

115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5261

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 13, 2018

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education,  
Labor, and Pensions

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## 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:

KAREN L. HAAS,

*Clerk.*