

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2359

To require a report on military health care referral policies.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 18, 2023

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

A BILL

To require a report on military health care referral policies.

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 “Servicemember Mental
5 Health Support Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON MILITARY MENTAL HEALTH CARE RE-**
7 **FERRAL POLICIES.**

8 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
9 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense
10 shall submit to the congressional defense committees a re-
11 port—

1 (1) detailing the mental health care referral
2 policies of the Armed Forces; and

3 (2) the impact of removing primary care refer-
4 ral requirements for outpatient mental health care
5 on—

6 (A) military readiness;

7 (B) the uptake of outpatient mental health
8 care services by members of the Armed Forces;
9 and

10 (C) suicide prevention.

11 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The report required by
12 subsection (a) shall include recommendations and legisla-
13 tive proposals—

14 (1) to improve resources and access for out-
15 patient mental health care services by members of
16 the Armed Forces;

17 (2) to encourage the uptake of such services by
18 such members; and

19 (3) to maintain military readiness.

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