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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize the use of Federal foreign assistance funds for comprehensive reproductive health care services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize the use of Federal foreign assistance funds for comprehensive reproductive health care 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 “Abortion is Health
5 Care Everywhere Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) Abortion is a critical component of sexual
2 and reproductive health care and should be acces-
3 sible and affordable for all people.

4 (2) All people have the right to make their own
5 choices about their sexual and reproductive health,
6 and to access quality and affordable sexual and re-
7 productive health care, including family planning
8 and abortion care. International agreements have
9 recognized reproductive rights for over 30 years.

10 (3) Studies have repeatedly demonstrated that
11 when people, including young women and adolescent
12 girls, gender nonconforming individuals, and
13 transgender men, are able to control their reproduc-
14 tive lives, there are enormous social and economic
15 benefits, not just for the individual and their family,
16 but for entire communities. Countries that prioritize
17 reproductive health rights, justice, and human rights
18 are more likely to have better overall health among
19 their population.

20 (4) Abortion is safe, but without accessible and
21 legal care, people risk their lives to end their preg-
22 nancies.

23 (5) At least 20,000 people in low- and middle-
24 income countries die every year as a result of com-
25 plications from unsafe abortions, which in a global

1 context refers to abortion care not delivered by a
2 trained provider or using a World Health Organiza-
3 tion-recommended method.

4 (5) 97 percent of unsafe abortions occur in de-
5 veloping countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin Amer-
6 ica. In low- and middle-income countries, the annual
7 cost of post-abortion care for all who need it would
8 be \$2,300,000,000. The majority of this cost is at-
9 tributed to treating complications from abortions
10 provided in unsafe conditions.

11 (6) Restricting abortion does not reduce either
12 the need for, or number of, abortions. Abortion rates
13 are similar in countries where it is highly restricted
14 by law and where it is broadly legal.

15 (7) As part of their commitment to prevent un-
16 safe abortions and preventable deaths and ensure all
17 people have access to comprehensive sexual and re-
18 productive health care and can exercise their right to
19 full control over their sexuality and reproduction, de-
20 veloping countries and donor governments must
21 work collaboratively to deploy funding, align policies,
22 and mobilize expertise to make safe abortion services
23 available to those seeking to terminate pregnancies.

24 (8) United States law restricting United States
25 foreign assistance funding from being used to pro-

1 vide safe abortion services has the effect of harming
2 people who seek to terminate their pregnancies in
3 several ways, including by blocking access to services
4 and erecting barriers to providers obtaining the
5 training and equipment needed to deliver care to
6 those in need.

7 (9) Since section 104(f)(1) of the Foreign As-
8 sistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b(f)(1)) (com-
9 monly referred to as the “Helms amendment”) was
10 enacted in 1973, dozens of governments across the
11 globe have liberalized abortion laws and policies.

12 (10) In 2019, in countries where the United
13 States supported family planning and reproductive
14 health care and in which abortion was legal on at
15 least some grounds, support for safe abortion could
16 have averted over 19,000,000 unsafe abortions and
17 17,000 maternal deaths each year.

18 (11) Access to family planning reduces abor-
19 tions by as many as 3,000,000 a year, including
20 2,000,000 unsafe abortions, as well as averting
21 13,000 maternal deaths on an annual basis.

22 (12) The *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Or-*
23 ganization (142 S. Ct. 2228 (2022)) decision went
24 against the global trend toward expanding access to
25 sexual and reproductive health and rights, including

1 abortion, and continues to negatively impact abor-
2 tion access across the United States and globally.
3 The decision has emboldened anti-abortion rights ac-
4 tors, increased abortion stigma, and created new
5 challenges for countries that have relied on the *Roe*
6 v. *Wade* (410 U.S. 113 (1973)) decision in the liber-
7 alization of their own laws.

8 (13) The Trump Administration has cut inter-
9 national family planning funding and global health
10 programs, reinstated and expanded the global gag
11 rule, and threatened to destroy contraceptives, which
12 will lead to more unintended pregnancies, unsafe
13 abortions, and maternal deaths.

14 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

15 It is the policy of the United States Government—

16 (1) to recognize that access to safe abortion is
17 a critical component of comprehensive maternal and
18 reproductive health care and should be included as
19 part of foreign assistance programs funded by the
20 United States Government;

21 (2) to make reproductive health care, including
22 family planning, and safe abortion widely available
23 and integrated with other types of health care; and

24 (3) to work to end unsafe abortion and promote
25 safe abortion services by providing funding and col-

1 laborating with affected governments and service
2 providers to provide training, commodities, equip-
3 ment, and access to safe abortion services.

4 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZING THE USE OF FEDERAL FOREIGN AS-**
5 **SISTANCE FUNDS FOR COMPREHENSIVE RE-**
6 **PRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES.**

7 Section 104 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
8 (22 U.S.C. 2151b) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (f)—

10 (A) by striking paragraph (1); and

11 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and

12 (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

13 (2) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-

14 section (h); and

15 (3) by inserting after subsection (f), as amend-

16 ed, the following:

17 “(g) USE OF FUNDS FOR COMPREHENSIVE REPRO-

18 DUCTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES.—Notwithstanding

19 any other provision of law, regulation, or policy funds

20 made available to carry out this part may be used to pro-

21 vide comprehensive reproductive health care services, in-

22 cluding abortion services, training, and equipment.”.