

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7103

To authorize a pilot program under which the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, expands and intensifies surveillance of self-harm and suicidal ideation behavior in partnership with State and local public health departments, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 30, 2018

Mr. DELANEY (for himself and Mr. STEWART) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To authorize a pilot program under which the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, expands and intensifies surveillance of self-harm and suicidal ideation behavior in partnership with State and local public health departments, 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 “Suicide Prevention
5 Analytics Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE OF SELF-HARM BEHAV-**
2 **IORS AND SUICIDAL IDEATION PROGRAM.**

3 Title III of the Public Health Service Act is amended
4 by inserting after section 317T of such Act (42 U.S.C.
5 247b–22) the following:

6 **“SEC. 317U. SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE OF SELF-HARM BE-**
7 **HAVIORS AND SUICIDAL IDEATION PRO-**
8 **GRAM.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through
10 the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
11 vention, shall carry out a pilot program, to be known as
12 the Syndromic Surveillance of Self-Harm Behaviors and
13 Suicidal Ideation Program, under which the Secretary ex-
14 pands and intensifies surveillance of self-harm and suicidal
15 ideation behavior through—

16 “(1) the selection of State and local public
17 health departments as partners in the pilot program;
18 and

19 “(2) the provision of assistance, including an
20 award of funds, to each such partner.

21 “(b) SELECTION.—In selecting State and local public
22 health departments as partners in the pilot program under
23 this section, the Secretary shall—

24 “(1) seek to select a diverse set of sites; and

1 “(2) consider such criteria as the Secretary de-
2 termines to be appropriate, which criteria shall in-
3 clude—

4 “(A) population coverage;

5 “(B) geographical coverage;

6 “(C) urban and rural community represen-
7 tation; and

8 “(D) demographic makeup, including so-
9 cioeconomic groupings, race, gender, and eth-
10 nicity.

11 “(c) NUMBER OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC
12 HEALTH DEPARTMENTS.—In carrying out the pilot pro-
13 gram under this section, the Secretary shall enter into and
14 maintain partnerships with the following number of State
15 and local public health departments:

16 “(1) For fiscal year 2019, 4 departments.

17 “(2) For fiscal year 2020, 15 departments.

18 “(3) For fiscal year 2021, 25 departments.

19 “(4) For fiscal year 2022, 35 departments.

20 “(5) For fiscal year 2023, 50 departments.

21 “(d) PERIOD OF PARTICIPATION.—To be selected as
22 a partner in the pilot program under this section, a State
23 or local public health department shall agree to participate
24 in the program for a period of not less than 2 years.

1 “(e) DATA SHARING BY HHS.—Subject to subsection
2 (g), the Secretary shall, with respect to data on self-harm
3 and suicidal ideation behavior that is collected pursuant
4 to this section, share such data through—

5 “(1) the National Syndromic Surveillance Pro-
6 gram’s Early Notification of Community Epidemics
7 (ESSENCE) platform (or any successor platform);
8 or

9 “(2) another appropriate surveillance program.

10 “(f) DATA SHARING BY PARTNERS.—As a condition
11 on participating in the pilot program under this section,
12 subject to subsection (g), a State or local public health
13 department shall agree to share in real time (to the extent
14 possible) with the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
15 tion data on self-harm and suicidal ideation behavior for
16 purposes of—

17 “(1) tracking and monitoring self-harm and sui-
18 cidal ideation in real time to inform response activi-
19 ties to suicide clusters;

20 “(2) informing prevention programming for
21 identified at-risk populations; and

22 “(3) conducting or supporting research.

23 “(g) APPLICABILITY OF PRIVACY PROTECTIONS.—
24 The provisions of this section shall be subject to the re-
25 quirements of section 552a of title 5, United States Code.

1 All Federal laws relating to the privacy of information
2 shall apply to the data and information that is collected
3 under this section.

4 “(h) REPORTS.—

5 “(1) SUBMISSION.—Not later than April 30th
6 of each of calendar years 2020 through 2024, the
7 Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on
8 the results of the pilot program under this section
9 during the previous calendar year.

10 “(2) CONTENTS.—Each report under para-
11 graph (1) shall include the following:

12 “(A) The specific data points captured
13 under the pilot program under this section.

14 “(B) Challenges in implementing the pilot
15 program, including with respect to data collec-
16 tion and reporting, at State and local public
17 health departments in their first year of partici-
18 pation in the program.

19 “(C) Identification of any problems with
20 implementation of the pilot program.

21 “(D) Potential solutions for such problems,
22 including a description of the estimated costs of
23 such potential solutions.

24 “(E) Description of any public health re-
25 sponse that is initiated at the Federal, State, or

1 local level in response to data collected through
2 the pilot program.

3 “(F) Recommendations for improving pub-
4 lic health responses to self-harm and suicidal
5 ideation incidents.

6 “(3) FINAL REPORT.—The final report required
7 by paragraph (1) shall include recommendations
8 on—

9 “(A) whether to reauthorize and expand
10 the pilot program under this section; and

11 “(B) if so, how to improve the pilot pro-
12 gram for purposes of such reauthorization and
13 expansion.

14 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 “(1) The term ‘self-harm’ means any behavior
16 that is self-directed and deliberately results in injury
17 or the potential for injury to oneself, including non-
18 lethal forms of injuries to oneself, including cutting,
19 asphyxiation, overdose of drugs (including through
20 the use of opioids), and gun-related injuries, either
21 with or without the intent to kill oneself.

22 “(2) The term ‘suicidal ideation’ means think-
23 ing about, considering, or planning suicide.

1 “(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
2 carry out this section, there are authorized to be appro-
3 priated—

4 “(1) \$500,000 for fiscal year 2019; and

5 “(2) such sums as may be necessary for fiscal
6 years 2020 through 2023.”.

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