

The Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act of 2025

In the 119th Congress, Representatives Pramila Jayapal (D-WA-07) and Alma Adams (D-NC-12) in the US House and Senators Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Mazie Hirono (D-HI) in the US Senate are leading the Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act (REAHYA), legislation that supports the health of young people by providing them with comprehensive sex education and increasing access to sexual and reproductive health care and related services. The Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act will ensure that youth have access to the resources and health services necessary to make informed decisions about their reproductive and sexual health and future.

Young people have a right to comprehensive and affirming sex education and reproductive health services.

- ✓ REAHYA promotes programs and services that are in compliance with current anti-discrimination policies that should extend to sex education.
- ✓ REAHYA also provides 5-year competitive grants for organizations, schools (including colleges and universities), sex educator training and delivery of health services to marginalized young people, including young BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color), LGBTQ+ youth, and youth with disabilities.

REAHYA expands quality sex education and provides young people with sexual health services that:

- ✓ Promote and uphold the rights of young people to information and services that empower them to make decisions about their bodies, health, sexuality, families, and communities in all areas of life.
- ✓ Are evidence-informed, comprehensive in scope, confidential, equitable, accessible, medically accurate and complete, age and developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and resilience-oriented.
- ✓ Provide information about the prevention, treatment, and care of pregnancy, sexually-transmitted infections, and interpersonal violence.
- ✓ Provide information about the importance of consent as a basis for healthy relationships and for autonomy in healthcare.
- ✓ Provide information on gender roles and gender discrimination.
- ✓ Provide information on the historical and current condition in which education and health systems, policies, programs, services, and practices have uniquely and adversely impacted Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, Asian American and Pacific Islander, and other communities of color.
- ✓ Redress inequities in the delivery of sex education and sexual health services to marginalized young people.
- ✓ Promote gender equity and inclusivity of young people with varying gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations.

REAHYA ensures NO federal funds under this act may be used for programs or services that:

- Withhold health-promoting or life-saving information about sexuality-related topics.
- Are medically inaccurate or incomplete.
- Promote gender or racial stereotypes or are unresponsive to gender or racial inequities.
- Fail to address the needs of sexually active young people.
- Fail to address the needs of pregnant or parenting young people.
- Fail to address the needs of survivors of interpersonal violence.
- Fail to address the needs of young people of all physical, developmental, or mental abilities.
- Fail to be inclusive of individuals with varying gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations. Are inconsistent with the ethical imperatives of medicine and public health.