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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To define reproductive coercion as a form of domestic violence, to provide Federal judges the authority to intervene in certain cases of domestic violence, and to create a private right of action for victims of domestic violence, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To define reproductive coercion as a form of domestic violence, to provide Federal judges the authority to intervene in certain cases of domestic violence, and to create a private right of action for victims of domestic violence, 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 “Reproductive Coercion
5 Prevention and Protection Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) According to the National Coalition Against
4 Domestic Violence and the National Domestic Vio-
5 lence Hotline, between 10,000,000 to 12,000,000
6 women and men become victims of domestic violence
7 each year.

8 (2) A person can experience domestic violence
9 though either intimate partner violence, such as with
10 a current or former dating partner, or non-intimate
11 partner violence, such as those with whom the per-
12 son has a familial relationship.

13 (3) Intimate partner violence has affected both
14 women and men across the United States. For ex-
15 ample, roughly 20 people every minute are physically
16 abused by an intimate partner in the United States.
17 In particular, women between the ages of 18 to 34
18 experience the highest rates of intimate partner vio-
19 lence of any group, with over one third of murdered
20 women in 2021 were killed in relation to intimate
21 partner violence.

22 (4) Reproductive coercion is a form of intimate
23 violence by an intimate partner, dating partner, do-
24 mestic partner, or spouse against a person that in-
25 volves behaviors to exert control over a person's re-
26 productive autonomy.

1 (5) Reproductive coercion affects people across
2 a wide array of socioeconomic and demographic
3 backgrounds.

4 (6) Common forms of reproductive coercion in-
5 clude sabotaging contraceptive methods and coercing
6 or forcing a person to either become pregnant or ter-
7 minate a pregnancy.

8 (7) Studies indicate that eight percent to six-
9 teen percent of adult women in the United States
10 have experienced some form of reproductive coercion.
11 For example, one-quarter of abuse survivors report
12 that their abusive partners have forced them to be-
13 come pregnant. Additionally, over two-thirds of
14 women in physically abusive relationships also expe-
15 rience sexual assault by the intimate partner, and
16 those women are at heightened risk of homicide.

17 (8) Homicide is a leading cause of mortality for
18 pregnant and postpartum women in the United
19 States.

20 (9) Persons experiencing reproductive coercion
21 are traveling across State lines to neighboring states
22 to access reproductive health care, including when
23 they lack access to reproductive health care pro-
24 viders.

1 (10) Due to State-level reproductive health care
2 laws, some private companies have adjusted cor-
3 porate policies to provide, among other provisions,
4 travel reimbursements for employees who need to ac-
5 cess out-of-State reproductive health care.

6 (11) Many health insurance plans and medical
7 providers commonly offer mail-order delivery of birth
8 control, ensuring timely access to medication without
9 the need for in-person visits. Concerningly, persons
10 experiencing reproductive coercion have reported in-
11 stances where an intimate partner sabotaged or de-
12 stroyed their mail-order birth control.

13 (12) Health care insurance markets may cover
14 or operate across multiple States and may be im-
15 pacted by different State regulations concerning re-
16 productive health care and services.

17 **SEC. 3. REPRODUCTIVE COERCION.**

18 (a) DEFINITION.— Title IV of the Violent Crime
19 Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (34 U.S. Code
20 12291 et seq.) is amended—

21 (1) in section 40002—

22 (A) in paragraph (12), by inserting the
23 phrase “, including reproductive coercion” after
24 the phrase “coercive behavior”.

25 (B) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(53) REPRODUCTIVE COERCION.—The term
2 ‘reproductive coercion’—

3 “(A) means control over the reproductive
4 autonomy of another through sexual assault,
5 force, threat of force, or intimidation; and

6 “(B) includes—

7 “(i) pressuring or coercing another to
8 become pregnant or to terminate a preg-
9 nancy;

10 “(ii) deliberately or physically imped-
11 ing, manipulating, or sabotaging contra-
12 ception use or access to reproductive
13 health information; or

14 “(iii) using coercive or manipulative
15 tactics to control, or attempt to control, a
16 pregnancy outcome either by the continu-
17 ation of a pregnancy or the termination of
18 a pregnancy.”; and

19 (2) by adding after section 40221 the following:

20 **“SEC. 40222. CIVIL ACTION FOR REPRODUCTIVE COERCION**
21 **AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

22 “(a) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—An individual al-
23 leging that a covered defendant, in the circumstances de-
24 scribed under subsection (b), engaged in domestic violence
25 may bring a civil action against such covered defendant

1 in a court of competent jurisdiction for damages under
2 subsection (c).

