

## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER BILL ENDORSEMENTS

 H.R. 4099 – Reauthorizing the Creating Opportunities that Necessitate New and Enhanced Connections That Improve Opioid Navigation Strategies (RECONNECTIONS)
 Act, Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN-02)

This bipartisan bill would reauthorize section 7161 of the SUPPORT Act for fiscal years 2024 through 2028 to continue support for the improvement of prescription drug monitoring programs and other innovative projects related to rapid response of controlled substance misuse, abuse, and overdoses, as well as programs related to controlled substance overdose data collection and reporting. The bill also designates the fentanyl crisis as a "new and emerging public health crisis."

- H.R. 3065 School Access to Naloxone Act, Rep. Dean Phillips (D-MN-03) This bipartisan bill would expand eligibility under the Public Health Services Act (PHSA) Section 544 program Grants for Reducing Overdose Deaths to provide new grant opportunities specifically directed at providing schools with funding to access and administer naloxone. The Grants for Reducing Overdose Deaths program is already authorized and appropriated under existing law at \$1 million per year, and each grantee can receive up to \$200,000 per grant year. The grants are open to entities (states, localities, districts, or tribes) that require schools to stock naloxone, staff to be trained on its administration, and civil liability protection for trained personnel who administer naloxone in a school setting.
- H.R. 4054 Trauma Support and Mental Health in Schools Reauthorization Act, Rep. Nikki Budzinski (D-IL-13)

This bipartisan bill would amend the SUPPORT Act to reauthorize through FY2028 grants to improve trauma support services and mental health care for children and youth in educational settings. The legislation aims to support school-based service systems, trauma-informed support and mental health service systems as they create programs to provide, develop or improve prevention, screening, referral and treatment and support services to students who are in need of mental health services.

 H.R. 4274 – Helping Emergency Responders Overcome (HERO) Act, Rep. Ami Bera (D-CA-06)

This bipartisan bill would direct HHS to report annually to Congress on first responder suicide rates. This report will identify risk factors, possible interventions, and

recommended interventions for further study. Additionally, the HERO Act would require HHS to develop and distribute best practices for the prevention and treatment of posttraumatic stress among first responders. The legislation would establish two grants programs—one for first responders and one for health care workers—to provide training for peer counselors.

- H.R. 1639 VA Zero Suicide Demonstration Project Act, Rep. Susie Lee (D-NV-03)
   This bipartisan bill would enhance the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' suicide prevention efforts by launching a Zero Suicide Initiative pilot program at five VA medical centers across the country.
- H.R. 3011 Servicemembers Mental Health Improvement Act, Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA-06)
   This bipartisan bill would establish a Mental Health Task Force at the Department of Defense (DoD) to develop and provide recommendations for a holistic strategy to address mental health issues agency-wide. This strategy, developed by a Task Force composed of DoD and non-DoD mental health experts, would provide recommendations
- H.R. 4097 Mental Health Improvement Act, Rep. Emilia Sykes (D-OH-13)
   This bipartisan bill would extend authorization for mental and behavioral health education and training grants until FY 2028. Specifically, it would extend the authorization of the Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) Program, which provides funding annually to increase the supply of behavioral health professionals and improve access to behavioral health services.

and identify actionable items for DoD policy changes or Congressional action.

- H.R. 2802 Improving Mental Health Access for Students Act, Rep. Lou Correa (D-CA-46)
   This bipartisan bill would require institutions of higher education (IHEs) that participate in federal student-aid programs to include phone numbers for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, the Crisis Text Line, and a campus mental-health center or program on student IDs.
- H.R. 3751 Department of Defense Overdose Data Act, Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA-06)
   This bipartisan bill would require the Department of Defense to provide an annual public report outlining fatal and non-fatal overdoses among service members and military families, address barriers to care for substance use disorder, and expand access to overdose prevention tools like naloxone, a nasal spray capable of reversing a fatal opioid overdose, and fentanyl test strips.
- H.R. 3312 Moms Matter Act, Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE-AL)
   This bipartisan bill would establish a Maternal Mental Health Equity Grant Program to invest in local initiatives supporting people with mental health conditions or substance use disorders during or after pregnancy. The bill would also provide funding for

programs to grow and diversify the maternal mental and behavioral health care workforce to expand access to high-quality maternal mental health care and substance use disorder services.

- H.R. 3375 STOP Fentanyl Overdoses Act, Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH-02)
   This bipartisan bill is a comprehensive bill to respond to the opioid crisis with a focus on fentanyl, including detection, prevention, and treatment and recovery.
- <u>Sec. 230</u> of H.R. 4531, the Support for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act, Rep. Jimmy Panetta (D-CA-19)
   This bipartisan provision would apply penalties under Schedule III of the Controlled Substances Act to illicit uses of xylazine.
- H.R. 4603 Rural Wellness Act, Rep. Yadira Caraveo (D-CO-08)
   This bipartisan bill would reauthorize USDA Rural Development's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, which provides competitive grants to help rural communities use advanced technology projects, such as telemedicine projects that provide substance use disorder treatment.
- H.R. 3860 Humane Correctional Health Care Act, Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH-02)
   This bipartisan bill would end the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy, and require the GAO to report on specified information relating to the health of inmates and the effects of Medicaid coverage.
- H.R. 3074 Due Process Continuity of Care Act, Rep. David Trone (D-MD-06)
   This bipartisan bill would amend the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy to allow for Medicaid coverage of health care services for pre-trial detainees. The bill would provide \$50 million in planning grants to states for implementation.
- H.R. 3752 Parity Enforcement Act, Rep. Donald Norcross (D-NJ-01)
   This bipartisan bill would amend ERISA to provide authority for the Department of Labor to enforce the parity requirements for group health plans with respect to the coverage of mental health and substance use disorder benefits under the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008.
- H.R. 4911 Supporting the Health and Safety of Law Enforcement Act, Rep. Josh Harder (D-CA-09)
   This bill would establish a pilot program to promote coordination between community

mental health centers and law enforcement agencies to help facilitate coordination on law enforcement cases with an underlying mental health component. The bill would direct the Department of Justice to award grants for community mental health centers to place social workers with law enforcement agencies.

 H.R. 5506 – Hospital As Naloxone Distribution Sites (HANDS) Act, Rep. Brittany Pettersen (D-CO-07)

This bill would require Medicare, Medicaid, and TRICARE to cover the cost when medical providers physically hand naloxone to patients who are at risk of an overdose, before they are discharged, at zero cost to the patient.

 H.R. 4773 – Substance Wastewater Inspection For Trends in (SWIFT) Detection Act, Rep. Lori Trahan (D-MA-03)

This bipartisan bill would amend the Public Health Service Act to fund detection and testing activities, such as wastewater surveillance, to detect synthetic opioids.

H.R. 5163 – Telehealth Response for E-prescribing Addiction Therapy Services (TREATS)
 Act, Rep. David Trone (D-MD-06)

This bill would make permanent the waiver allowing Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) to be prescribed by telehealth services under Medicare without an initial in-person visit.

 H.R. 4632 – National ACERT Grant Program Authorization Act, Rep. Chris Pappas (NH-01)

This bipartisan bill would authorize the Department of Justice and the Department of Health and Human Services to award grants for the establishment of Adverse Childhood Experiences Response Teams (ACERTs) to address adverse childhood experiences associated with exposure to trauma.