

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2060

To require policies and programs to prevent and treat gambling disorder among members of the Armed Forces and their dependents, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 9, 2019

Ms. WARREN (for herself and Mr. DAINES) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require policies and programs to prevent and treat gambling disorder among members of the Armed Forces and their dependents, 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 “Gambling Addiction
5 Prevention Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLI-**
2 **CIES AND PROGRAMS TO PREVENT AND**
3 **TREAT GAMBLING DISORDER AMONG MEM-**
4 **BERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND THEIR DE-**
5 **PENDENTS.**

6 (a) **POLICIES AND PROGRAMS.—**

7 (1) **IN GENERAL.—**The Secretary of Defense
8 shall develop and implement policies and programs
9 on prevention, education, and treatment of gambling
10 disorder and integrate gambling disorder into exist-
11 ing mental health and substance use disorder pro-
12 grams.

13 (2) **CONSULTATION.—**The Secretary shall de-
14 velop the policies and programs described in para-
15 graph (1) in coordination with the Secretary of Vet-
16 erans Affairs, the Secretary of Homeland Security,
17 and the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

18 (b) **EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AND PROMOTION OF**
19 **RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR.—**

20 (1) **IN GENERAL.—**In carrying out policies and
21 programs developed and implemented under sub-
22 section (a)(1), if the Secretary hosts or provides
23 gambling activities at a morale, welfare, and recre-
24 ation facility of the Department of Defense, the Sec-
25 retary shall, at that facility—

26 (A) provide—

1 (i) educational materials and a list of
2 resources to assist and empower members
3 of the Armed Forces to identify the risks
4 of gambling; and

5 (ii) a list of resources and informa-
6 tional material on where such members can
7 seek help if they develop gambling dis-
8 order; and

9 (B) implement measures that encourage
10 responsible behavior consistent with measures
11 authorized and required by commercial and
12 tribal gaming regulators in the United States.

13 (2) FUNDING OF MEASURES.—The Secretary
14 shall fund measures implemented under paragraph
15 (1)(B) through the use of proceeds generated by
16 gambling activities at morale, welfare, and recreation
17 facilities of the Department.

18 (c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date
19 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
20 to the congressional defense committees a report on efforts
21 undertaken under this section.

22 (d) CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES DE-
23 FINED.—In this section, the term “congressional defense
24 committees” has the meaning given that term in section
25 101 of title 10, United States Code.

1 **SEC. 3. UPDATE OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REGULA-**
2 **TIONS, INSTRUCTIONS, AND OTHER GUID-**
3 **ANCE TO INCLUDE GAMBLING DISORDER.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the
5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of De-
6 fense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military
7 departments, shall update all regulations, instructions,
8 and other guidance of the Department of Defense and the
9 military departments with respect to behavioral health to
10 explicitly include gambling disorder.

11 (b) **MILITARY DEPARTMENTS DEFINED.**—In this
12 section, the term “military departments” has the meaning
13 given that term in section 101(8) of title 10, United States
14 Code.

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