

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3963

To protect survivors from brain injury by authorizing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to collect data on the prevalence of brain injuries resulting from domestic and sexual violence.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 30, 2022

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Ms. ERNST) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To protect survivors from brain injury by authorizing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to collect data on the prevalence of brain injuries resulting from domestic and sexual violence.

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 “Protecting Survivors
5 from Traumatic Brain Injury Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. DATA COLLECTION.**

7 (a) COLLECTION OF DATA ON BRAIN INJURIES RE-
8 LATED TO DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
2 Human Services (referred to in this section as the
3 “Secretary”) shall collect data on the prevalence of
4 brain injuries resulting from domestic and sexual vi-
5 olence in order to assist the Department in under-
6 standing, addressing, and allocating resources to re-
7 duce and treat such injuries and the cause of such
8 injuries.

9 (2) COLLECTION.—In carrying out paragraph
10 (1), the Secretary shall distribute a survey that fol-
11 lows up on, and operates under the National Inti-
12 mate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS)
13 that will ask questions about the prevalence and cir-
14 cumstances surrounding brain injuries due to domes-
15 tic and sexual violence. The Secretary shall allow for
16 data collection for not fewer than 2 years.

17 (3) PRIVACY.—Data shall be collected, stored,
18 and analyzed under this section in a manner that
19 protects individual privacy and confidentiality.

20 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date
21 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to
22 relevant congressional committees, and post on the website
23 of the Department of Health and Human Services, a re-
24 port that shall contain—

1 (1) an analysis of the data collected under sub-
2 section (a) relating to the connection between do-
3 mestic and sexual violence and brain injuries; and

4 (2) a description of the steps that the Depart-
5 ment of Health and Human Services is taking to in-
6 crease awareness, increase services, decrease preva-
7 lence, and otherwise respond to the public health
8 issue of brain injury that results from domestic and
9 sexual violence.

10 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
11 authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-
12 essary to carry out this section. Amounts appropriated
13 under this subsection shall remain available for a 3-year
14 period.

15 (d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “brain in-
16 jury” means an injury that impacts the function of the
17 brain as a result of trauma, choking, or strangulation due
18 to domestic or sexual violence.

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