

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5249

To direct the NIH to intensify and coordinate fundamental, translational, and clinical research with respect to the understanding of pain, the discovery and development of therapies for chronic pain, and the development of alternatives to opioids for effective pain treatments.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 16, 2016

Mrs. CAPPS (for herself, Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina, Mr. MCKINLEY, and Ms. MATSUI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the NIH to intensify and coordinate fundamental, translational, and clinical research with respect to the understanding of pain, the discovery and development of therapies for chronic pain, and the development of alternatives to opioids for effective pain treatments.

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 “Safe Treatments and
5 Opportunities to Prevent Pain Act” or the “STOP Pain
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENHANCING BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH ON**
2 **PAIN TO DISCOVER THERAPIES, INCLUDING**
3 **ALTERNATIVES TO OPIOIDS, FOR EFFECTIVE**
4 **PAIN MANAGEMENT.**

5 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director of the National In-
6 stitutes of Health (referred to in this section as the
7 “NIH”) may intensify and coordinate fundamental,
8 translational, and clinical research of the NIH with re-
9 spect to—

10 (1) the understanding of pain;

11 (2) the discovery and development of therapies
12 for chronic pain; and

13 (3) the development of alternatives to opioids
14 for effective pain treatments.

15 (b) **PRIORITY AND DIRECTION.**—The prioritization
16 and direction of the federally funded portfolio of pain re-
17 search studies shall consider recommendations made by
18 the Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee in
19 concert with the Pain Management Best Practices Inter-
20 Agency Task Force, and in accordance with the National
21 Pain Strategy, the Federal Pain Research Strategy, and
22 the NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2016–
23 2020, the latter which calls for the relative burdens of in-
24 dividual diseases and medical disorders to be regarded as

- 1 crucial considerations in balancing the priorities of the
- 2 Federal research portfolio.

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