

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5731

To direct the Secretary of Defense to report on illicit drug use and overdoses by members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

Mr. RYAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to report on illicit drug use and overdoses by members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty.

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. REPORT ON ILLICIT DRUG USE AND**
4 **OVERDOSES BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED**
5 **FORCES SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY.**

6 Not later than December 1, 2023, the Secretary of
7 Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Serv-
8 ices of the Senate and House of Representatives a report
9 regarding illicit drug use by members of the Armed Forces
10 serving on active duty, and monitoring and prevention sys-

1 tems within the Department of Defense regarding such
2 use. The report shall include the following elements:

3 (1) The number of instances of such drug use
4 and overdoses among such members during the cal-
5 endar year preceding the date of the report.

6 (2) The number of instances described in para-
7 graph (1) that were related to fentanyl.

8 (3) An explanation of how the Secretary uses
9 urinalysis and other tests to monitor such use, and
10 an assessment of the efficacy of such tests.

11 (4) The extent to which fentanyl has contrib-
12 uted to such overdoses when combined with other,
13 less deadly substances.

14 (5) The policies of the Department designed to
15 prevent retaliation against such members who seek
16 treatment or inform a commanding officer of their
17 illicit drug use.

18 (6) Demographic data and ranks of such mem-
19 bers who suffered a fentanyl overdose.

20 (7) Shortcomings (including strategic or budg-
21 etary) identified by the Secretary of the counter-
22 narcotics programs of the Department regarding
23 military installations.

1 (8) A thorough review of the support and treat-
2 ment options offered to such a member who reports
3 addiction or illicit drug use, including—

4 (A) any wait time before receiving care;
5 and

6 (B) the type of care offered across each
7 Armed Force.

8 (9) Any other matter the Secretary determines
9 appropriate.

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