

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4093

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment or operation of a center to be known as the Emergency Mental Health and Substance Use Training and Technical Assistance Center.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 29, 2020

Ms. SMITH 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 provide for the establishment or operation of a center to be known as the Emergency Mental Health and Substance Use Training and Technical Assistance Center.

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 “Emergency Support
5 for Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health Services
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE**
2 **USE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**
3 **CENTER.**

4 Subpart 3 of part B of title V of the Public Health
5 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–31 et seq.) is amended by
6 inserting after section 520A (42 U.S.C. 290bb–32) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 **“SEC. 520B. EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH AND SUB-**
9 **STANCE USE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL AS-**
10 **SISTANCE CENTER.**

11 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting
12 through the Assistant Secretary, shall establish or operate
13 a center to be known as the Emergency Mental Health
14 and Substance Use Training and Technical Assistance
15 Center (referred to in this section as the ‘Center’) to pro-
16 vide technical assistance and support—

17 “(1) to public or nonprofit entities seeking to
18 establish or expand access to mental health and sub-
19 stance use prevention, treatment, and recovery sup-
20 port services, and increase awareness of such serv-
21 ices; and

22 “(2) to public health professionals, health care
23 professionals and support staff, essential workers (as
24 defined by a State, Tribe, locality, or territory), and
25 members of the public to address the trauma, stress,

1 and mental health needs associated with an emer-
2 gency period.

3 “(b) ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT.—The assistance
4 and support provided under subsection (a) shall include
5 assistance and support with respect to—

6 “(1) training on identifying signs of trauma,
7 stress, and mental health needs;

8 “(2) providing accessible resources to assist in-
9 dividuals and families experiencing trauma, stress,
10 or other mental health needs during and after an
11 emergency period;

12 “(3) providing resources for substance use dis-
13 order prevention, treatment, and recovery designed
14 to assist individuals and families during and after an
15 emergency period;

16 “(4) the provision of language access services,
17 including translation services, interpretation, or
18 other such services for individuals with limited
19 English speaking proficiency or individuals with dis-
20 abilities; and

21 “(5) evaluation and improvement, as necessary,
22 of the effectiveness of such services provided by pub-
23 lic or nonprofit entities.

24 “(c) BEST PRACTICES.—The Center shall periodi-
25 cally issue best practices for use by organizations seeking

1 to provide mental health services or substance use disorder
2 prevention, treatment, or recovery services.

3 “(d) EMERGENCY PERIOD.—In this section, the term
4 ‘emergency period’ has the meaning given such term in
5 section 1135(g)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act.

6 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
7 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
8 \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 and 2021.”.

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