

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2678

To direct the NIH to intensify and coordinate fundamental, translational, and clinical research with respect to the understanding of pain, the discovery and development of therapies for chronic pain, and the development of alternatives to opioids for effective pain treatments.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 15, 2016

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. BALDWIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To direct the NIH to intensify and coordinate fundamental, translational, and clinical research with respect to the understanding of pain, the discovery and development of therapies for chronic pain, and the development of alternatives to opioids for effective pain treatments.

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 “Safe Treatments and
5 Opportunities to Prevent Pain Act” or the “STOP Pain
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENHANCING BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH ON**
 2 **PAIN TO DISCOVER THERAPIES, INCLUDING**
 3 **ALTERNATIVES TO OPIOIDS, FOR EFFECTIVE**
 4 **PAIN MANAGEMENT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National In-
 6 stitutes of Health (referred to in this section as the
 7 “NIH”) may intensify and coordinate fundamental,
 8 translational, and clinical research of the NIH with re-
 9 spect to—

- 10 (1) the understanding of pain;
- 11 (2) the discovery and development of therapies
 12 for chronic pain; and
- 13 (3) the development of alternatives to opioids
 14 for effective pain treatments.

15 (b) PRIORITY AND DIRECTION.—The prioritization
 16 and direction of the federally funded portfolio of pain re-
 17 search studies shall consider recommendations made by
 18 the Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee in
 19 concert with the Pain Management Best Practices Inter-
 20 Agency Task Force, and in accordance with the National
 21 Pain Strategy, the Federal Pain Research Strategy, and
 22 the NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2016–
 23 2020, the latter which calls for the relative burdens of in-
 24 dividual diseases and medical disorders to be regarded as

- 1 crucial considerations in balancing the priorities of the
- 2 Federal research portfolio.

