

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2606

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants for training health professionals to treat opioid addiction and other substance use disorders through using technology-enabled models, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 22, 2018

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. UDALL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants for training health professionals to treat opioid addiction and other substance use disorders through using technology-enabled models, 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 “Opioid ECHO Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO TRAIN HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO**
2 **TREAT OPIOID ADDICTION.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Health and
4 Human Services, in coordination with the Administrator
5 of the Health Resources and Services Administration and
6 the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance
7 Use, shall award grants on a competitive basis to eligible
8 entities for the purpose of training health professionals to
9 treat opioid addiction and other substance use disorders,
10 including by providing medication-assisted treatment,
11 through the use of technology-enabled models.

12 (b) **DURATION.**—Each grant awarded under this sec-
13 tion shall be for a period of 3 years.

14 (c) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this section:

15 (1) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term “eligible enti-
16 ty” means a nonprofit organization, an academic in-
17 stitution, a State, a Federally qualified health center
18 as defined in section 1861(aa) of the Social Security
19 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(aa)), or other entity deter-
20 mined appropriate by the Secretary of Health and
21 Human Services.

22 (2) **TECHNOLOGY-ENABLED MODEL.**—The term
23 “technology-enabled model” means a technology-en-
24 abled collaborative learning and capacity building
25 model, as defined in section 2 of the Expanding Ca-

1 pacity for Health Outcomes Act (Public Law 114–
2 270; 130 Stat. 1395).

3 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
4 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section,
5 \$10,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2018 through
6 2020.

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