

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2567

To amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the national strategy for combating and eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 19, 2018

Mr. BROWN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the national strategy for combating and eliminating tuberculosis, 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 “Comprehensive TB
5 Elimination Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING AND ELIMI-**
7 **NATING TUBERCULOSIS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 317E of the Public
9 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b–6) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) by striking “The Secretary” and in-
 2 serting the following:

3 “(1) GRANTS.—The Secretary”; and

4 (B) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(2) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this
 6 subsection, the Secretary may give priority to award-
 7 ing grants to State health departments proposing to
 8 focus on the prevention, control, and elimination of
 9 tuberculosis in high-risk populations, including for-
 10 eign-born, homeless, incarcerated, HIV-tuberculosis
 11 coinfectd, and medically underserved populations.”;

12 (2) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) in paragraph (3)—

14 (i) in subparagraph (C), by redesign-
 15 ating clauses (i) and (ii) as subclauses (I)
 16 and (II), respectively, and adjusting the
 17 margins accordingly; and

18 (ii) by redesignating subparagraphs
 19 (A) through (F) as clauses (i) through (vi),
 20 respectively, and adjusting the margins ac-
 21 cordingly;

22 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (1)
 23 through (8) as subparagraphs (A) through (H),
 24 respectively, and adjusting the margins accord-
 25 ingly;

1 (C) in the matter preceding subparagraph
2 (A), as so redesignated, by striking “With re-
3 spect to” and inserting the following:

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to”;

5 (D) by striking subparagraph (B), as so
6 redesignated, and inserting the following:

7 “(B) Research, investigations, experiments,
8 demonstrations, and studies in the health
9 sciences that are related to—

10 “(i) the development of new thera-
11apeutics, including vaccines and anti-
12microbial drugs, to prevent and treat tu-
13berculosis;

14 “(ii) novel therapeutics for special
15populations, including pediatric popu-
16lations, immunosuppressed individuals, and
17pregnant women;

18 “(iii) the development or testing of
19medical diagnostics to detect tuberculosis;

20 “(iv) public health interventions to ad-
21dress the epidemiology, mechanisms, and
22pathogenesis of tuberculosis, such as di-
23rectly observed therapy and non-pharma-
24ceutical intervention;

1 “(v) methods to enhance detection
 2 and response to outbreaks of tuberculosis,
 3 including multidrug resistant tuberculosis;
 4 and

5 “(vi) other relevant research areas.”;

6 (E) in subparagraph (C), as so redesign-
 7 nated—

8 (i) by redesignating clause (vi), as so
 9 redesignated, as clause (vii);

10 (ii) in clause (v), as so redesignated,
 11 by striking “; and” and inserting “;”; and

12 (iii) by inserting after clause (v), as so
 13 redesignated, the following:

14 “(vi) the intensification of efforts to
 15 prevent, detect, and treat latent tuber-
 16 culosis; and”;

17 (F) in subparagraph (D), as so redesign-
 18 nated, by inserting before the period the fol-
 19 lowing: “, including public awareness campaigns
 20 and development of educational, risk, and
 21 media communications.”;

22 (G) in subparagraph (F), as so redesign-
 23 nated, by striking “paragraphs (1) through
 24 (4)” and inserting “subparagraphs (A) through
 25 (D)”;

1 (H) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(2) SELECTION.—In carrying out the activities
3 described in paragraph (1), the Secretary—

4 “(A) is encouraged to give priority to pro-
5 grammatically relevant research so that new
6 tools can be utilized in public health practice;
7 and

8 “(B) may seek input from the Biomedical
9 Advanced Research and Development Authority
10 in identifying novel candidates to utilize in the
11 efforts under this subsection to prevent, diag-
12 nose, and control tuberculosis.”;

13 (3) by redesignating subsections (c) through (h)
14 as subsections (d) through (i), respectively;

15 (4) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
16 lowing—

17 “(c) GRANTS FOR COORDINATION OF PROGRAMS AND
18 SERVICES FOR PREVENTION, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREAT-
19 MENT.—

20 “(1) GRANTS.—The Secretary, acting through
21 the Administrator of the Health Resources and Serv-
22 ices Administration, may award grants to State and
23 local governments and Federally qualified health
24 centers for coordinating the programs and services
25 of such States, governments, and centers to ensure

timely and appropriate prevention, risk-based screening, diagnosis, and treatment of latent and active tuberculosis.

“(2) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘Federally qualified health center’ has the meaning given to such term in section 1861(aa) of the Social Security Act.”;

(5) in subsections (d), (e), and (f), as so redesignated, by striking “(a) or (b)” each place it appears and inserting “(a), (b), or (c)”;

(6) in subsection (g)(4), as so redesignated, by adding at the end the following:

“(C) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary is encouraged to make the reports under subparagraph (A), or other publications relevant to domestic tuberculosis surveillance, publicly available on the Internet website of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and disseminate such information to stakeholders.”;

(7) in subsection (h), as so redesignated—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “research into new tools under subsection (b)(2)” and inserting “the research, investigations, experiments, demonstrations, and studies in

1 health science under subsection (b)(1)(B)”;
 2 and

3 (ii) by inserting “ensuring access to
 4 the products developed as a result of such
 5 research, investigations, experiments, dem-
 6 onstrations, and studies and” after “advice
 7 regarding”; and

8 (B) in paragraph (3)—

9 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs
 10 (D) and (E) as subparagraphs (E) and
 11 (F), respectively; and

12 (ii) by inserting after subparagraph
 13 (C) the following:

14 “(D) members of the Biomedical Advanced
 15 Research and Development Authority;”; and

16 (8) in subsection (i)(1)(A), as so redesignated,
 17 by striking “\$200,000,000” and all that follows
 18 through the period and inserting “\$142,200,000 for
 19 fiscal year 2018, \$195,700,000 for fiscal year 2019,
 20 \$225,000,000 for fiscal year 2020, \$236,250,000 for
 21 fiscal year 2021, \$248,062,500 for fiscal year 2022,
 22 and \$260,465,625 for fiscal year 2023.”.

23 (b) NIH TUBERCULOSIS ACTIVITIES.—Section
 24 424C(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.

1 285b–7c(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and in-
 2 serting the following:

3 “(1) enhancing basic, clinical, and operational
 4 research on tuberculosis, including with respect to—

5 “(A) drug-resistant tuberculosis;

6 “(B) infection with tuberculosis and la-
 7 tency and progression of tuberculosis; and

8 “(C) pediatric tuberculosis;”.

9 **SEC. 3. GAO STUDY.**

10 Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment
 11 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
 12 shall issue a report on the coordination of efforts in the
 13 United States to—

14 (1) prevent, control, and eliminate tuberculosis;
 15 and

16 (2) implement the activities under section 317E
 17 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b–
 18 6), as amended by this Act, and the National Action
 19 Plan for Combating Multidrug-Resistant Tuber-
 20 culosis, issued in December 2015.

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