

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4358

To amend the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary to establish a grant program under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to address substance use disorders among older adults, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 16, 2024

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary to establish a grant program under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to address substance use disorders among older adults, 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 “Preventing and Treat-
5 ing Substance Use Disorders Among Older Adults Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT AND**
2 **EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR OLDER**
3 **ADULTS.**

4 Subpart 1 of part B of title V of the Public Health
5 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb et seq.) is amended by add-
6 ing at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 514C. SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT AND**
8 **EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR OLDER**
9 **ADULTS.**

10 “(a) **DEFINITION OF OLDER ADULT.**—In this sec-
11 tion, the term ‘older adult’ means an individual aged 60
12 or older.

13 “(b) **AUTHORITY TO AWARD GRANTS.**—The Sec-
14 retary shall award grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-
15 ments to public and private nonprofit entities, Indian
16 Tribes or Tribal organizations (as such terms are defined
17 in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
18 cation Assistance Act), or other health facilities or pro-
19 grams operated by or in accordance with a contract or
20 grant with the Indian Health Service, for the purposes
21 of—

22 “(1) providing early identification and services
23 to meet the needs of older adults who are at risk of
24 substance use disorders;

25 “(2) providing substance use disorder treatment
26 and prevention services for older adults, including

1 older adults with co-occurring mental illness and
2 substance use disorders;

3 “(3) linking older adults to resources, either in
4 the community or within long-term care settings
5 where they reside, to support independent lives; and

6 “(4) providing integrated care and comprehen-
7 sive care coordination for substance use disorders
8 and other health conditions.

9 “(c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants, contracts, or
10 cooperative agreements under subsection (b), the Sec-
11 retary shall give priority to applicants who propose to—

12 “(1) apply evidence-informed and cost-effective
13 methods;

14 “(2) improve data collection on the scope of
15 substance use among older adults, the scope of avail-
16 ability and utilization of treatment and prevention
17 services, and the scope of integrated care;

18 “(3) coordinate and collect data on the provi-
19 sion of services with other social service agencies in
20 the community, including congregate care, substance
21 use, and mental health agencies;

22 “(4) provide a continuum of integrated treat-
23 ment services, including case management and pri-
24 mary care services, for older adults with substance
25 use disorders, including older adults with co-occur-

1 ring mental illness and substance use disorders, and
2 their families and caregivers;

3 “(5) provide treatment that is person-centered,
4 culturally appropriate, and age-sensitive;

5 “(6) involve and work with peers and families
6 and caregivers of older adults receiving services; and

7 “(7) provide continuing care services for older
8 adults and their families following the completion of
9 a treatment episode.

10 “(d) DURATION OF GRANTS.—The Secretary shall
11 award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements under
12 subsection (b) for periods not to exceed 5 fiscal years.

13 “(e) APPLICATION.—An entity desiring a grant, con-
14 tract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (b) shall
15 submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in
16 such manner, and accompanied by such information as the
17 Secretary may reasonably require.

18 “(f) EVALUATION.—An entity that receives a grant,
19 contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (b)
20 shall submit, in the application for such grant, contract,
21 or cooperative agreement, a plan for the evaluation of any
22 project undertaken with funds provided under this section.
23 Such entity shall provide the Secretary with periodic eval-
24 uations of the progress of such project and such evaluation

1 at the completion of such project as the Secretary deter-
 2 mines to be appropriate.

3 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
 4 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
 5 \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029.”.

6 **SEC. 3. EVIDENCE-BASED DRUGS AND ALCOHOL TREAT-**
 7 **MENT AND INTERVENTIONS DEMONSTRA-**
 8 **TION.**

9 Subpart 1 of part B of title V of the Public Health
 10 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb et seq.) (as amended by sec-
 11 tion 2) is amended by adding at the end the following:

12 **“SEC. 514D. EVIDENCE-BASED DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**
 13 **TREATMENT AND INTERVENTIONS DEM-**
 14 **ONSTRATION.**

15 “(a) GRANTS TO EXPAND ACCESS.—

16 “(1) AUTHORITY TO AWARD GRANTS.—The
 17 Secretary shall award grants, contracts, or coopera-
 18 tive agreements to State substance use disorder
 19 agencies, units of local government, United States
 20 territories, and Indian Tribes and Tribal organiza-
 21 tions (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-De-
 22 termination and Education Assistance Act) that
 23 have a high rate of, or have had a rapid increase in,
 24 the misuse of alcohol or prescription or illicit drugs,
 25 including opioids, in order to permit such entities to

1 expand activities, including an expansion in the
2 availability of evidence-based medications for sub-
3 stance use disorder treatment and other clinically
4 appropriate services with respect to the treatment of
5 substance use disorders in the specific geographical
6 areas of such entities where there is a high rate of,
7 or rapid increase in, the misuse of alcohol or pre-
8 scription or illicit drugs, including opioids, or spe-
9 cific geographical areas where there is a high rate of
10 unmet need for treatment, such as in rural areas
11 and among communities of color.

12 “(2) NATURE OF ACTIVITIES.—Funds awarded
13 under paragraph (1) shall be used for activities that
14 are based on reliable scientific evidence of efficacy in
15 the treatment of substance use disorders.

16 “(b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a grant, con-
17 tract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (a), an
18 entity shall submit an application to the Secretary at such
19 time, in such manner, and accompanied by such informa-
20 tion as the Secretary may reasonably require.

21 “(c) EVALUATION.—An entity that receives a grant,
22 contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (a)
23 shall submit, in the application for such grant, contract,
24 or agreement a plan for the evaluation of any project un-
25 dertaken with funds provided under this section. Such en-

1 tity shall provide the Secretary with periodic evaluations
2 of the progress of such project and an evaluation at the
3 completion of such project as the Secretary determines to
4 be appropriate.

5 “(d) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—In awarding
6 grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements under this
7 section, the Secretary shall ensure that not less than 15
8 percent of funds are awarded to eligible entities that are
9 not located in metropolitan statistical areas (as defined by
10 the Office of Management and Budget). The Secretary
11 shall take into account the unique needs of rural commu-
12 nities, including communities with an incidence of individ-
13 uals with substance use disorder that is above the national
14 average and communities with a shortage of prevention
15 and treatment services.

16 “(e) ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES.—In administering
17 grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements under sub-
18 section (a), the Secretary shall—

19 “(1) evaluate the activities supported under
20 such subsection;

21 “(2) disseminate information, as appropriate,
22 derived from evaluations as the Secretary considers
23 appropriate;

24 “(3) provide States, Indian Tribes and Tribal
25 organizations, and providers with technical assist-

1 ance in connection with the provision of treatment of
2 substance use disorder; and

3 “(4) fund only those applications that specifi-
4 cally support recovery services as a critical compo-
5 nent of the program involved.

6 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
7 carry out this section, there are authorized to be appro-
8 priated \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through
9 2029.”.

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