

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To authorize contributions to the United Nations Population Fund, and
for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. COONS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. WELCH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To authorize contributions to the United Nations Population
Fund, 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 “Support UNFPA
5 Funding Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) The United Nations Population Fund (re-
2 ferred to in this Act as “UNFPA”) is the United
3 Nations sexual and reproductive health agency.

4 (2) UNFPA was founded with the bipartisan
5 leadership of the United States and advances United
6 States strategic interests to promote peace and sta-
7 bility overseas by working in more than 150 coun-
8 tries to end preventable maternal deaths, the unmet
9 need for contraception, and gender-based violence
10 and other harmful practices, including female genital
11 mutilation and child marriage.

12 (3) UNFPA is the United Nations agency with
13 the mandate to provide reproductive and maternal
14 care in humanitarian crises that are critical to the
15 lives of women and girls by providing family plan-
16 ning, maternal health care, midwife training, and
17 interventions to halt child marriage and the practice
18 of female genital mutilation.

19 (4) UNFPA is present in more than three times
20 as many countries as United States bilateral family
21 planning and reproductive health programs.

22 (5) The Multilateral Organization Performance
23 Assessment Network (commonly known as
24 “MOPAN”), of which the United States is a mem-
25 ber, conducted a thorough evaluation of UNFPA’s

1 organizational performance, effectiveness, and re-
2 sults. The evaluation, released in January 2025,
3 concluded that UNFPA is an effective organization
4 that is successfully delivering on its mandate.
5 UNFPA has been an excellent steward and partner
6 to the United States, ensuring that all United States
7 financial contributions are kept in a segregated ac-
8 count and in compliance with United States legal re-
9 strictions. UNFPA does not fund abortion or pro-
10 mote abortion as a method of family planning.
11 UNFPA opposes all forms of coercion and involun-
12 tary sterilization.

13 (6) All UNFPA programming is guided by
14 principles adopted by 179 governments, including
15 the United States, at the 1994 International Con-
16 ference for Population and Development. The prin-
17 ciples include that “reproductive health care pro-
18 grams should provide the widest range of services
19 without any form of coercion. All couples and indi-
20 viduals have the basic right to decide freely and re-
21 sponsibly the number and spacing of their children
22 and to have the information, education and means to
23 do so.”.

24 (7) UNFPA extends and supports the United
25 States investment in global safety, stability and se-

1 security by reaching women and girls in politically un-
2 stable regions. UNFPA also plays a pivotal role in
3 meeting protection and health care needs in coun-
4 tries experiencing complex humanitarian emer-
5 gencies.

6 (8) UNFPA ensures access to health care and
7 essential supplies for women and families affected by
8 humanitarian crises, including those arising from
9 natural disasters, armed conflicts, and other emer-
10 gencies.

11 (9) During 2024, UNFPA assisted millions of
12 women, girls, and adolescents with a range of life-
13 saving services, including—

14 (A) 10,000,000 people who were reached
15 with sexual and reproductive health services
16 across 49 countries;

17 (B) 3,600,000 people who were reached
18 with gender-based violence prevention, risk miti-
19 gation, and response services in 53 countries;

20 (C) more than 825,000 women who were
21 assisted with delivering babies safely in 37
22 countries; and

23 (D) 3,500 health facilities that were sup-
24 ported in 55 countries, including conflict-af-
25 fected countries where UNFPA is able to reach

1 up to three times as many communities as
2 United States services providers.

3 (10) The United States' termination of funding
4 for UNFPA programs restricts UNFPA's critical
5 work, endangering lives across the world. Without
6 such funding, UNFPA cannot continue to address
7 the needs of—

8 (A) more than 700 women and adolescent
9 girls who die each day from preventable causes
10 related to pregnancy and childbirth, most of
11 which occur in developing countries and more
12 than half of which occur in fragile and humani-
13 tarian settings;

14 (B) more than 226,000,000 women of re-
15 productive age in low- and middle-income coun-
16 tries who want to avoid pregnancy and are not
17 using a modern contraceptive method;

18 (C) an estimated 1 in 3 women who experi-
19 ence gender-based violence;

20 (D) an estimated 230,000,000 women who
21 have survived some form of female genital muti-
22 lation; and

23 (E) an estimated 12,000,000 girls who are
24 forcibly married each year before reaching 18
25 years of age.

