

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 4093

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment or operation of a center to be known as the Emergency Mental Health and Substance Use Training and Technical Assistance Center.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 29, 2020

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

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## A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment or operation of a center to be known as the Emergency Mental Health and Substance Use Training and Technical Assistance Center.

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 “Emergency Support  
5 for Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health Services  
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE**  
2 **USE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**  
3 **CENTER.**

4 Subpart 3 of part B of title V of the Public Health  
5 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–31 et seq.) is amended by  
6 inserting after section 520A (42 U.S.C. 290bb–32) the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 **“SEC. 520B. EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH AND SUB-**  
9 **STANCE USE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL AS-**  
10 **SISTANCE CENTER.**

11 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting  
12 through the Assistant Secretary, shall establish or operate  
13 a center to be known as the Emergency Mental Health  
14 and Substance Use Training and Technical Assistance  
15 Center (referred to in this section as the ‘Center’) to pro-  
16 vide technical assistance and support—

17 “(1) to public or nonprofit entities seeking to  
18 establish or expand access to mental health and sub-  
19 stance use prevention, treatment, and recovery sup-  
20 port services, and increase awareness of such serv-  
21 ices; and

22 “(2) to public health professionals, health care  
23 professionals and support staff, essential workers (as  
24 defined by a State, Tribe, locality, or territory), and  
25 members of the public to address the trauma, stress,

1 and mental health needs associated with an emer-  
2 gency period.

3 “(b) ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT.—The assistance  
4 and support provided under subsection (a) shall include  
5 assistance and support with respect to—

6 “(1) training on identifying signs of trauma,  
7 stress, and mental health needs;

8 “(2) providing accessible resources to assist in-  
9 dividuals and families experiencing trauma, stress,  
10 or other mental health needs during and after an  
11 emergency period;

12 “(3) providing resources for substance use dis-  
13 order prevention, treatment, and recovery designed  
14 to assist individuals and families during and after an  
15 emergency period;

16 “(4) the provision of language access services,  
17 including translation services, interpretation, or  
18 other such services for individuals with limited  
19 English speaking proficiency or individuals with dis-  
20 abilities; and

21 “(5) evaluation and improvement, as necessary,  
22 of the effectiveness of such services provided by pub-  
23 lic or nonprofit entities.

24 “(c) BEST PRACTICES.—The Center shall periodi-  
25 cally issue best practices for use by organizations seeking

1 to provide mental health services or substance use disorder  
2 prevention, treatment, or recovery services.

3 “(d) EMERGENCY PERIOD.—In this section, the term  
4 ‘emergency period’ has the meaning given such term in  
5 section 1135(g)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act.

6 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
7 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
8 \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 and 2021.”.

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