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Participants in their violence intervention program, one of the 40 that now exist across the country, receive a brief intervention in the emergency room or at the hospital bedside. They get counseling and support that could include help with groceries, bus money, substance abuse treatment, job training or help finding affordable housing.

This intervention is then followed by intensive community-based case management services in the months following the injury. At Shock Trauma, program participants have shown an 83 percent decrease in rehospitalization due to intentional violent injury, and a 75 percent reduction in criminal activity, and an 82 percent increase in employment.

This bill that we have before us today, the Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act, provides \$10 million in Federal grants to hospitals that want to create or expand violence prevention programs. At the end of a 3-year pilot, each hospital will report its findings back to the Federal Government. Awards will range from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

I believe, however, this bill will net cost savings to the American taxpayers by reducing violent crime, which costs more than \$12 billion, from police, courts, and jails, to the medical expenses of victims, to the lost wages to both victims and perpetrators.

Further, as we engage in a national conversation about reimagining public safety, I think we need to do what we can to shift social work away from police and first responders and back to the experts in mental health, substance abuse, homelessness, unemployment, and other areas that often afflict victims of violent crime.

In fact, when I first introduced this bill in 2019, it was endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Resource Officers, and the National District Attorneys Association. We also received endorsements from the NAACP, American College of Surgeons, Network of Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs, and the National League of Cities. It has also been endorsed by the National Hospital Association.

Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, ADAM KINZINGER, for coauthoring this important legislation; and Chairman FRANK PALLONE and Ranking Member WALDEN for helping us work through this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for the Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Maryland for his good work on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KINZINGER), who is a very talented legislator. He has put a lot into this bill.

Mr. KINZINGER. Madam Speaker, the COVID pandemic has changed almost every aspect of American life. While it may be difficult to measure at

this stage, we know the impact on medical health of Americans across the country is significant and it is alarming.

In the age of technology and instant gratification, more and more people were already feeling less connected. But once the pandemic struck, the negative effects of isolation and uncertainty were only compounded into a sense of hopelessness nationwide. If you don't have hope, you have very little reason to follow a moral code or fear the results of your actions.

Hopelessness and desperation can be a dangerous trigger and it can lead to acts of violence. Unfortunately, victims of violence are often caught in a vicious cycle of violence, as one of the main risk factors for violent injury is a previous violent injury.

My colleague, Congressman RUPPERSBERGER, and I introduced legislation to try and put a stop to this horrific cycle of violence, the Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act. Our legislation establishes a grant program at the Department of Health and Human Services to award grants to existing and aspiring violence intervention programs.

These programs intervene while a victim is still in the hospital recovering from their injuries, and provide a wide range of services like counseling, substance abuse treatment, job training, or even assistance finding affordable housing. And it doesn't stop when the victim walks out of the hospital. The intervention continues for several months, and sometimes even up to a year following the initial incident.

The successes of these programs have been astounding. At the University of Maryland Medical System, participants showed an 83 percent decrease in rehospitalization due to intentional violent injury, and a 75 percent reduction in criminal activity, and an 82 percent increase in employment. These programs really work.

By supporting victims with the resources and education to pursue a different path, we can stop the vicious cycle of violence and give people hope for a better tomorrow. It is more important than ever that we work together to help and heal those who are struggling.

I remain committed to finding commonsense and bipartisan solutions to problems facing our country, and the Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act is a perfect example of how we can work together to enact policies that will have real and lasting impact in our communities.

Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER for working on this important bipartisan legislation. I also thank the chairman and the ranking member for bringing this up and your help with that.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I have no more speakers on our side of the aisle. I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also urge all of my colleagues to sup-

port this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. WILD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5855, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BLOCK, REPORT, AND SUSPEND SUSPICIOUS SHIPMENTS ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3878) to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify the process for registrants to exercise due diligence upon discovering a suspicious order, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3878

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act of 2020".

SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF PROCESS FOR REGISTRANTS TO EXERCISE DUE DILIGENCE UPON DISCOVERING A SUSPICIOUS ORDER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 312(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 832(a)) is amended to read as follows:

"(3) upon discovering a suspicious order or series of orders—

"(A) exercise due diligence;

"(B) establish and maintain (for not less than a period to be determined by the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration) a record of the due diligence that was performed;

"(C) decline to fill the order or series of orders if the due diligence fails to resolve all of the indicators that gave rise to the suspicion that filling the order or series of orders would cause a violation of this title by the registrant or the prospective purchaser; and

"(D) notify the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Special Agent in Charge of the Division Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration for the area in which the registrant is located or conducts business of—

"(i) each suspicious order or series of orders discovered by the registrant; and

"(ii) the indicators giving rise to the suspicion that filling the order or series of orders would cause a violation of this title by the registrant or the prospective purchaser."

