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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To authorize grants to eligible entities to pay for travel-related expenses and logistical support for individuals with respect to accessing abortion services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

A BILL

To authorize grants to eligible entities to pay for travel-related expenses and logistical support for individuals with respect to accessing abortion 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 “Reproductive Health
5 Travel Fund Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) On June 24, 2022, in its decision in *Dobbs*
2 *v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* (142 S. Ct.
3 2228 (2022)) (referred to in this section as the
4 “Dobbs decision”), the Supreme Court overturned
5 *Roe v. Wade* (410 U.S. 113 (1973)), eliminating the
6 constitutional right to abortion and reversing dec-
7 ades of precedent recognizing the constitutional
8 right to an abortion.

9 (2) While abortion has never been accessible to
10 all even under the framework of *Roe v. Wade*, the
11 *Dobbs* decision has decimated access for millions of
12 people in the United States.

13 (3) As expected, the impacts of the *Dobbs* deci-
14 sion have fallen the hardest on people who already
15 face barriers to health care access due to systemic
16 barriers and discrimination, particularly Black peo-
17 ple, Indigenous people, and other people of color,
18 people with disabilities, people in rural areas, young
19 people, people with documentation barriers,
20 LGBTQ+ people, people who are parenting, people
21 with complex medical needs who require hospital-
22 based care, and people having difficulty making ends
23 meet.

24 (4) Abortion bans prevent many people from ac-
25 cessing the care they want and need.

1 (5) People have always had abortions and al-
2 ways will, even in the face of legal, financial, and
3 logistical barriers, or criminalization. However, since
4 the *Dobbs* decision, many are being forced to travel
5 hundreds of miles away from their homes and com-
6 munities, taking extra time off of work, forgoing
7 days of pay, piecing together extended childcare, and
8 finding ways to cover significant travel expenses.
9 Others are being forced to carry their pregnancies to
10 term.

11 (6) Just months after the *Dobbs* decision, one-
12 third of women of reproductive age in the United
13 States faced excessive travel times for abortion. For
14 residents of States that had banned abortion, travel
15 times increased by more than 4 hours on average.
16 Black women faced the greatest impact, with 40 per-
17 cent needing to drive at least 1 hour for abortion
18 care after the decision, versus 15 percent before the
19 decision.

20 (7) Abortion funds and practical support funds
21 (referred to in this section as “abortion funds” or
22 “funds”) are community-based organizations that
23 support people in overcoming financial and logistical
24 barriers to abortion care. In 2024, abortion funds

1 provided over \$50,000,000 for abortion funding and
2 over \$13,000,000 for logistical support.

3 (8) Funds work together to remove financial
4 and logistical barriers to abortion access and have
5 been doing this work for decades. Funds help cover
6 transportation, food, lodging, childcare, translation
7 support, doula services, and other supports abortion
8 seekers and their families need.

9 (9) Many funds are led by people who have had
10 abortions themselves, including a growing base of
11 Black and Brown leaders who have themselves faced
12 abortion obstacles and understand the complex cir-
13 cumstances individuals may face.

14 (10) Abortion funds have a history of being
15 under-resourced and rely mostly on volunteer time
16 and energy to support communities.

17 (11) Abortion and practical support funds hold
18 some of the closest ties to people who are having
19 abortions and have the first-hand experience, up-to-
20 date and on-the-ground knowledge, and the regional
21 and national connections needed to support abortion
22 seekers financially, emotionally, or logistically.

23 (12) More and more States are seeking to ban
24 abortion or enact extreme restrictions, significantly
25 limiting the circumstances in which abortions are

1 available. Furthermore, people have been prevented
2 from seeking care because of the confusion created
3 by new and changing abortion restrictions, misin-
4 formation, disinformation, and muddled judicial de-
5 cisions, all of which have contributed to a chilling ef-
6 fect for people seeking legal care out of State. Peo-
7 ple seeking abortions often do not have a full under-
8 standing shifting legal landscape, including abortion
9 laws, in their State. People calling abortion funds
10 for support often ask if they are doing something il-
11 legal by traveling to get care of the abortion laws in
12 their State and people calling abortion funds for
13 support often ask if they are doing something illegal
14 by traveling to get care. Abortion funds serve to
15 mitigate this confusion and directly connect people
16 to accurate information.

17 (13) Following the *Dobbs* decision, the demand
18 for abortions has surged, with requests increasing by
19 56 percent from 2023 to 2024. During the same pe-
20 riod, the number of abortion seekers supported by
21 abortion funds grew by 33 percent. Despite immense
22 efforts from abortion funds from 2022 to 2024, the
23 number of callers who received support decreased
24 from 70 percent to 54 percent. This is due to esca-
25 lating costs of abortion care and practical support,

1 as well as inadequate funding to meet the post-
2 *Dobbs* demand

3 (14) Clinics in States where abortion is legal
4 and more accessible continue to receive an influx of
5 people seeking abortions.

