



Support the Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act

The Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act (REAHYA) is important federal legislation that would provide young people with sex education and the sexual health services they need to make informed decisions about their bodies and lives. This bill is led by Representatives Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Alma Adams (D-NC) in the U.S. House and Senators Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Mazie Hirono (D-HI) in the U.S. Senate.

We know that currently there is a gap between the sex education and access to sexual health services that young people should be receiving based on expert standards and the sex education and services they actually receive. We also recognize that all of our systems, including healthcare and education systems have historically been touched by white supremacy and that our current systems were built off the oppression of marginalized communities. In order to work towards a world where reproductive justice is a reality, we must ensure that sex education and linkages to care are comprehensive, anti-racist, and accessible to ALL young people.

The Real Education & Access for Healthy Youth Act authorizes the Secretary of Health to award grants to eligible entities to provide sex education and access to youth-friendly sexual health services to young people in public schools, communities, and institutions of higher education that:

- Recognizes young people's right to sex education and sexual health services that are evidence-informed, comprehensive in scope, confidential, equitable, accessible, medically accurate and complete, age and developmentally appropriate, resilience-oriented, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive.
- Is evidence-informed and incorporates characteristics of effective programs.

- Imparts information young people need to know about important topics such as:
 - Puberty and adolescent development;
 - Sexual and reproductive anatomy and physiology;
 - Sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression;
 - Contraception, pregnancy, and reproduction;
 - HIV and other STIs;
 - Consent and healthy relationships; interpersonal violence.
- Promotes gender equity and is inclusive of young people with varying gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations.
- Promotes safe and healthy relationships.
- Promotes racial equity and is responsive to the needs of young people who are Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color.

Support the Real Education & Access for Healthy Youth Act by joining on to the organizational endorsement letter to **support the bill [here](#)**.