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, for purposes of section 312(a)(3) of the Controlled Substances Act, as amended by subsection (a), the Attorney General of the United States shall promulgate a final regulation specifying the indicators that give rise to a suspicion that filling an order or series of orders would cause a violation of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) by a registrant or a prospective purchaser.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—Section 312(a)(3) of the Controlled Substances Act, as amended by

subsection (a), shall apply beginning on the day that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act. Until such day, section 312(a)(3) of the Controlled Substances Act shall apply as such section 312(a)(3) was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3878.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3878, the Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act of 2020. This bill will improve reporting an action on suspicious orders on controlled substances.

Between 1999 and 2017, more than 700,000 Americans died from a drug overdose. Many of those Americans were caught in the first wave of what we typically describe as three waves of this epidemic.

This first wave began in the 1990s with deaths involving prescription opioids. In 2010, we saw dramatic increases from heroin-involved deaths. And most recently, we are seeing a third wave involving synthetic opioids, like illicitly manufactured fentanyl.

During that first wave, Americans across the country became addicted to opioids. Many of those opioids were prescribed to patients to treat pain. However, throughout the years, we have discovered that many of these opioids were diverted through a system meant to prevent diversion.

The Drug Enforcement Administration requires entities that manufacture or distribute controlled substances to register and report their activities through ARCOS. This system is meant to track the manufacture, distribution, and dispensing of these substances. In this system, registrants are also expected to disclose suspicious orders of controlled substances, such as orders of unusual size, orders deviating from a normal pattern, or orders of unusual frequency.

As an effort to improve reporting and action on suspicious orders, this bill would clarify the responsibilities of drug manufacturers and distributors when discovering a suspicious order, and require communications around that order to DEA. This will help all entities to better identify suspicious activity and root out bad actors.

Madam Speaker, this is a commonsense bill that will make clear the responsibilities for all entities in our supply chain and, hopefully, help to deter opioid diversion and trafficking. I commend the lead sponsors of this bipartisan bill, Representatives DINGELL and MCKINLEY, and their staff for their work on this legislation. I also thank the Democratic and Republican members of our committee, as well as bipartisan staff for working together to move this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3878, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, November 16, 2020.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Chair, Committee on Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Energy and Commerce and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3878, the Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act of 2020, so that the bill may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 3878 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

FRANK PALLONE, JR.,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, November 16, 2020.

Hon. FRANK PALLONE, JR.,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN PALLONE: This is to advise you that the Committee on the Judiciary has now had an opportunity to review the provisions in H.R. 3878, the "Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act of 2019," that fall within our Rule jurisdiction. I appreciate your consulting with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee has no objection to your including them in the bill for consideration on the House floor, and to expedite that consideration is willing to forgo action on H.R. 3878, with the understanding that we do not thereby waive any future jurisdictional claim over those provisions or their subject matters.

In the event a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation is convened, the Judiciary Committee reserves the right to request an appropriate number of conferees to address any concerns with these or similar provisions that may arise in conference.

Please place this letter into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our committees.

Sincerely,

JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 3878, the Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act, which was led by my Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues, Representatives MCKINLEY and DINGELL.

This legislation addresses an alarming problem that was identified in the committee's 2018 bipartisan investigation in the distribution of prescription opioids by wholesale drug distributors. The committee found that when millions of prescription opioids were dumped into communities, large and small, across the country, the distributors flagged the orders for the DEA, but shipped the orders anyway, even after notifying the authorities that the orders were suspicious.

H.R. 3878 would place additional commonsense obligations on drug manufacturers and distributors who discover a controlled substance suspicious order. In addition to reporting the suspicious order to the DEA, this legislation requires the manufacturer or distributor to exercise due diligence, to decline to fill the order, and to provide information to the Drug Enforcement Administration on the indicators that led to the belief that filling the order would violate the Substances Controlled Act.

We all have a part to play in the fight against the opioid epidemic, and it is critical that pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors step up in stopping pill dumping.

Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Representatives DINGELL and MCKINLEY, for their extra effort on this legislation. It is a fine piece of work moving forward, and I commend them for their work.

Madam Speaker, I don't believe I have any speakers on this one, so I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL), the Democratic sponsor of the bill.

