

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5511

To amend the Public Health Service Act to require that the recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force on the effectiveness, appropriateness, and cost-effectiveness of clinical preventive services be based on data for the respective populations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2018

Mr. EVANS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to require that the recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force on the effectiveness, appropriateness, and cost-effectiveness of clinical preventive services be based on data for the respective populations, 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 “Healthy Communities
5 Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Despite marked reductions in health dis-
4 parities following the enactment of the Affordable
5 Care Act (Public Law 111–148), racial and ethnic
6 disparities in medical status and access to health
7 care persist in the United States.

8 (2) According to the Centers for Disease Con-
9 trol, from 2010 to 2014, breast cancer mortality was
10 41 percent higher among African-American women
11 than White women.

12 (3) According to the Alzheimer’s Association,
13 among individuals in the United States who are over
14 65 years of age, African-American individuals are
15 about twice as likely to have Alzheimer’s disease,
16 and Hispanic individuals are about 1½ times as
17 likely as White individuals.

18 (4) The National Institutes of Health finds that
19 African Americans, despite making up 13 percent of
20 the population of the United States, account for
21 about 35 percent of individuals with kidney failure
22 in the United States.

23 (5) According to research published in the
24 Journal Frontiers in Bioscience, in the United
25 States, African American men are 1.6 times as likely

1 to develop, and 2 times as likely to die from, pros-
2 tate cancer when compared to White men.

3 (6) Underutilization of preventive health serv-
4 ices remains a barrier to reducing the chronic dis-
5 ease burden in the United States, particularly
6 among racial and ethnic minorities.

7 (7) The Surgeon General of the Public Health
8 Service has stated that “Reducing disparities in
9 health will give everyone a chance to live a healthy
10 life and improve the quality of life for all Ameri-
11 cans.”.

12 **SEC. 3. BASING RECOMMENDATIONS OF UNITED STATES**
13 **PREVENTIVE SERVICES TASK FORCE ON**
14 **DATA FOR THE RESPECTIVE POPULATIONS.**

15 Section 915(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42
16 U.S.C. 299b–4(a)) is amended by adding at the end the
17 following new paragraph:

18 “(8) BASING RECOMMENDATIONS ON DATA FOR
19 RESPECTIVE POPULATIONS.—In making and updat-
20 ing recommendations on the effectiveness, appro-
21 priateness, and cost-effectiveness of clinical preven-
22 tive services, as described in paragraph (1), the
23 Task Force shall base such recommendations on
24 data for the respective populations, including health

- 1 disparity populations (as defined in section 464z–
- 2 3(d)).”.

