

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2244

To amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow community addiction treatment facilities and community mental health facilities to register to dispense controlled substances through the practice of telemedicine, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 24, 2019

Mr. ROBERTS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow community addiction treatment facilities and community mental health facilities to register to dispense controlled substances through the practice of telemedicine, 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 “Modernizing Eligible
5 Treatment centers for Healing Addiction Act of 2019” or
6 the “METH Addiction Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REGISTRATION OF COMMUNITY ADDICTION TREAT-**
 2 **MENT FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY MENTAL**
 3 **HEALTH FACILITIES.**

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 102 of the Controlled
 5 Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (54)(A), by striking clause (i)
 7 and inserting the following:

8 “(i) while the patient is being treated by,
 9 and physically located in—

10 “(I) a hospital or clinic registered
 11 under section 303(f); or

12 “(II) a community addiction treat-
 13 ment facility or community mental health
 14 facility registered under section 303(l);
 15 and”;

16 (2) by redesignating paragraph (58) as para-
 17 graph (59);

18 (3) by redesignating the second paragraph des-
 19 ignated as paragraph (57) as paragraph (58);

20 (4) by moving paragraphs (57), (58) (as so re-
 21 designated), and (59) (as so redesignated) 2 ems to
 22 the left; and

23 (5) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(60) The term ‘community addiction treatment fa-
 25 cility’ means an addiction treatment facility that, for the
 26 purpose of operating as an addiction treatment facility,

1 is licensed, operated, authorized, or otherwise recognized
 2 by a State government.

3 “(61) The term ‘community mental health facility’
 4 means a mental health facility that, for the purpose of
 5 operating as a mental health facility, is licensed, operated,
 6 authorized, or otherwise recognized by a State govern-
 7 ment.”.

8 (b) REGISTRATION.—Section 303 of the Controlled
 9 Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823) is amended by adding at
 10 the end the following:

11 “(1) COMMUNITY ADDICTION TREATMENT FACILI-
 12 TIES AND COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES.—

13 “(1) REGISTRATION.—The Attorney General
 14 may register community addiction treatment facili-
 15 ties and community mental health facilities to ad-
 16 minister controlled substances through the practice
 17 of telemedicine.

18 “(2) DENIAL OF APPLICATIONS.—The Attorney
 19 General may deny an application for registration
 20 under paragraph (1) if the Attorney General deter-
 21 mines that the registration would be inconsistent
 22 with the public interest after considering—

23 “(A) any recommendation by the licensing
 24 board or professional disciplinary authority of
 25 the State in which the applicant is located;

1 “(B) the experience of the applicant in
2 treating patients;

3 “(C) any conviction of an employee of the
4 applicant under Federal or State law relating to
5 treatment of patients;

6 “(D) the compliance of the applicant with
7 applicable Federal, State, or local laws relating
8 to treatment of patients; and

9 “(E) any other conduct by the applicant
10 that may threaten the health and safety of the
11 public.”.

12 (c) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 180
13 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney
14 General shall notify Congress of the plan of the Depart-
15 ment of Justice to implement the amendments made by
16 this Act.

17 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
18 this Act shall take effect on the date that is 180 days
19 after the date on which the Attorney General notifies Con-
20 gress under subsection (c).

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