

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2677

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for behavioral and mental health outreach and education strategies to reduce stigma associated with mental health among the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander population.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2017

Ms. JUDY CHU of California (for herself and Mrs. NAPOLITANO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for behavioral and mental health outreach and education strategies to reduce stigma associated with mental health among the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander population.

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 “Stop Mental Health
5 Stigma in Our Communities Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC**
2 **ISLANDER BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL**
3 **HEALTH OUTREACH AND EDUCATION STRAT-**
4 **EGIES.**

5 Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act
6 (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.) is amended by adding at the
7 end the following new section:

8 **“SEC. 544. BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH OUTREACH**
9 **AND EDUCATION STRATEGIES.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through
11 the Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental
12 Health Services Administration, shall, in coordination with
13 advocacy and behavioral and mental health organizations
14 serving populations of Asian American, Native Hawaiian,
15 and Pacific Islander individuals or communities, develop
16 and implement an outreach and education strategy to pro-
17 mote behavioral and mental health and reduce stigma as-
18 sociated with mental health conditions and substance
19 abuse among the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and
20 Pacific Islander populations. Such strategy shall—

21 “(1) be designed to—

22 “(A) meet the diverse cultural and lan-
23 guage needs of the various Asian American,
24 Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander popu-
25 lations; and

1 “(B) ensure such strategies are develop-
2 mentally and age appropriate;

3 “(2) increase awareness of symptoms of mental
4 illnesses common among such populations, taking
5 into account differences within subgroups, such as
6 gender, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, or
7 ethnicity, of such populations;

8 “(3) provide information on evidence-based, cul-
9 turally and linguistically appropriate and adapted
10 interventions and treatments;

11 “(4) ensure full participation of, and engage,
12 both consumers and community members in the de-
13 velopment and implementation of materials; and

14 “(5) seek to broaden the perspective among
15 both individuals in these communities and stake-
16 holders serving these communities to use a com-
17 prehensive public health approach to promoting be-
18 havioral health that addresses a holistic view of
19 health by focusing on the intersection between be-
20 havioral and physical health.

21 “(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
23 \$300,000 for fiscal year 2018.”.

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