

“(B) informed by such review, submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives recommendations on the appropriateness of the inclusion of new types of therapies in the Program.”.

(d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Section 379B of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274m) is amended by striking “\$33,000,000 for fiscal year 2015 and \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020” and inserting “\$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025”.

SEC. 3. CORD BLOOD INVENTORY.

Subsection (g) of section 2 of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 274k note) is amended to read as follows:

“(g) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$23,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.”.

SEC. 4. ADVANCING THE FIELD OF REGENERATIVE MEDICINE.

Section 402 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(o) **REGENERATIVE MEDICINE.**—The Director of NIH shall, as appropriate, continue to consult with the directors of relevant institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health, other relevant experts from such institutes and centers, and relevant experts within the Food and Drug Administration, to further the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells, including autologous stem cells, therapeutic tissue engineering products, human cell and tissue products, human gene therapies, and genetically modified cells.”.

SEC. 5. GAO REPORT ON REGENERATIVE MEDICINE WORKFORCE.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that assesses a specialized health care workforce in the field of regenerative medicine. The report shall include—

(1) an overview of the current employment levels, in both commercial and academic settings, for—

(A) positions necessary for the collection and transplantation of stem cell therapeutics, including bone marrow and cord blood; and

(B) positions in the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells and related to product development;

(2) the identification of gaps, if any, in the projected workforce capacity for—

(A) positions described in paragraph (1)(A); and

(B) the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells, including workforce gaps related to the development of new cellular therapies using adult stem cells;

(3) an overview of the availability of training programs related to the development, refinement, and utilization of adult stem cells, including training on good manufacturing practices for such activities, and the performance of such programs; and

(4) recommendations, if any, for improving the workforce capacity related to—

(A) the positions described in paragraph (1)(A); or

(B) the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 5014

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the first time.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 5014) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the senior Senator from Alaska and the senior Senator from Nebraska be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on Friday, December 11.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HBCU PROPELLING AGENCY RELATIONSHIPS TOWARDS A NEW ERA OF RESULTS FOR STUDENTS ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the message to accompany S. 461.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate the message from the House.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 461) entitled “An Act to strengthen the capacity and competitiveness of historically Black colleges and universities through robust public-sector, private-sector, and community partnerships and engagement, and for other purposes.”, do pass with an amendment.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment, and I know of no further debate on the motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the motion to concur.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TIMELY REAUTHORIZATION OF NECESSARY STEM-CELL PROGRAMS LENDS ACCESS TO NEEDED THERAPIES ACT OF 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4764, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4764) to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Alexander substitute amendment at the desk be considered agreed to and the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2704) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Timely Reauthorization of Necessary Stem-cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies Act of 2020” or the “TRANSPLANT ACT of 2020”.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE C.W. BILL YOUNG CELL TRANSPLANTATION PROGRAM.

(a) **ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS.**—Subsection (a) of section 379 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(7) The Secretary shall convene the Advisory Council at least two times each calendar year.”.

(b) **INCREASING COLLECTION.**—

(1) **TECHNICAL CLARIFICATION.**—Effective as if included in the enactment of Public Law 114-104 (the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015), the amendment to section 379(d)(2)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k(d)(2)(B)) in section 2(a)(2) of Public Law 114-104 is amended by inserting “goal of increasing collections of high quality” before “cord blood units.”.

(2) **ELIMINATING DEADWOOD.**—Subparagraph (B) of section 379(d)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k(d)(2)) is amended by striking the second and third sentences in such subparagraph.

(c) **PERIODIC REVIEW OF STATE OF SCIENCE.**—Section 379 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(o) **PERIODIC REVIEW OF STATE OF SCIENCE.**—

“(1) **REVIEW.**—Not less than every two years, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the National Institutes of Health, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Advisory Council, and other stakeholders, where appropriate given relevant expertise, shall conduct a review of the state of the science of using adult stem cells and birthing tissues to develop new types of therapies for patients, for the purpose of considering the potential inclusion of such new types of therapies in the Program.

“(2) **RECOMMENDATIONS.**—Not later than June 30, 2024, the Secretary shall—

“(A) complete the second review required by paragraph (1); and

“(B) informed by such review, submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the

House of Representatives recommendations on the appropriateness of the inclusion of new types of therapies in the Program.”.

(d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Section 379B of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274m) is amended by striking “\$33,000,000 for fiscal year 2015 and \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020” and inserting “\$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025”.

SEC. 3. CORD BLOOD INVENTORY.

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“(g) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$23,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.”.

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“(o) **REGENERATIVE MEDICINE.**—The Director of NIH shall, as appropriate, continue to consult with the directors of relevant institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health, other relevant experts from such institutes and centers, and relevant experts within the Food and Drug Administration, to further the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells, including autologous stem cells, therapeutic tissue engineering products, human cell and tissue products, human gene therapies, and genetically modified cells.”.

SEC. 5. GAO REPORT ON REGENERATIVE MEDICINE WORKFORCE.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that assesses a specialized health care workforce in the field of

regenerative medicine. The report shall include—

(1) an overview of the current employment levels, in both commercial and academic settings, for—

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(A) positions described in paragraph (1)(A); and

(B) the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells, including workforce gaps related to the development of new cellular therapies using adult stem cells;

(3) an overview of the availability of training programs related to the development, refinement, and utilization of adult stem cells, including training on good manufacturing practices for such activities, and the performance of such programs; and

(4) recommendations, if any, for improving the workforce capacity related to—

(A) the positions described in paragraph (1)(A); or

(B) the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 4764), as amended, was passed.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, December 14; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Kirsch nomination; finally, that cloture motions filed during today’s session ripen at 5:30 p.m. on Monday.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. McCONNELL. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:22 p.m., adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2020.