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act, which would crack down on pill dumping and other abusive practices to address the ongoing opioid epidemic, which still remains one of the most significant public health challenges facing our country.

In 2018, over 67,000 Americans still lost their lives to drug overdoses, and preliminary data for 2019 suggests that deaths are rising again.

My home State of Michigan has been hit hard by the opioid epidemic, which has been exacerbated by COVID-19. We have seen a 15 percent year-over-year increase in fatal overdoses across the entire State since March of this year.

New tools to address pill dumping and other dodgy practices that have

perpetuated the opioid crisis are needed more now than ever. The Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act will crack down on these abuses. It will improve oversight of the opioid supply chain by mandating that the drug manufacturers and distributors exercise due diligence when they receive a suspicious order for controlled substances. This includes blocking or declining to fill the suspicious order, and providing the DEA with additional data and background on the indicators on the order in question.

Distributors and manufacturers should be active partners in addressing these abuses, and this legislation's commonsense protections will save lives in Michigan and the country.

Madam Speaker, I want to recognize my colleague, Congressman MCKINLEY, for his years of leadership and work in highlighting this issue and driving action to address the role bad actors continue to play in perpetuating the opioid crisis. I also thank Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member WALDEN, who I am going to miss greatly, as well as the Democratic and Republican committee staff for working tirelessly to advance this important bipartisan priority.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3878. While Congress has understandably been focused on the COVID-19 pandemic, the opioid epidemic has not gone away. In fact, across the nation overdose deaths are up 13 percent from this time last year.

In West Virginia, nearly twice as many people have died from drug abuse than from COVID.

Last Congress, the Energy and Commerce Committee conducted an investigation that found massive evidence of pill dumping. One example in the report was that nearly 9 million pills were distributed in just two years to a single pharmacy in West Virginia. Finally, two years later we're passing legislation that would help address the problem.

I am proud to work with Mrs. DINGELL on this nonpartisan bill. The Block, Report, and Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act would require drug wholesalers and manufacturers to report and stop unusually large orders. We are hopeful this bill will be another positive step in addressing America's opioid epidemic.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 3878.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3878, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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DEBARMENT ENFORCEMENT OF BAD ACTOR REGISTRANTS ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4806) to amend the Controlled Substances Act to authorize the debarment of certain registrants, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H. R. 4806

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2020" or the "DEBAR Act of 2020".

SEC. 2. DEBARMENT OF CERTAIN REGISTRANTS.

Section 304 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 824) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(h) The Attorney General may issue an order to prohibit, conditionally or unconditionally, and permanently or for such period as the Attorney General may determine, any person from being registered under this title to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance or a list I chemical, if the Attorney General finds that—

"(1) such person meets or has met any of the conditions for suspension or revocation of registration under subsection (a); and

"(2) such person has a history of prior suspensions or revocations of registration.".

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4806.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 4806, the Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2020, or the DEBAR Act of 2020, which gives the Drug Enforcement Administration, or the DEA, additional tools to go after bad actors.

The DEA is charged with enforcing and implementing policies to protect public health and safety through the Controlled Substances Act.

One important lever DEA has at its disposal to manage diversion or non-compliance with the law is the ability to revoke or surrender an individual's CSA registration, which is needed to handle controlled substances. While this is an important tool, a recent Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General report found weaknesses in DEA's registration process and instances where the agency did not fully utilize its regulatory authorities to address noncompliance. Specifically, the inspector general found cases where entities have been able to obtain a new license after having one that was revoked.

For example, the report outlined a case that included a doctor who was engaged in serious misconduct and had his registration revoked, who then moved to another State under the authority of a different DEA field division. When the doctor reapplied for registration, it was granted.

Another example, Madam Speaker, in the report included a dentist who had voluntarily surrendered his medical license and DEA registration on two separate occasions. The dentist also had been convicted of a felony, which is grounds for suspension or revocation of an individual's registration under the CSA. However, according to DEA, the dentist was still able to obtain another DEA registration.

Now, these errors by the DEA are simply unacceptable, Madam Speaker. Today, we are considering H.R. 4806, which would address these errors. The legislation would authorize the debarment of any registrant that either meets the criteria for temporary or permanent suspension or revocation or has a history of prior suspension or revocations.

Again, I thank my colleague Representative LATTA for leading this legislation and Ranking Member WALDEN and his staff for working with me on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, November 16, 2020.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Chair, Committee on Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Energy and Commerce and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4806, the DEBAR Act of 2020, so that the bill may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 4806 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together