

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7474

To direct the Secretary of Defense to issue guidance for the review of suicide events involving members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 1, 2020

Mrs. TRAHAN (for herself, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. CISNEROS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to issue guidance for the review of suicide events involving members of the Armed Forces, 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 Review
5 of Military Suicide Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MULTIDISCIPLINARY BOARD TO EVALUATE SUI-**
7 **CIDE EVENTS.**

8 (a) **GUIDANCE REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of De-
9 fense shall issue guidance that requires each suicide event
10 involving a member of a covered Armed Force to be re-

1 viewed by a multidisciplinary board established at the
2 command or installation level. Such guidance shall require
3 that, for each suicide event reviewed by such a board, the
4 board will—

5 (1) clearly define the objective, purpose, and
6 outcome of the review;

7 (2) take a multidisciplinary approach to the re-
8 view and include, as part of the review process, lead-
9 ers of military units, medical and mental health pro-
10 fessionals, and representatives of military criminal
11 investigative organizations;

12 (3) obtain the data necessary to make a com-
13 prehensive Department of Defense suicide event re-
14 port submission; and

15 (4) take appropriate steps to protect and share
16 information obtained from ongoing investigations
17 into the event (such as medical and law enforcement
18 reports).

19 (b) IMPLEMENTATION BY COVERED ARMED
20 FORCES.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which
21 the guidance is issued under subsection (a), the chiefs of
22 the covered Armed Forces shall implement the guidance.

23 (c) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
25 of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense com-

1 mitted a report on the progress of the Secretary in imple-
2 menting the guidance required under subsection (a).

3 (d) COVERED ARMED FORCES DEFINED.—In this
4 section, the term “covered Armed Forces” means the
5 Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force.

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