114TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION	S.
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To amend the Public Health Service Act to promote the inclusion of minorities in clinical research, and for other purposes.

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. Collins (for herself, Ms. Warren, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Baldwin, Mr. Alexander, and Mrs. Murray) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

## A BILL

- To amend the Public Health Service Act to promote the inclusion of minorities in clinical research, 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 "Advancing NIH Stra-
  - 5 tegic Planning and Representation in Medical Research
  - 6 Act".
  - 7 SEC. 2. NIH STRATEGIC PLAN.
  - 8 (a) STRATEGIC PLAN.—Section 402 of the Public
  - 9 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282) is amended—

1	(1) in subsection (b)(5), by inserting before the
2	semicolon the following: ", and through the develop-
3	ment, implementation, and updating of the strategic
4	plan developed under subsection (m)"; and
5	(2) by adding at the end the following:
6	"(m) NIH STRATEGIC PLAN.—
7	"(1) In general.—Not later than 2 years
8	after the date of enactment of the Advancing NIH
9	Strategic Planning and Representation in Medical
10	Research Act, and once every 6 years thereafter, the
11	Director of NIH, in consultation with the directors
12	of the national research institutes and national cen-
13	ters, shall develop and submit to the appropriate
14	committees of Congress and post on the Internet
15	website of the National Institutes of Health, a 6-
16	year coordinated strategy (to be known as the 'NIH
17	Strategic Plan') to provide direction to the bio-
18	medical research investments made by the National
19	Institutes of Health, to facilitate collaboration across
20	the institutes and centers, to leverage scientific op-
21	portunity, and to advance biomedicine.
22	"(2) Requirements.—The strategy under
23	paragraph (1) shall—

1	"(A) identify strategic research priorities
2	and objectives across biomedical research, in-
3	cluding—
4	"(i) an assessment of the state of bio-
5	medical and behavioral research, including
6	areas of opportunity with respect to basic,
7	clinical, and translational research;
8	"(ii) priorities and objectives to ad-
9	vance the treatment, cure, and prevention
10	of health conditions;
11	"(iii) emerging scientific opportuni-
12	ties, rising public health challenges, and
13	scientific knowledge gaps; and
14	"(iv) the identification of near-, mid-
15	, and long-term scientific needs;
16	"(B) consider, in carrying out subpara-
17	graph (A)—
18	"(i) disease burden in the United
19	States;
20	"(ii) rare diseases and conditions;
21	"(iii) biological, social, and other de-
22	terminants of health that contribute to
23	health disparities; and
24	"(iv) other factors the Director of
25	NIH determines appropriate;

1	"(C) include multi-institute priorities, in-
2	cluding coordination of research among insti-
3	tutes and centers;
4	"(D) include strategic priorities for fund-
5	ing research through the Common Fund, in ac-
6	cordance with section $402A(c)(1)(C)$ ;
7	"(E) address the agency's proposed and
8	ongoing activities related to training and the
9	biomedical workforce; and
10	"(F) describe opportunities for collabora-
11	tion with other agencies and departments, as
12	appropriate.
13	"(3) Use of plans.—Strategic plans developed
14	and updated by the national research institutes and
15	national centers of the National Institutes of Health
16	shall be prepared regularly and in such a manner
17	that such plans will be informed by the strategic
18	plans developed and updated under this sub-
19	section.".
20	(b) Conforming Amendment.—Section
21	402A(c)(1)(C) of the Public Health Service Act (42
22	U.S.C. 282a(c)(1)(C)) is amended by striking "Not later
23	than June 1, 2007, and every 2 years thereafter," and
24	inserting "As part of the NIH Strategic Plan required
25	under section 402(m),".

1	SEC. 3. COLLABORATION TO ENHANCE DIVERSITY IN CLIN-
2	ICAL RESEARCH.
3	Section 402(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42
4	U.S.C. 282(b)) is amended—
5	(1) by amending paragraph (4) to read as fol-
6	lows:
7	"(4) shall assemble accurate data to be used to
8	assess research priorities, including—
9	"(A) information to better evaluate sci-
10	entific opportunity, public health burdens, and
11	progress in reducing health disparities; and
12	"(B) data on study populations of clinical
13	research, funded by or conducted at each na-
14	tional research institute and national center,
15	which—
16	"(i) specifies the inclusion of—
17	"(I) women;
18	$(\Pi)$ members of minority
19	groups;
20	"(III) relevant age categories;
21	and
22	"(IV) other demographic vari-
23	ables determined to be necessary by
24	the Director of NIH;
25	"(ii) is disaggregated by research
26	area, condition, and disease categories; and

