

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to decreasing racial and ethnic
 3 disparities in mental health and substance abuse
 4 services; amending s. 381.7355, F.S.; revising project
 5 requirements and review criteria for the Closing the
 6 Gap grant program to include mental health and
 7 substance abuse services; providing an effective date.
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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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11 **Section 1. Paragraphs (b) through (i) of subsection (3) of**
 12 **section 381.7355, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as**
 13 **paragraphs (c) through (j), respectively, a new paragraph (b) is**
 14 **added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of**
 15 **that section is amended, to read:**

16 381.7355 Project requirements; review criteria.—

17 (2) A proposal must include each of the following
 18 elements:

19 (a) The purpose and objectives of the proposal, including
 20 identification of the particular racial or ethnic disparity the
 21 project will address. The proposal must address one or more of
 22 the following priority areas:

23 1. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in maternal
 24 and infant mortality rates.

25 2. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in severe

26 maternal morbidity rates and other maternal health outcomes.

27 3. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
28 and mortality rates relating to cancer.

29 4. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
30 and mortality rates relating to HIV/AIDS.

31 5. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
32 and mortality rates relating to cardiovascular disease.

33 6. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
34 and mortality rates relating to diabetes.

35 7. Increasing adult and child immunization rates in
36 certain racial and ethnic populations.

37 8. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in oral health
38 care.

39 9. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
40 and mortality rates relating to sickle cell disease.

41 10. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
42 and mortality rates relating to Lupus.

43 11. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
44 and mortality rates relating to Alzheimer's disease and
45 dementia.

46 12. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
47 and mortality rates relating to mental health and substance
48 abuse disorders.

49 ~~13.12.~~ Improving neighborhood social determinants of
50 health, such as transportation, safety, and food access, as

51 outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's
52 "Tools for Putting Social Determinants of Health into Action."

53 (3) Priority shall be given to proposals that:

54 (b) Represent areas with the greatest documented racial
55 and ethnic disparities in the provision of mental health and
56 substance abuse services.

57 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.