6 (15) When people are not able to access an
7 abortion when they need it, they may be forced to
8 seek an abortion later into their pregnancy. This in-
9 creases costs exponentially. Barriers to abortion care
10 after the *Dobbs* decision have led to an increasing
11 complexity in the cases that abortion funds are man-
12 aging. People who are forced to cross State lines for
13 abortion care may need increased financial support
14 for coordinating and paying for higher logistical bar-
15 riers (such as transportation, lodging, meals,
16 childcare, medication) to access the abortion care
17 they want, need, and deserve. For many, the in-
18 creased financial burden will push abortion care
19 completely out of reach without financial and
20 logistical assistance for appointment costs and trav-
21 el.

1 **SEC. 3. GRANTS TO PAY FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES AND**
2 **LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS AC-**
3 **CESSING ABORTION SERVICES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury
5 (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) may award
6 grants to eligible entities to pay for travel-related expenses
7 and logistical support for individuals with respect to ac-
8 cessing abortion services.

9 (b) TIMING.—Beginning not later than 30 days after
10 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall so-
11 licit applications for grants under this section.

12 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—

13 (1) PERMISSIBLE USES.—An eligible entity re-
14 ceiving a grant under this section shall use the grant
15 for travel-related expenses and logistical support for
16 individuals with respect to accessing abortion serv-
17 ices, which may include any of the following ex-
18 penses and support:

19 (A) Round trip travel to the location where
20 the abortion services are provided.

21 (B) Lodging.

22 (C) Meals.

23 (D) Childcare.

24 (E) Translation services.

25 (F) Doula care.

1 (G) Patient education and information
2 services.

3 (H) Lost wages.

4 (2) ORGANIZATIONAL COSTS.—An eligible enti-
5 ty receiving a grant under this section may use up
6 to, but not more than, 15 percent of the grant funds
7 to cover organizational costs such as—

8 (A) community outreach efforts;

9 (B) physical infrastructure construction
10 and maintenance;

11 (C) website development and maintenance;

12 and

13 (D) increasing staff capacity and training.

14 (3) IMPERMISSIBLE USES.—An eligible entity
15 receiving a grant under this section shall not use the
16 grant for costs of an abortion procedure.

17 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To seek a grant under this sec-
18 tion, an eligible entity shall submit to the Secretary an
19 application at such time, in such manner, and containing
20 such information as the Secretary determines appropriate.

21 (e) PRIORITY.—In selecting the recipients of grants
22 under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligi-
23 ble entities that—

1 (1) serve individuals who live in a jurisdiction
2 that has banned or severely restricted access to
3 abortion;

4 (2) serve individuals who travel to a jurisdiction
5 other than the one where they live to be provided
6 abortion services; or

7 (3) have a program in operation, or submit as
8 part of the application required under subsection (d)
9 a plan to establish and operate a program, to help
10 individuals access abortion services.

11 (f) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
13 after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually
14 thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a
15 report on the program under this section.

16 (2) CONFIDENTIALITY.—The reports under
17 paragraph (1) shall not include any individually
18 identifiable information.

19 (g) PREEMPTION.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of this sec-
21 tion shall supersede any provision of State, Tribal,
22 territorial, or local law that would have the effect of
23 prohibiting any use of funds provided for under this
24 section.

1 (2) PROHIBITION ON FEDERAL COOPERATION
2 IN ANTIABORTION PROCEEDINGS.—No Federal agen-
3 cy or official engaged in carrying out the program
4 under this section may cooperate with any State,
5 Tribal, territorial, or local antiabortion proceeding,
6 including any antiabortion investigation, prosecution,
7 or civil lawsuit, relating to the activities carried out
8 under such program or any individual or entity re-
9 ceiving or providing services under such program.

10 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 (1) The term “eligible entity”—

12 (A) means a nonprofit organization, or a
13 community-based organization, that assists in-
14 dividuals seeking an abortion through pro-
15 grams, services, or activities that are unbiased
16 and medically and factually accurate; and

17 (B) excludes any entity that discourages
18 individuals from seeking an abortion.

19 (2) The term “nonprofit organization” means
20 an organization that—

21 (A) is described in subsection (c)(3) of sec-
22 tion 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
23 and

24 (B) is, under subsection (a) of such sec-
25 tion, exempt from taxation.

1 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
2 out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated
3 \$350,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030.