1	"(iii) is to be made publicly available
2	on the Internet website of the National In-
3	stitutes of Health;"; and
4	(2) in paragraph (8)—
5	(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
6	"and" at the end; and
7	(B) by adding at the end the following:
8	"(C) foster collaboration between clinical
9	research projects funded by the respective na-
10	tional research institutes and national centers
11	that—
12	"(i) conduct research involving human
13	subjects; and
14	"(ii) collect similar data; and
15	"(D) encourage the collaboration described
16	in subparagraph (C) to—
17	"(i) allow for an increase in the num-
18	ber of subjects studied; and
19	"(ii) utilize diverse study populations,
20	with special consideration to biological, so-
21	cial, and other determinants of health that
22	contribute to health disparities;".

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- 2 (a) STRATEGIC PLAN.—Section 492B(a) of the Pub-
- 3 lie Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 289a–2(a)) is amended
- 4 by adding at the end the following:
- 5 "(3) STRATEGIC PLANNING.—
- 6 "(A) IN GENERAL.—The directors of the 7 national institutes and national centers shall 8 consult at least once annually with the Director 9 of the National Institute on Minority Health 10 and Health Disparities and the Director of the 11 Office of Research on Women's Health regard-12 ing objectives of the national institutes and na-13 tional centers to ensure that future activities by 14 such institutes and centers take into account 15 women and minorities and are focused on re-16 ducing health disparities.
- 17 "(B) STRATEGIC PLANS.—Any strategic 18 plan issued by a national institute or national 19 center shall include details on the objectives de-20 scribed in subparagraph (A).".
- 21 (b) Clarification of Requirements.—Section
- 22 492B(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
- $23 \quad 289a-2(e)$ ) is amended—
- 24 (1) by striking "In the case" and inserting the
- 25 following:
- 26 "(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case"; and

1	(2) by adding at the end the following:
2	"(2) Reporting requirements.—For any
3	new and competing project of clinical research sub-
4	ject to the requirements under this section that re-
5	ceives a grant award 1 year after the date of enact-
6	ment of the Advancing NIH Strategic Planning and
7	Representation in Medical Research Act, or any date
8	thereafter, for which a valid analysis is provided
9	under paragraph (1)—
10	"(A) and which is an applicable clinical
11	trial as defined in section 402(j), the entity con-
12	ducting such clinical research shall submit the
13	results of such valid analysis to the clinical trial
14	registry data bank expanded under $402(j)(3)$ ,
15	and the Director of NIH shall, as appropriate,
16	consider whether such entity has complied with
17	the reporting requirement described in this sub-
18	paragraph in awarding any future grant to such
19	entity, including pursuant to section
20	402(j)(5)(A)(ii) when applicable; and
21	"(B) the Director of NIH shall encourage
22	the reporting of the results of such valid anal-
23	ysis described in paragraph (1) through any ad-
24	ditional means determined appropriate by the
25	Director.".

1	(c) Reporting.—Section 492B(f) of the Public
2	Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 289a–2(f)) is amended—
3	(1) by striking "biennial" each place such term
4	appears and inserting "triennial" in each such place;
5	(2) by striking "The advisory council" and in-
6	serting the following:
7	"(1) In general.—The advisory council"; and
8	(3) by adding at the end the following:
9	"(2) Contents.—Each triennial report pre-
10	pared by an advisory council of each national re-
11	search institute as described in paragraph (1) shall
12	include each of the following:
13	"(A) The number of women included as
14	subjects, and the proportion of subjects that are
15	women, in any project of clinical research con-
16	ducted during the applicable reporting period,
17	disaggregated by categories of research area,
18	condition, or disease, and accounting for single-
19	sex studies.
20	"(B) The number of members of minority
21	groups included as subjects, and the proportion
22	of subjects that are members of minority
23	groups, in any project of clinical research con-
24	ducted during the applicable reporting period,
25	disaggregated by categories of research area,

condition, or disease and accounting for single-
race and single-ethnicity studies.
"(C) For the applicable reporting period
the number of projects of clinical research that
include women and members of minority groups
and that—
"(i) have been completed during such
reporting period; and
"(ii) are being carried out during such
reporting period and have not been com-
pleted.
"(D) The number of studies completed
during the applicable reporting period for which
reporting has been submitted in accordance
with subsection $(e)(2)(A)$ .".
(d) Coordination.—Section 486(c)(2) of the Public
Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 287d(c)(2)) is amended by
striking "designees" and inserting "senior-level staff des-
ignees".
SEC. 5. IMPROVING RESEARCH RELATED TO SEXUAL AND
GENDER MINORITY POPULATIONS.
(a) In General.—Part A of title IV of the Public
Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 281 et seq.) is amended
by adding at the end the following:

1	"SEC. 404M. RESEARCH RELATED TO SEXUAL AND GENDER
2	MINORITY POPULATIONS.
3	"The Director of NIH shall, as appropriate, encour-
4	age efforts to improve research related to the health of
5	sexual and gender minority populations, including by—
6	"(1) facilitating increased participation of sex-
7	ual and gender minority populations in clinical re-
8	search supported by the National Institutes of
9	Health, and reporting on such participation, as ap-
10	plicable;
11	"(2) facilitating the development of valid and
12	reliable methods for research relevant to sexual and
13	gender minority populations; and
14	"(3) addressing methodological challenges.".
15	(b) Reporting.—
16	(1) In General.—The Secretary, in collabora-
17	tion with the Director of the National Institutes of
18	Health, shall as appropriate—
19	(A) continue to support research for the
20	development of appropriate measures related to
21	reporting health information about sexual and
22	gender minority populations; and
23	(B) not later than 2 years after the date
24	of enactment of this Act, disseminate and make
25	public such measures.

1	(2) National academy of medicine rec-
2	OMMENDATIONS.—In developing the measures de-
3	scribed in paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary shall take
4	into account recommendations made by the National
5	Academy of Medicine.
6	SEC. 6. IMPROVING COORDINATION RELATED TO MINOR
7	ITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES.
8	Section 464z-3 of the Public Health Service Act (42
9	U.S.C. 285t) is amended—
10	(1) by redesignating subsection (h), relating to
11	interagency coordination, that follows subsection (j)
12	as subsection (k); and
13	(2) in subsection (k) (as so redesignated)—
14	(A) in the heading, by striking "Inter-
15	AGENCY" and inserting "Intra-NIH";
16	(B) by striking "as the primary Federal
17	officials" and inserting "as the primary Federal
18	official";
19	(C) by inserting a comma after "review";
20	(D) by striking "Institutes and Centers of
21	the National Institutes of Health" and inserting
22	"national research institutes and national cen-
23	ters"; and
24	(E) by adding at the end the following:
25	"The Director of the Institute may foster part-

1	nerships between the national research insti-
2	tutes and national centers and may encourage
3	the funding of collaborative research projects to
4	achieve the goals of the National Institutes of
5	Health that are related to minority health and
6	health disparities.".
7	SEC. 7. ENHANCING THE RIGOR AND REPRODUCIBILITY OF
8	SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.
9	(a) Establishment.—Not later than 1 year after
10	the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health
11	and Human Services, acting through the Director of the
12	National Institutes of Health, shall convene a working
13	group under the Advisory Committee to the Director of
14	the National Institutes of Health, appointed under section
15	222 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 217a),
16	to develop and issue recommendations for a formal policy,
17	which may incorporate or be informed by relevant existing
18	and ongoing activities, to enhance rigor and reproduc-
19	ibility of scientific research funded by the National Insti-
20	tutes of Health.
21	(b) Considerations.—In developing and issuing the
22	recommendations under subsection (a), the working group
23	established under such subsection shall consider, as appro-
24	priate—

1	(1) preclinical experiment design, including
2	analysis of sex as a biological variable;
3	(2) clinical experiment design, including—
4	(A) the diversity of populations studied for
5	clinical research, with respect to biological, so-
6	cial, and other determinants of health that con-
7	tribute to health disparities;
8	(B) the circumstances under which sum-
9	mary information regarding biological, social,
10	and other factors that contribute to health dis-
11	parities should be reported; and
12	(C) the circumstances under which clinical
13	studies, including clinical trials, should conduct
14	an analysis of the data collected during the
15	study on the basis of biological, social, and
16	other factors that contribute to health dispari-
17	ties;
18	(3) applicable levels of rigor in statistical meth-
19	ods, methodology, and analysis;
20	(4) data and information sharing in accordance
21	with applicable privacy laws and regulations; and
22	(5) any other matter determined relevant by the
23	working group.
24	(c) Policies.—Not later than 18 months after the
25	date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National

