

115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5261

AN ACT

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for regional centers of excellence in substance use disorder education, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Treatment, Education,
3 and Community Help to Combat Addiction Act of 2018”
4 or the “TEACH to Combat Addiction Act of 2018”.

5 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL CENTERS OF EX-**
6 **CELLENCE IN SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER**
7 **EDUCATION.**

8 Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act
9 is amended by inserting after section 549 (42 U.S.C.
10 290ee–4) the following new section:

11 **“SEC. 550. REGIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN SUB-**
12 **STANCE USE DISORDER EDUCATION.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
14 with such other agencies as are appropriate, shall, subject
15 to the availability of appropriations, establish a solicitation
16 process and award cooperative agreements to eligible enti-
17 ties for the designation of such entities as Regional Cen-
18 ters of Excellence in Substance Use Disorder Education
19 and support of such regional centers of excellence to en-
20 hance and improve how health professionals are educated
21 in substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and re-
22 covery through development, evaluation, and distribution
23 of evidence-based curricula for health profession schools.
24 An eligible entity designated by the Secretary as a Re-
25 gional Center of Excellence in Substance Use Disorder

1 Education shall carry out the activities described in sub-
2 section (b).

3 “(b) SELECTION OF CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.—

4 “(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to re-
5 ceive a cooperative agreement under subsection (a),
6 an entity shall—

7 “(A) be an entity specified by the Sec-
8 retary that offers education to students in var-
9 ious health professions, which may include—

10 “(i) a health system;

11 “(ii) a teaching hospital;

12 “(iii) a medical school;

13 “(iv) a certified behavioral health clin-
14 ic; or

15 “(v) any other health profession
16 school, school of public health, or Coopera-
17 tive Extension Program at institutions of
18 higher education engaged in an aspect of
19 the prevention, treatment, or recovery of
20 substance use disorders;

21 “(B) be accredited by the appropriate edu-
22 cational accreditation body;

23 “(C) demonstrate an existing strategy, and
24 have in place a plan for continuing such strat-
25 egy, or a proposed strategy to implement a cur-

1 riculum based on best practices for substance
2 use disorder prevention, treatment, and recov-
3 ery;

4 “(D) demonstrate community engagement
5 and participation through community partners,
6 including other health profession schools, men-
7 tal health counselors, social workers, peer recov-
8 ery specialists, substance use treatment pro-
9 grams, community health centers, physicians’
10 offices, certified behavioral health clinics, law
11 enforcement, and the business community; and

12 “(E) provide to the Secretary such infor-
13 mation, at such time, and in such manner, as
14 the Secretary may require.

15 “(2) DIVERSITY.—In awarding cooperative
16 agreements under subsection (a), the Secretary shall
17 take into account regional differences among eligible
18 entities and shall make an effort to ensure geo-
19 graphic diversity.

20 “(c) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—

21 “(1) PUBLIC POSTING.—The Secretary shall
22 make information provided to the Secretary under
23 subsection (b)(1)(E) publically available on the
24 Internet website of the Department of Health and
25 Human Services.

1 “(2) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall evalu-
2 ate each project carried out by a Regional Center of
3 Excellence in Substance Use Disorder Education
4 under this section and shall disseminate the findings
5 with respect to each such evaluation to appropriate
6 public and private entities.

7 “(d) FUNDING.—There is authorized to be appro-
8 priated to carry out this section, \$4,000,000 for each of
9 fiscal years 2019 through 2023.”.

Passed the House of Representatives June 12, 2018.

Attest:

Clerk.

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