

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7591

To amend the Public Health Service Act to include Middle Easterners and North Africans in the statutory definition of a “racial and ethnic minority group”, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2022

Ms. TLAIB (for herself, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. ESHOO, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to include Middle Easterners and North Africans in the statutory definition of a “racial and ethnic minority group”, 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 “Health Equity and  
5 Middle Eastern and North African Community Inclusion  
6 Act of 2022” or the “Health Equity and MENA Commu-  
7 nity Inclusion Act of 2022”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF MIDDLE EASTERNERS AND NORTH**  
2 **AFRICANS IN DEFINITION OF RACIAL AND**  
3 **ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1707(g)(1) of the Public  
5 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–6(g)(1)) is amended  
6 by striking “and Hispanics” and inserting “Hispanics,  
7 and Middle Easterners and North Africans”.

8 (b) REFERENCES.—Except as otherwise specified,  
9 any reference to the term “racial and ethnic minority  
10 group” in any Federal regulation, guidance, order, or doc-  
11 ument for establishment or implementation of any feder-  
12 ally conducted or supported health care or public health  
13 program, activity, or survey shall be treated as having the  
14 definition given to such term in section 1707(g)(1) of the  
15 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–6(g)(1)).

16 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the Con-  
17 gress that subsections (a) and (b) should be implemented  
18 so as to ensure that—

19 (1) the definition of a “racial and ethnic minor-  
20 ity group” in section 1707(g)(1) of the Public  
21 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–6(g)(1)), as  
22 amended by subsection (a), is applied in the imple-  
23 mentation and execution of Federal programs and  
24 activities that reference such definition;

1           (2) no racial and ethnic minority group served  
2       by such programs and activities is negatively im-  
3       pacted by subsection (a) or (b); and

4           (3) the level of funding authorized for such pro-  
5       grams and activities in connection with communities  
6       of Middle Easterners and North Africans is com-  
7       mensurate with the level of funding authorized for  
8       such programs and activities in connection with  
9       other racial and ethnic minority groups, taking into  
10      consideration the size and needs of the respective  
11      populations.

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