

**AMENDMENT TO**  
**RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-51**  
**OFFERED BY MS. MENG OF NEW YORK**

At the end of title I, add the following new subtitle:

1                   **Subtitle G—Mental Health**  
2                   **Workforce and Language Access**

3   **SEC. 155. PILOT PROGRAM TO INCREASE LANGUAGE AC-**  
4                   **CESS AT FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH**  
5                   **CENTERS.**

6           (a) LOAN REPAYMENTS TO QUALIFIED HEALTH  
7 CARE PROFESSIONALS.—

8                   (1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of increas-  
9           ing language access to mental health services, the  
10           Secretary shall carry out a demonstration project  
11           under which—

12                           (A) the Secretary matches qualified mental  
13                           health professionals with Federally qualified  
14                           health centers;

15                           (B) the qualified mental health profes-  
16                           sionals each agree to a period of obligated serv-  
17                           ice at a Federally qualified health center with  
18                           which they are so matched; and

1           (C) the Secretary agrees to make loan re-  
2           payments under section 338B of the Public  
3           Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 2541–1) on be-  
4           half of such qualified mental health profes-  
5           sionals.

6           (2) PREFERENCE.—In matching qualified men-  
7           tal health professionals with Federally qualified  
8           health centers under paragraph (1), the Secretary  
9           shall give preference to placement at Federally quali-  
10          fied health centers at which at least 20 percent of  
11          the patients are best served in a language other than  
12          English, as indicated by data in the Uniform Data  
13          System (or any successor database).

14          (3) ENHANCED COMPENSATION.—For each  
15          year of obligated service that a qualified mental  
16          health professional contracts to serve under para-  
17          graph (1) at a Federally qualified health center at  
18          which at least 20 percent of the patients are best  
19          served in a language other than English, as indi-  
20          cated by data in the Uniform Data System (or any  
21          successor database), the Secretary may pay the  
22          higher of—

23                  (A) \$10,000 above the maximum amount  
24                  otherwise applicable under section

1           338B(g)(2)(A) of the Public Health Service Act  
2           (42 U.S.C. 2541–1(g)(2)(A)); or

3           (B) if the qualified health professional is  
4           fluent in a language other than English that is  
5           needed by such Federally qualified health cen-  
6           ter, \$15,000 above such maximum amount.

7           (4) ACHIEVING FLUENCY.—A qualified mental  
8           health professional subject to the pay amount speci-  
9           fied in paragraph (3)(A) at the beginning of the pro-  
10          fessional’s period of obligated service may transition  
11          to being subject to the higher pay amount specified  
12          in paragraph (3)(B) if the professional is determined  
13          by the Federally qualified health center at which the  
14          professional serves to have achieved fluency in a lan-  
15          guage other than English needed by that health cen-  
16          ter.

17          (b) GRANTS TO HEALTH CENTERS.—

18           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry  
19           out a demonstration program consisting of awarding  
20           grants under section 330 of the Public Health Serv-  
21           ice Act (42 U.S.C. 254b) to Federally qualified  
22           health centers to recruit, hire, employ, and supervise  
23           qualified mental health professionals who are fluent  
24           in a language other than English to provide mental  
25           health services in such other language.

1           (2) PREFERENCE.—In selecting grant recipi-  
2           ents under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give  
3           preference to Federally qualified health centers at  
4           which at least 20 percent of the patients are best  
5           served in a language other than English, as indi-  
6           cated by data in the Uniform Data System (or any  
7           successor database).

8           (3) MARKETING.—A Federally qualified health  
9           center receiving a grant under this subsection shall  
10          use a portion of the grant funds to disseminate in-  
11          formation about, and otherwise market, the mental  
12          health services supported through the grant.

13          (c) REPORTS.—

14                (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 6 months  
15                after the first loan repayment awards have been  
16                made under subsection (a) and the first grants have  
17                been awarded under subsection (b), the Secretary  
18                shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of  
19                the House of Representatives and the Senate, and to  
20                other appropriate congressional committees, a report  
21                on the implementation of the programs under this  
22                section. Such report shall include—

23                        (A) the languages spoken by the qualified  
24                        mental health professionals receiving loan re-  
25                        payments pursuant to subsection (a) or re-

1           cruited pursuant to a grant under subsection  
2           (b);

3           (B) the Federally qualified health centers  
4           at which such professionals were placed;

5           (C) how many Federally qualified health  
6           centers received funding through the grant pro-  
7           gram under subsection (b);

8           (D) an analysis, conducted in consultation  
9           with the Federally qualified health centers re-  
10          ceiving grants under section (b), of the effec-  
11          tiveness of such grants at increasing language  
12          access to mental health services; and

13          (E) best practices, developed in consulta-  
14          tion with Federally qualified health centers re-  
15          ceiving grants under section (b), for the recruit-  
16          ment and retention of mental health profes-  
17          sionals at Federally qualified health centers.

18          (2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than the end of  
19          fiscal year 2026, the Secretary shall submit to the  
20          Committees on Appropriations of the House of Rep-  
21          resentatives and the Senate, and to other appro-  
22          priate congressional committees, a final report on  
23          the implementation of the programs under this sec-  
24          tion, including the information, analysis, and best

1 practices listed in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of  
2 paragraph (1).

3 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) The term “Federally qualified health cen-  
5 ter” has the meaning given the term in section  
6 1861(aa) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
7 1395x(aa)).

8 (2) The term “qualified mental health profes-  
9 sional” means—

10 (A) physicians, allopathic physicians, osteo-  
11 pathic physicians, nurse practitioners, and phy-  
12 sician assistants with a specialty in mental  
13 health and psychiatry;

14 (B) health service psychologists;

15 (C) licensed clinical social workers;

16 (D) psychiatric nurse specialists;

17 (E) marriage and family therapists;

18 (F) licensed professional counselors;

19 (G) substance use disorder counselors;

20 (H) occupational therapists; and

21 (I) other individuals who—

22 (i) have not yet been licensed or cer-  
23 tified to serve as a professional listed in  
24 any of subparagraphs (A) through (H);  
25 and

1                   (ii) will serve at the Federally quali-  
2                   fied health center under the supervision of  
3                   a licensed individual or certified profes-  
4                   sional so listed.

5                   (3) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
6                   of Health and Human Services.

7                   (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

8                   (1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out this section,  
9                   there is authorized to be appropriated \$75,000,000  
10                  for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

11                  (2) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Amounts  
12                  made available to carry out this section shall be in  
13                  addition to amounts otherwise available to provide  
14                  mental health services at Federally qualified health  
15                  centers pursuant to sections 338B and 330 of the  
16                  Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254I–1, 254b).

