

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2554

To require the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to conduct research on mass violence.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

Mr. ISAKSON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To require the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to conduct research on mass violence.

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 “Expanding Research
5 on Mass Violence Prevention Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MASS VIOLENCE RESEARCH.**

7 Part J of title III of the Public Health Service Act
8 (42 U.S.C. 280b et seq.) is amended by inserting after
9 section 393D the following:

1 **“SEC. 393E. MASS VIOLENCE RESEARCH.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through
3 the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
4 vention, shall engage in activities to address mass violence.
5 Such activities shall include—

6 “(1) pilot projects in States participating in the
7 National Violent Death Reporting System that focus
8 on improving the collection, completeness, and shar-
9 ing of information;

10 “(2) research on the nature of mass violence
11 and factors that contribute to mass violence, includ-
12 ing psychological and sociological factors;

13 “(3) research on methods and instruments for
14 identifying and predicting perpetrators of mass vio-
15 lence;

16 “(4) research on methods of intervention with
17 respect to, and prevention of, mass violence;

18 “(5) the development and dissemination of
19 standardized assessment tools for mass violence risk;
20 and

21 “(6) research into copycat and contagion phe-
22 nomena with respect to mass violence.

23 “(b) MASS VIOLENCE DEFINED.—For purposes of
24 this section, the term ‘mass violence’ means a physical as-
25 sault carried out with implements (which may include
26 knives, clubs, motor vehicles, firearms, or explosives) re-

1 sulting in injury or death to three or more victims, not
2 including the perpetrator. Such term does not include
3 identifiably gang-related, drug-related, or organized crime-
4 related incidents.

5 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
6 carry out this section, there are authorized to be appro-
7 priated \$75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through
8 2024.

9 “(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—No activity con-
10 ducted under this section shall be construed as advocating
11 or promoting gun control within the meaning of section
12 210 of division B of Public Law 115–245.”.

○