

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8887

To direct the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to
establish an occupational research program on mental health.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Mr. MRVAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on Education and Labor

A BILL

To direct the National Institute for Occupational Safety and
Health to establish an occupational research program
on mental health.

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. OCCUPATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAM ON MEN-**
4 **TAL HEALTH.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National In-
6 stitute for Occupational Safety and Health (in this section
7 referred to as the “Institute”) shall establish a research
8 program to identify and apply comprehensive approaches
9 to support frontline, essential, and other affected workers
10 across all industries and occupations exposed to and af-

1 fected by workplace stressors that contribute to adverse
2 mental health outcomes, including traumatic stress, anx-
3 iety, depression, suicide, and related mental health condi-
4 tions. In designing such research program, the Director
5 shall, in consultation with the heads of other Federal de-
6 partments and agencies, as appropriate, address work-
7 place stressors such as—

8 (1) traumatic grief resulting from COVID–19-
9 related death or injury in the workplace;

10 (2) conditions of employment or places of em-
11 ployment, including consecutive shifts, increases in
12 shift duration, changes in workplace protocols, or in-
13 creases in workloads and demands due to insuffi-
14 cient resources, which can result in fatal, near-fatal,
15 or other serious occupational injuries or illnesses; or
16 (3) workplace violence or other physical and
17 psychological hazards that contribute to worker in-
18 jury or illness on the job, including poor mental
19 health outcomes among workers.

20 (b) BEST PRACTICES AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—As
21 part of the research program established under this sec-
22 tion, the Director shall develop best practices or rec-
23 ommendations for organizational-level workplace interven-
24 tions and support services that would both prevent worker
25 injury or illness and reduce the risk of such adverse men-

tal health outcomes among frontline, essential, and other affected workers across all industries and occupations, including wraparound services, mental health awareness initiatives, workplace stress prevention programs, and training programs to promote work-related stress prevention and reduction and organizational resilience, to include specific strategies for preventing burnout among workers.

(c) ADDITIONAL SUPPORT.—As part of such research program, the Director shall also coordinate and support efforts through other research programs carried out by the Institute, including the Institute’s Total Worker Health program, to develop comprehensive, evidence-informed approaches to support mental and behavioral health as a part of worker wellbeing and related occupational safety and health programs.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall—

(1) report to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate on the extent to which best practices or recommendations developed pursuant to subsection (b) have been adopted by relevant stakeholders; and

1 (2) engage in education and outreach activities
2 with employers, health care providers, nonprofit or-
3 ganizations, workers, labor organizations, and re-
4 lated stakeholders to support such adoption.

5 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
6 out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated
7 \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2025.

○