3 “(b) CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED.—For the pur-
4 poses of subsection (a), the circumstances described in this
5 subsection are that—

6 “(1) the covered defendant or victim traveled in
7 interstate or foreign commerce, or traveled using
8 means, channel, or facility, or instrumentality of
9 interstate or foreign commerce, in furtherance of the
10 conduct described in subsection (a);

11 “(2) the covered defendant used a means, chan-
12 nel, facility, or instrumentality of foreign commerce
13 in furtherance of the conduct described in subsection
14 (a);

15 “(3) any payment of any kind was made, di-
16 rectly or indirectly, in furtherance of the conduct de-
17 scribed in subsection (a) using any means, channel,
18 facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign
19 commerce or in or affecting interstate or foreign
20 commerce;

21 “(4) the covered defendant transmitted in inter-
22 state or foreign commerce any communication in
23 furtherance of the conduct described in subsection
24 (a) using any means, channel, facility, or instrumen-
25 tality of interstate or foreign commerce or in or af-

1 fecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means
2 or in any manner, including by computer, mail, wire,
3 or electromagnetic transmission;

4 “(5) any instrument, item, substance, or other
5 object that has traveled in interstate or foreign com-
6 merce was used to perform the conduct described in
7 subsection (a);

8 “(6) the conduct described in subsection (a) oc-
9 curred within the special maritime and territorial ju-
10 risdiction of the United States, or any territory or
11 possession of the United States; or

12 “(7) the conduct described in subsection (a)
13 otherwise occurred in or affected interstate or for-
14 eign commerce.

15 “(c) DAMAGES.—In a civil action brought under sub-
16 section (a), the court may award—

17 “(1) actual damages;

18 “(2) punitive damages; and

19 “(3) any other relief the court determines ap-
20 propriate, including injunctive relief.

21 “(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
22 shall be construed to—

23 “(1) modify, limit, or supersede the ability of a
24 State court to grant or take away custody of chil-

1 dren, property, or pets shared between the parties to
2 the case;

3 “(2) modify, limit, or supersede the jurisdiction
4 of a State court;

5 “(3) modify, limit, or supersede a State defini-
6 tion of domestic violence or reproductive coercion for
7 the purpose of State law or any remedy available
8 under State law; or

9 “(4) limit the ability for an Article III court to
10 remand an entire case or portion of a case to a State
11 court based on the case’s jurisdiction where appro-
12 priate.

13 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

14 “(1) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—The term ‘domes-
15 tic violence’ means any violation of the law of the ju-
16 risdiction where the conduct occurred or the victim
17 resides, by a covered defendant, including—

18 “(A) the use or attempted use of physical
19 abuse or sexual abuse;

20 “(B) a single instance or pattern of repro-
21 ductive coercion; and

22 “(C) any coercive behavior committed to
23 gain or maintain power and control over a vic-
24 tim, including verbal, psychological, economic,
25 or technological abuse.

1 “(2) COVERED DEFENDANT.—The term ‘cov-
2 ered defendant’ means, an individual, who with re-
3 spect to a victim,—

4 “(A) is the spouse, intimate partner, dat-
5 ing partner, or domestic partner or a previous
6 spouse, intimate partner, dating partner, or do-
7 mestic partner;

8 “(B) is a person similarly situated to a
9 spouse or previous spouse;

10 “(C) is cohabitating, or has cohabitated,
11 with the victim;

12 “(D) shares a child in common with the
13 victim; or

14 “(E) is a non-intimate partner with a fa-
15 milial relationship, including a grandparent,
16 aunt or uncle, parent, brother, sister, or in-
17 law.”.