116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION  

H. R. 

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to certain public health laboratories to assist such laboratories in meeting the cost of acquiring high-throughput diagnostic equipment, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BUCSHON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ____________________________

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to certain public health laboratories to assist such laboratories in meeting the cost of acquiring high-throughput diagnostic equipment, and for other purposes.

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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

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tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

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SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

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This Act may be cited as the “Diagnostic Testing for

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Public Health Labs Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES TO ACQUIRE HIGH-THROUGHPUT DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT.

Section 2821 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–31) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c);

(2) in subsection (c), as so redesignated—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C), respectively, and moving the margin of each such redesignated subparagraph 2 ems to the right; and

(B) by striking “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subsection (a)”;

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

“(b) GRANTS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES TO ACQUIRE HIGH-THROUGHPUT DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT.—

“(1) GRANTS.—The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall award grants to eligible entities to
assist such entities in purchasing high-throughput
diagnostic equipment and related supplies.

“(2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant
under paragraph (1), an entity shall—

“(A) be—

“(i) a State, local, or Tribal public
health laboratory;

“(ii) a laboratory within a public
health laboratory network coordinated or
managed by the Centers for Disease Con-
trol and Prevention;

“(iii) a laboratory not described in
clause (i) or (ii) that the Secretary deter-
dines (at the Secretary’s discretion) pro-
vides population-based testing for the pre-
vention and control of infectious, commu-
nicable, genetic, or chronic diseases; or

“(iv) a consortium of 2 or more enti-
ties described in any of clauses (i) through
(iii); and

“(B) submit to the Secretary an applica-
tion at such time, in such manner, and con-
taining such information as the Secretary may
reasonably require.
“(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts received through a grant under this subsection shall be used to purchase high-throughput diagnostic equipment and such materials as are necessary to administer, store, and process applicable tests, including diagnostic and serological tests.

“(4) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—The amount of a grant under paragraph (1) may not exceed $2,000,000, except in the case of eligible entity described in paragraph (2)(A)(iv).

“(5) HIGH-THROUGHPUT DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘high-throughput diagnostic equipment’ means legally-marketed equipment and supplies capable of performing multichannel analysis for use in clinical laboratory diagnostic testing.”; and

(4) by adding at the end of subsection (c), as redesignated, the following new paragraph:

“(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of carrying out subsection (b), there is authorized to be appropriated $250,000,000 for fiscal year 2020, to remain available until expended.

“(B) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of the amount made available to carry out subsection...
(b) for any fiscal year, the Secretary may not use more than 5 percent of such amount for the expenses of administering subsection (b).”.