- 1 Institutes of Health shall consider the recommendations
- 2 developed by the working group under subsection (a) and
- 3 develop or update policies as appropriate.
- 4 (d) Report.—Not later than 2 years after the date
- 5 of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National In-
- 6 stitutes of Health, acting through the working group es-
- 7 tablished under subsection (a), shall issue a report to the
- 8 Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Committee
- 9 on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate,
- 10 and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the
- 11 House of Representatives regarding recommendations de-
- 12 veloped under such subsection and any subsequent policy
- 13 changes implemented, to enhance rigor and reproducibility
- 14 in scientific research funded by the National Institutes of
- 15 Health.
- 16 (e) Confidentiality.—Nothing in this section shall
- 17 authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to
- 18 disclose any information that is a trade secret, or other
- 19 privileged or confidential information, described in section
- 20 552(b)(4) of title 5, United States Code, or section 1905
- 21 of title 18, United States Code.
- 22 SEC. 8. TASK FORCE ON RESEARCH SPECIFIC TO PREG-
- 23 NANT WOMEN AND LACTATING WOMEN.
- 24 (a) Task Force on Research Specific to Preg-
- 25 NANT WOMEN AND LACTATING WOMEN.—

1	(1) Establishment.—Not later than 90 days
2	after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
3	retary of Health and Human Services (referred to in
4	this section as the "Secretary") shall establish a
5	task force, in accordance with the Federal Advisory
6	Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), to be known as the
7	"Task Force on Research Specific to Pregnant
8	Women and Lactating Women" (in this section re-
9	ferred to as the "Task Force").
10	(2) Duties.—The Task Force shall provide ad-
11	vice and guidance to the Secretary regarding Fed-
12	eral activities related to identifying and addressing
13	gaps in knowledge and research regarding safe and
14	effective therapies for pregnant women and lactating
15	women, including the development of such therapies
16	and the collaboration on and coordination of such
17	activities.
18	(3) Membership.—
19	(A) Federal members.—The Task Force
20	shall be composed of each of the following Fed-
21	eral members, or the designee of such member:
22	(i) The Director of the Centers for
23	Disease Control and Prevention.
24	(ii) The Director of the National In-
25	stitutes of Health, the Director of the Eu-

1	nice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of
2	Child Health and Human Development,
3	and the directors of such other appropriate
4	national research institutes.
5	(iii) The Commissioner of Food and
6	Drugs.
7	(iv) The Director of the Office on
8	Women's Health.
9	(v) The Director of the National Vac-
10	cine Program Office.
11	(vi) The head of any other research-
12	related agency or department not described
13	in clauses (i) through (v) that the Sec-
14	retary determines appropriate, which may
15	include the Department of Veterans Af-
16	fairs and the Department of Defense.
17	(B) Non-federal members.—The Task
18	Force shall be composed of each of the fol-
19	lowing non-Federal members, including—
20	(i) representatives from relevant med-
21	ical societies with subject matter expertise
22	on pregnant women, lactating women, or
23	children;

1	(ii) nonprofit organizations with ex-
2	pertise related to the health of women and
3	children;
4	(iii) relevant industry representatives;
5	and
6	(iv) other representatives, as appro-
7	priate.
8	(C) Limitations.—The non-Federal mem-
9	bers described in subparagraph (B) shall—
10	(i) compose not more than one-half,
11	and not less than one-third, of the total
12	membership of the Task Force; and
13	(ii) be appointed by the Secretary.
14	(4) Termination.—
15	(A) In general.—Subject to subpara-
16	graph (B), the Task Force shall terminate on
17	the date that is 2 years after the date on which
18	the Task Force is established under paragraph
19	(1).
20	(B) Extension.—The Secretary may ex-
21	tend the operation of the Task Force for one
22	additional 2-year period following the 2-year pe-
23	riod described in subparagraph (A), if the Sec-
24	retary determines that the extension is appro-

1	priate for carrying out the purpose of this sec-
2	tion.
3	(5) Meetings.—The Task Force shall meet
4	not less than 2 times each year and shall convene
5	public meetings, as appropriate, to fulfill its duties
6	under paragraph (2).
7	(6) Task force report to congress.—Not
8	later than 18 months after the date on which the
9	Task Force is established under paragraph (1), the
10	Task Force shall prepare and submit to the Sec-
11	retary, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
12	and Pensions of the Senate, and the Committee on
13	Energy and Commerce of the House of Representa-
14	tives a report that includes each of the following:
15	(A) A plan to identify and address gaps in
16	knowledge and research regarding safe and ef-
17	fective therapies for pregnant women and lac-
18	tating women, including the development of
19	such therapies.
20	(B) Ethical issues surrounding the inclu-
21	sion of pregnant women and lactating women in
22	clinical research.
23	(C) Effective communication strategies
24	with health care providers and the public on in-

1	formation relevant to pregnant women and lac-
2	tating women.
3	(D) Identification of Federal activities, in-
4	cluding—
5	(i) the state of research on pregnancy
6	and lactation;
7	(ii) recommendations for the coordina-
8	tion of, and collaboration on research re-
9	lated to pregnant women and lactating
10	women;
11	(iii) dissemination of research findings
12	and information relevant to pregnant
13	women and lactating women to providers
14	and the public; and
15	(iv) existing Federal efforts and pro-
16	grams to improve the scientific under-
17	standing of the health impacts on pregnant
18	women, lactating women and, related birth
19	and pediatric outcomes, including with re-
20	spect to pharmacokinetics
21	pharmacodynamics, and toxicities.
22	(E) Recommendations to improve the de-
23	velopment of safe and effective therapies for
24	pregnant women and lactating women.

