To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to children’s hospitals for increasing their capacity to provide pediatric behavioral health services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on __________________________

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to children’s hospitals for increasing their capacity to provide pediatric behavioral health services, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Children’s Mental Health Infrastructure Act of 2021”.

(Original Signature of Member)
SEC. 2. INCREASING FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN PEDIATRIC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Part D of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b et seq.) is amended by inserting after subpart V the following new subpart:

“Subpart VI—Increasing Investment in Pediatric Behavioral Health Services

“SEC. 340A–1. GRANTS TO CHILDREN’S HOSPITALS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, shall make grants to eligible entities for the purpose of improving their ability to provide pediatric behavioral health services, including by—

“(1) constructing or modernizing sites of care for pediatric behavioral health services;

“(2) expanding capacity to provide pediatric behavioral health services, including enhancements to digital infrastructure, telehealth capabilities, or other improvements to patient care infrastructure; and

“(3) supporting the reallocation of existing resources to accommodate pediatric behavioral health patients, including by—

“(A) converting or adding a sufficient number of beds to establish or increase the hospital’s inventory of licensed and operational,
short-term psychiatric and substance use inpatient beds; and

“(B) ensuring compliance with safety standards.

“(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to seek a grant under this section, an entity shall be a hospital that predominately treats individuals under the age of 21, including any hospital that receives funds under section 340E.

“(c) FUNDING.—To carry out this section, there is hereby appropriated, out of amounts in the Treasury not otherwise obligated, $2,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.”.