

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2357

To provide for improvements in the consistency of data collection, reporting, and assessment in connection with the suicide prevention efforts of the Department of Defense.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 20, 2014

Ms. MURKOWSKI introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To provide for improvements in the consistency of data collection, reporting, and assessment in connection with the suicide prevention efforts of the Department of Defense.

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 “Department of Defense
5 Suicide Tracking Act of 2014”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT OF CONSISTENCY IN COLLECTION,**
2 **REPORTING, AND ASSESSMENT OF DATA IN**
3 **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SUICIDE PREVEN-**
4 **TION EFFORTS.**

5 (a) POLICY FOR STANDARD SUICIDE DATA COLLEC-
6 TION, REPORTING, AND ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary of
7 Defense shall prescribe a policy for the development of a
8 standard method for collecting, reporting, and assessing
9 suicide data and suicide-attempt data involving members
10 of the Armed Forces, including reserve components there-
11 of, and their dependents in order to improve the consist-
12 ency and comprehensiveness of—

13 (1) the suicide prevention policy developed pur-
14 suant to section 582 of the National Defense Au-
15 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law
16 112–239; 10 U.S.C. 1071 note); and

17 (2) the suicide prevention and resilience pro-
18 gram for the National Guard and Reserves estab-
19 lished pursuant to section 10219 of title 10, United
20 States Code.

21 (b) SUBMITTAL OF POLICY AND CONGRESSIONAL
22 BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the
23 enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit the pol-
24 icy developed under subsection (a) to the Committees on
25 Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Represent-
26 atives. At the request of the committees, the Secretary

1 also shall brief the committees on the policy and the imple-
2 mentation status of a standardized suicide data collection,
3 reporting, and assessment method pursuant to the policy.

4 (c) CONSULTATION AND IMPLEMENTATION.—In the
5 case of the suicide prevention and resilience program for
6 the National Guard and Reserves referred to in subsection
7 (a)(2)—

8 (1) the Secretary shall develop the policy re-
9 quired by subsection (a) in consultation with the
10 Chief of the National Guard Bureau; and

11 (2) the adjutants general of the States, the
12 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Co-
13 lumbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands shall imple-
14 ment the policy within 180 days after the date of the
15 submittal of the policy under subsection (b).

16 (d) DEPENDENT DEFINED.—In this section, the
17 term “dependent”, with respect to a member of the Armed
18 Forces, means a person described in section 1072(2) of
19 title 10, United States Code, except that, in the case of
20 a parent or parent-in-law of the member, the income re-
21 quirements of subparagraph (E) of such section do not
22 apply.

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