1 (11) The halting of United States funding in
2 2025 has already led to—

3 (A) the closure of 21 health centers in Af-
4 ghanistan, with 500 more health centers poten-
5 tially facing closure;

6 (B) 200,000 women in Sudan who have
7 been left without essential reproductive health
8 services;

9 (C) the loss of lifesaving services for
10 1,500,000 women and girls in Yemen and the
11 closing of 44 health facilities, 24 women-friend-
12 ly spaces, and 14 mobile protection teams to
13 reach the most vulnerable women in Yemen;
14 and

15 (D) the discontinuation of hospital support
16 in Bangladesh, including staff and medicines
17 leading to limited life-saving emergency obstet-
18 ric and newborn care impacting 11,000 women
19 and girls in Bangladesh.

20 (12) Voluntary family planning is central to
21 global health, equality, and women's empowerment,
22 and is a key factor in poverty reduction, enabling in-
23 dividuals and families to make informed decisions
24 about their reproductive health and economic well-
25 being.

1 (13) Providing access to family planning—

2 (A) reduces unintended pregnancies and
3 unsafe abortions; and

4 (B) improves the health outcomes of
5 women.

6 (14) Greater access to family planning has the
7 potential—

8 (A) to prevent up to 30 percent of the
9 295,000 maternal deaths that occur annually;
10 and

11 (B) to save the lives of 1,400,000 children
12 who are younger than 5 years of age.

13 (15) In March 2025, thousands of Americans,
14 representing all 50 States, expressed their support
15 for the lifesaving work of UNFPA through a series
16 of letters.

17 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

18 It is the policy of the United States that—

19 (1) improving the health and status of women
20 around the world is a strategic priority for United
21 States foreign policy and development efforts that
22 contributes to global stability and economic growth;

23 (2) the ability of individuals to freely determine
24 whether, when, and with whom to have children, and
25 to attain the highest standard of health, supports

1 both human rights and sustainable development, fos-
2 tering more stable and prosperous societies;

3 (3) providing access to voluntary contraception
4 and reproductive health care is a cost-effective way
5 to enhance women's economic participation, reduce
6 poverty, and strengthen communities, advancing
7 United States strategic interests;

8 (4) UNFPA is a key partner in advancing glob-
9 al health, stability, and economic development by im-
10 proving the health and status of women and expand-
11 ing access to voluntary family planning and repro-
12 ductive health care;

13 (5) UNFPA plays a vital role in ensuring that
14 family planning and reproductive health programs
15 are voluntary, rights-based, and aligned with inter-
16 national standards, helping to prevent instability and
17 improve health outcomes in vulnerable regions;

18 (6) financial support for UNFPA aligns with
19 United States interests by promoting global health,
20 reducing maternal mortality, and fostering develop-
21 ment in ways that contribute to more stable and
22 self-sufficient nations; and

23 (7) the United States Government remains
24 committed to providing targeted, cost-effective fund-

1 ing to support the efforts described in paragraphs
2 (1) through (6).

3 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 (a) FINDING.—Congress finds that the United Na-
5 tions Population Fund does not support nor participate
6 in the management of any program or activity of coercive
7 abortion or involuntary sterilization in any country.

8 (b) FUNDING AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any
9 other provision of law, the United Nations Population
10 Fund is authorized to receive funding, except with regards
11 to programs in China.

12 (c) FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEARS 2026 AND 2027.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
14 appropriated to the President, in addition to funds
15 otherwise made available, \$74,000,000 for each of
16 fiscal years 2026 and 2027 to support the core func-
17 tions and programs of the United Nations Popu-
18 lation Fund, which may include efforts—

19 (A) to end preventable maternal deaths;

20 (B) to end the unmet need for contracep-
21 tives and promoting a voluntary approach to
22 family planning;

23 (C) to end gender-based violence;

1 (D) to end other harmful practices, such
2 as child marriage and female genital mutilation;
3 and

4 (E) in support of United States national
5 security and humanitarian efforts by operating
6 in areas where medical infrastructure or serv-
7 ices have been destroyed or limited by natural
8 disasters, armed conflict, or other humanitarian
9 emergencies.

10 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pur-
11 suant to paragraph (1) shall remain available until
12 expended.