

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend title V of the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to create peer support recovery networks, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend title V of the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to create peer support recovery networks, 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 “Opioid Peer Support
5 Networks Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. OPIOID PEER SUPPORT NETWORKS.**

7 Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act
8 (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.) is amended by adding at the
9 end the following:

1 **“SEC. 550. OPIOID PEER SUPPORT NETWORKS.**

2 “(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘peer
3 support network’ means a group of two or more inde-
4 pendent nonprofit organizations—

5 “(1) that mobilizes resources within and outside
6 of the network to increase the prevalence and quality
7 of long-term recovery from substance use disorders;
8 and

9 “(2) for which at least one organization is whol-
10 ly or principally governed by ‘peers’ (individuals in
11 recovery for substance use disorders who reflect the
12 community served).

13 “(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall
14 award grants for up to 3 years to eligible recovery commu-
15 nity organizations to enable such organizations to develop,
16 expand, and enhance recovery services.

17 “(c) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
18 under this section an entity shall—

19 “(1) be a recovery community organization; and

20 “(2) submit to the Secretary an application at
21 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
22 formation as the Secretary may require.

23 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts awarded under
24 grants under subsection (b)—

“(1) shall be used to develop, expand, and enhance non-clinical community and statewide recovery support services; and

4 “(2) may be used to—

“(A) build connections between peer support networks, between recovery community organizations, and with other recovery support services, including—

9 “(i) behavioral health providers;

10 “(ii) primary care providers and phy-
11 sicians;

12 “(iii) educational and vocational
13 schools;

14 “(iv) employers;

15 “(v) housing services;

16 “(vi) child welfare agencies;

17 “(vii) the criminal justice system; and

18 “(viii) other recovery support services
19 that facilitate recovery from substance use
20 disorders; and

21 “(B) conduct outreach on issues relating to
22 substance use disorders and recovery, includ-
23 ing—

24 “(i) identifying the signs of addiction;

1 “(ii) identifying the resources avail-
2 able to individuals struggling with addic-
3 tion and to families with a family member
4 struggling with, or being treated for, ad-
5 diction, including programs that mentor
6 and provide support services to children;

7 “(iii) identifying the resources avail-
8 able to help support individuals in recov-
9 ery;

10 “(iv) identifying related medical out-
11 comes of substance use disorders, the po-
12 tential of acquiring an infectious disease
13 from intravenous drug use, and neonatal
14 abstinence syndrome among infants ex-
15 posed to opioids during pregnancy;

16 “(v) identifying resources available to
17 reduce the stigma associated with sub-
18 stance use disorders; and

19 “(vi) educating and reinforcing the
20 best practices in the delivery of recovery
21 support services.

22 “(e) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—In awarding
23 grants under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that
24 not less than 50 percent of funds are awarded to eligible
25 entities that are not located in metropolitan statistical

1 areas (as defined by the Office of Management and Budg-
2 et). The Secretary shall take into account the unique
3 needs of rural communities, including communities with
4 a per capita overdose mortality rate that is above the na-
5 tional average and communities with a shortage of preven-
6 tion and treatment services.

7 “(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER.—

8 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, jointly
9 with the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and
10 Substance Abuse, through a grant shall establish a
11 National Peer Run Training and Technical Assist-
12 ance Center for Addiction Recovery Support (re-
13 ferred to in this subsection as the ‘Center’).

14 “(2) FUNCTIONS.—The Center established
15 under paragraph (1) shall provide support to the
16 peer support networks established under this section
17 including—

18 “(A) training;

19 “(B) technical assistance;

20 “(C) evaluations;

21 “(D) research;

22 “(E) translation services;

23 “(F) capacity building products; and

1 “(G) assistance in navigating the grant ap-
2 plication and renewal process under subsection
3 (b).

4 “(3) BEST PRACTICES.—The Center established
5 under paragraph (1) shall annually issue best prac-
6 tices for use by peer support networks.

7 “(g) DATA REPORTING.—Grant recipients under
8 subsection (b) shall annually submit data to the Secretary
9 including—

10 “(1) a description of the programs and activi-
11 ties funded under the grant;

12 “(2) a description of the outcomes of individ-
13 uals who received services through the programs
14 funded under the grant, including in housing, em-
15 ployment, health, and wellness; and

16 “(3) other information requested by the Sec-
17 retary

18 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
20 \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2022,
21 of which \$15,000,000 for each fiscal year shall be allo-
22 cated for the Peer Support Networks under subsection (b)
23 and \$10,000,000 for each fiscal year shall be allocated for
24 the National Peer Run Training and Technical Assistance

1 Center for Addiction Recovery Support established under
2 subsection (f).

3 “(i) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year
4 after awarding the first grant under this section, and an-
5 nually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress
6 a report describing the activities carried out under this
7 section and containing an evaluation of such programs,
8 including outstanding challenges and barriers to substance
9 use recovery, and gaps in peer recovery support services.”.