

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4811

To require guidance to improve access to mental health and substance use prevention services for children, adolescents, and young adults.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 25, 2024

Ms. BUTLER (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To require guidance to improve access to mental health and substance use prevention services for children, adolescents, and young adults.

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 “Prevention Services
5 for Youth Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING ACCESS TO A CONTINUUM OF PREVEN-**
7 **TION SERVICES.**

8 (a) GUIDANCE.—Not later than July 1, 2026, the
9 Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in
10 this section as the “Secretary”), in coordination with the

1 Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid
2 Services, the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and
3 Substance Use, the Administrator of the Administration
4 for Children, Youth, and Families, and the United States
5 Preventive Services Task Force, shall issue guidance to
6 States, political subdivisions of States, and Indian Tribes
7 or Tribal organizations (as such terms are defined in sec-
8 tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education As-
9 sistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)) regarding services pro-
10 vided under the Medicaid program under title XIX of the
11 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) and the Chil-
12 dren’s Health Insurance Program under title XXI of such
13 Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.) (referred to in this section
14 as “CHIP”) that includes the following:

15 (1) Provides, in consultation with health care
16 providers and stakeholders with expertise in mental
17 health and substance use disorder, recommendations
18 for an effective continuum of mental health and sub-
19 stance use disorder prevention services for children,
20 adolescents, and young adults that—

21 (A) includes State educational agencies
22 and local educational agencies (as such terms
23 are defined in section 8101 of the Elementary
24 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
25 U.S.C. 7801)), juvenile justice settings, behav-

ioral health treatment programs, behavioral health providers, youth development programs, Tribal organizations (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)) and Urban Indian organizations (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603)), and other entities as the Secretary determines appropriate; and

(B) promotes access to mental health and substance use disorder prevention services for children, adolescents, and young adults.

(2) Outlines, but does not limit, the Federal authorities through which States may finance and enhance under the Medicaid program and CHIP the availability of mental health and substance use disorder prevention services for children, adolescents, and young adults.

(3) Identifies how States, through the Medicaid program and CHIP, may support access to mental health and substance use disorder prevention services that are responsive to the needs of children, adolescents, young adults, and families, including through—

(A) health services initiatives of CHIP;

1 (B) evidence-based peer support services;

2 (C) adverse childhood experiences mitiga-
3 tion and early intervention initiatives; and

4 (D) the involvement of youth in the imple-
5 mentation and development of such initiatives.

6 (4) Identifies culturally competent policies and
7 practices to meet the need for mental health and
8 substance use disorder prevention services with re-
9 spect to diverse child, adolescent, and young adult
10 populations, including urban and rural communities,
11 racial and ethnic populations, individuals with dis-
12 abilities, and other populations as the Secretary de-
13 termines appropriate.

14 (5) Describes best practices for coordinating
15 Medicaid and CHIP funding with other payors and
16 sources of Federal funding for mental health and
17 substance use disorder prevention services.

18 (6) Identifies best practices for measuring the
19 effectiveness of community-based mental health and
20 substance use disorder prevention services for chil-
21 dren, adolescents, and young adults.

22 (b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall
23 provide technical assistance to States under the Medicaid

- 1 program and CHIP for purposes of carrying out activities
- 2 pursuant to this section.

