

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To increase funding for the State response to the opioid misuse crisis and to provide funding for research on addiction and pain related to the substance misuse crisis.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. MARKEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To increase funding for the State response to the opioid misuse crisis and to provide funding for research on addiction and pain related to the substance misuse crisis.

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 “Combating the Opioid
5 Epidemic Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE STATE RESPONSE.**

7 (a) FUNDING.—Section 1003 of the 21st Century
8 Cures Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee–3 note) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “under sub-
2 section (b)” and inserting “under subsection (b)(3)
3 and the appropriations under subsection (b)(4)”;

4 (2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the
5 following:

6 “(4) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS.—In addi-
7 tion to the amounts transferred to the Account
8 under paragraph (2)(A), there are authorized to be
9 appropriated, and there are appropriated, to the
10 Secretary, out of monies in the Treasury not other-
11 wise obligated, \$4,474,800,000 for each of fiscal
12 years 2018 through 2027, to carry out the grant
13 program described in subsection (c). Such funds
14 shall remain available until expended.”; and

15 (3) by striking subsection (f).

16 (b) ACTIVITIES.—Section 1003(e)(1) of the 21st Cen-
17 tury Cures Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee–3 note) is amended—

18 (1) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as sub-
19 paragraph (G); and

20 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(E) Detection, surveillance, and treat-
23 ment of co-occurring infections associated with
24 the opioid epidemic, including hepatitis C and
25 HIV.

1 “(F) Surveillance, data collection, and
2 timely and consistent reporting on the number
3 of opioid overdose deaths, including the inci-
4 dence and prevalence of co-occurring infections
5 and toxicology reporting on the number of
6 deaths where fentanyl or other illicit opioid
7 analogs were detected.”.

8 **SEC. 3. GRANTS FOR RESEARCH ON ADDICTION AND PAIN.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
10 Human Services (referred to in this section as the “Sec-
11 retary”) shall use any funds appropriated under sub-
12 section (b) to award grants for the purpose of conducting
13 research on addiction and pain related to substance mis-
14 use. The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Na-
15 tional Institutes of Health, shall determine the amount of
16 each grant awarded under this section.

17 (b) APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be
18 appropriated, and there are appropriated, to the Sec-
19 retary, out of monies in the Treasury not otherwise obli-
20 gated, \$50,400,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through
21 2022, to carry out the grant program described in sub-
22 section (a). Such funds shall remain available until ex-
23 pended.