118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To improve access to opioid use disorder treatment services under the
Medicare program.

_____

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

_____

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

_____

A BILL

To improve access to opioid use disorder treatment services
under the Medicare program.

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 "Supporting Seniors

5 with Opioid Use Disorder Act of 2023".

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASING AWARENESS AND DATA COLLECTION**

2   **REGARDING   MEDICARE   COVERAGE   OF**

3   **OPIOID USE DISORDER TREATMENT SERV-**

4   **ICES.**

5   (a) REQUIRED OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall ad-

6 vance education and awareness among beneficiaries and

7 health care providers regarding coverage of opioid use dis-

8 order treatment services furnished in person or via tele-

9 health under the Medicare program under title XVIII of

10 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.), including

11 by revising outreach and enrollment materials as appro-

12 priate, making State and national contact information for

13 health care providers publicly available in an easily acces-

14 sible manner, tailoring outreach to at risk or underserved

15 beneficiaries as appropriate, and developing or improving

16 continuing education programs that advance the education

17 of providers on the prescribing of, and relevant clinical

18 considerations with respect to, opioid medications and sub-

19 stance use disorder treatment programs.

20   (b) REPORT AND EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall

21 conduct an evaluation of the outreach conducted under

22 subsection (a) not later than 18 months after initiating

23 such activities and shall submit to Congress a report that

24 provides an analysis of the effectiveness of outreach activi-

25 ties targeting beneficiaries who were previously not receiv-

26 ing opioid use disorder treatment services, including the

1 effect of such outreach on beneficiary access to care and
2 utilization of services, in addition to the number of pro-
3 viders treating beneficiaries for opioid use disorder in of-
4 fice-based settings.

5   (c) IMPROVING DATA COLLECTION.—Not later than
6 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
7 Administrator shall provide data to the Substance Abuse
8 and Mental Health Services Administration on—

9   (1) the number of Medicare beneficiaries diag-
10   nosed with opioid use disorder;

11   (2) the number of beneficiaries who receive
12   medication-assisted treatment under the Medicare
13   program;

14   (3) the number of beneficiaries who receive
15   medication-assisted treatment under the Medicare
16   program who also receive behavioral therapy; and

17   (4) any geographic areas in which beneficiaries
18   remain underserved with respect to the provision of
19   opioid use disorder treatment services under the
20   Medicare program.

21   (d) STAKEHOLDER MEETING.—Not later than 18
22 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
23 Secretary shall convene a meeting of stakeholders, includ-
24 ing practicing behavioral health providers, to share best
25 practices on the utilization of behavioral therapy among

1 beneficiaries receiving medication to treat opioid use dis-

2 order under the Medicare program.

3   (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4   (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Adminis-

5   trator" means the Administrator of the Centers for

6   Medicare & Medicaid Services.

7   (2) MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT.—The

8   term "medication-assisted treatment" means an evi-

9   dence-based treatment that consists of the adminis-

10   tration of medications and related behavioral thera-

11   pies.

12   (3) OPIOID USE DISORDER TREATMENT SERV-

13   ICES.—The term "opioid use disorder treatment

14   services" has the meaning given that term in section

15   1861(jjj)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.

16   1395x(jjj)(1)).

17   (4) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means

18   the Secretary of Health and Human Services.