(b) Confidentiality.—Nothing in this section shall 1 2 authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to 3 disclose any information that is a trade secret, or other 4 privileged or confidential information, described in section 5 552(b)(4) of title 5, United States Code, or section 1905 of title 18, United States Code. 6 7 (c) UPDATING PROTECTIONS Pregnant FOR 8 WOMEN AND LACTATING WOMEN IN RESEARCH.— 9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after 10 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, 11 considering any recommendations of the Task Force 12 available at such time and in consultation with the 13 heads of relevant agencies of the Department of 14 Health and Human Services, shall, as appropriate, 15 update regulations and guidance, as applicable, re-16 garding the inclusion of pregnant women and lac-17 tating women in clinical research. 18 (2) Criteria for excluding pregnant or 19 LACTATING WOMEN.—In updating any regulations or 20 guidance described in paragraph (1), the Secretary 21 shall consider any appropriate criteria to be used by 22 institutional review boards and individuals reviewing 23 grant proposals for excluding pregnant women or 24 lactating women as a study population requiring ad-

1	ditional protections from participating in human
2	subject research.
3	SEC. 9. WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN RESEARCH.
4	(a) Basic Research.—
5	(1) Developing policies.—Not later than 2
6	years after the date of enactment of this Act, the
7	Director of the National Institutes of Health (re-
8	ferred to in this section as the "Director of NIH"),
9	taking into consideration the findings of the working
10	group established under section 7, shall develop poli-
11	cies for projects of basic research funded by Na-
12	tional Institutes of Health to assess—
13	(A) relevant biological variables including
14	sex, as appropriate; and
15	(B) how differences between male and fe-
16	male cells, tissues, or animals may be examined
17	and analyzed.
18	(2) Revising policies.—The Director of NIH
19	may update or revise the policies developed under
20	paragraph (1) as appropriate.
21	(3) Consultation and Outreach.—In devel-
22	oping, updating, or revising the policies under this
23	section, the Director of NIH—
24	(A) shall consult with—

1	(i) the Office of Research on Women's
2	Health;
3	(ii) the Office of Laboratory Animal
4	Welfare; and
5	(iii) appropriate members of the sci-
6	entific and academic communities; and
7	(B) shall conduct outreach to solicit feed-
8	back from members of the scientific and aca-
9	demic communities on the influence of sex as a
10	variable in basic research, including feedback on
11	when it is appropriate for projects of basic re-
12	search involving cells, tissues, or animals to in-
13	clude both male and female cells, tissues, or
14	animals.
15	(4) Additional requirements.—The Direc-
16	tor of NIH shall—
17	(A) ensure that projects of basic research
18	funded by the National Institutes of Health are
19	conducted in accordance with the policies devel-
20	oped, updated, or revised under this section, as
21	applicable; and
22	(B) encourage that the results of such re-
23	search, when published or reported, be
24	disaggregated as appropriate with respect to
25	the analysis of any sex differences.

1	(b) CLINICAL RESEARCH.—
2	(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
3	the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of
4	NIH, in consultation with the Director of the Office
5	of Research on Women's Health and the Director of
6	the National Institute on Minority Health and
7	Health Disparities, shall update the guidelines estab-
8	lished under section 492B(d) of Public Health Serv-
9	ice Act (42 U.S.C. 289a–2(d)) in accordance with
10	paragraph (2).
11	(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The updated guidelines
12	described in paragraph (1) shall—
13	(A) reflect the science regarding sex dif-
14	ferences;
15	(B) improve adherence to the requirements
16	under section 492B of the Public Health Serv-
17	ice Act (42 U.S.C. 289a–2), including the re-
18	porting requirements under subsection (f) of
19	such section; and
20	(C) clarify the circumstances under which
21	studies should be designed to support the con-
22	duct of analyses to detect significant differences
23	in the intervention effect due to demographic
24	factors related to section 492B of the Public
25	Health Service Act, including in the absence of

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prior studies that demonstrate a difference in study outcomes on the basis of such factors and considering the effects of the absence of such analyses on the availability of data related to demographic differences.

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S.L.C.