

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4504

To improve military readiness by establishing programs to consistently track, retain, and analyze information regarding suicides involving members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces and suicides involving dependents of members of the regular and reserve components.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 28, 2014

Ms. TSONGAS (for herself, Mr. PETERS of California, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To improve military readiness by establishing programs to consistently track, retain, and analyze information regarding suicides involving members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces and suicides involving dependents of members of the regular and reserve components.

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 “DoD Suicide Tracking  
5 Act of 2014”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVED CONSISTENCY IN RESERVE COMPONENT**  
2 **SUICIDE PREVENTION AND RESILIENCE PRO-**  
3 **GRAM.**

4 (a) POLICY FOR STANDARD SUICIDE DATA COLLEC-  
5 TION, REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT.—To improve con-  
6 sistency in and oversight of the suicide prevention and re-  
7 silience program for the National Guard and Reserves es-  
8 tablished pursuant to section 10219 of title 10, United  
9 States Code, the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe a  
10 policy for the development of a standard method for col-  
11 lecting, reporting, and assessing suicide data and suicide-  
12 attempt data involving members of the National Guard  
13 and Reserves.

14 (b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall  
15 develop the policy required by subsection (a) in consulta-  
16 tion with the Secretaries of the military departments, the  
17 Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and the adjutants  
18 general of the States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,  
19 the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

20 (c) SUBMISSION OF POLICY AND CONGRESSIONAL  
21 BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the  
22 enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit the pol-  
23 icy developed under subsection (a) to the Committees on  
24 Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Represent-  
25 atives. At the request of the committees, the Secretary  
26 also shall brief such committees on the policy and the im-

1 plementation status of the standardized suicide data col-  
2 lection, reporting and assessment method.

3 (d) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretaries of the mili-  
4 tary departments, with respect to the Reserves, and the  
5 Chief of the National Guard Bureau and the adjutants  
6 general, with respect to the National Guard, shall imple-  
7 ment the policy developed under subsection (a) within 180  
8 days after the date of the submission of the policy under  
9 subsection (c).

10 **SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SUICIDE PREVENTION**  
11 **PROGRAM FOR MILITARY DEPENDENTS.**

12 (a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—As soon as possible after  
13 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
14 Defense shall direct the Secretary of each military depart-  
15 ment to develop and implement a program to track, retain,  
16 and analyze information regarding suicides involving de-  
17 pendants of members of the regular and reserve compo-  
18 nents of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of that  
19 Secretary.

20 (b) DEPENDENT DEFINED.—In this section, the  
21 term “dependent” means a person described in section  
22 1072(2) of title 10, United States Code, except that, in  
23 the case of a parent or parent-in-law of a member of the

1 Armed Forces, the income-support requirement of sub-  
2 paragraph (E) of such section does not apply.

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