health intervention, chronic disease manage-
7 ment, and behavioral health care;
- 8 (D) transportation;
- 9 (E) job training;
- 10 (F) child development or care;
- 11 (G) caregiving and respite care;
- 12 (H) disability assistance; and
- 13 (I) other similar services, as designated by
14 the State.

15 (3) INDIAN TRIBE AND TRIBAL ORGANIZA-
16 TION.—The terms “Indian Tribe” and “Tribal orga-
17 nization” have the meanings given to the terms ‘In-
18 dian tribe’ and ‘tribal organization’ in section 4 of
19 the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assist-
20 ance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

21 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” refers
22 to the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

23 (5) STATE.— The term “State” means a state,
24 territory, or the District of Columbia.

1 (6) URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATION.—The term
2 “‘urban Indian organization’” has the meaning
3 given to the term in section 4 of the Indian Health
4 Car Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603).

5 **SEC. 3. EVALUATION, REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**

6 (a) EVALUATION.—The Comptroller General of the

7 United States shall conduct an evaluation that—

8 (1) measures the overall impact of the commu-
9 nity integration network infrastructure established
10 or enhanced using funds received under section 2,
11 with respect to—

12 (A) changes in individual and population
13 health outcomes;

14 (B) changes in access to health care or so-
15 cial services;

16 (C) the degree of data sharing using the
17 community integration network infrastructure
18 established or enhanced using funds received
19 under section 2;

20 (D) the effectiveness of service coordina-
21 tion;

22 (E) the cost-effectiveness of the provision
23 of services;

24 (F) any results or anticipated results on
25 overall health and social services spending; and

1 (G) any other relevant factors; and

(2) describes how the funds received under section 2 were used.

4 (b) REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later
5 than 4 years after the date the first grant under this Act
6 is awarded, the Comptroller General of the United States
7 shall—

10 (B) make such report publicly available; and