

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2809

To ensure references to opioid overdose reversal agents in certain grant programs of the Department of Health and Human Services are not limited to naloxone.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. HASSAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To ensure references to opioid overdose reversal agents in certain grant programs of the Department of Health and Human Services are not limited to naloxone.

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 “Halting the Epidemic
5 of Addiction and Loss Act of 2023” or the “HEAL Act
6 of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSAL**
2 **AGENTS IN HHS GRANT PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—In promulgating regulations or
4 issuing guidance or other documents for any grant pro-
5 gram of the Department of Health and Human Services
6 that addresses opioid misuse or use disorders, the Sec-
7 retary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this
8 section as the “Secretary”) shall ensure that any reference
9 to an opioid overdose reversal agent—

10 (1) shall be a reference to any drug or device
11 approved, cleared, or otherwise legally marketed
12 under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act
13 (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) for emergency treatment of
14 known or suspected opioid overdose; and

15 (2) shall not be limited to a reference to
16 naloxone.

17 (b) EXISTING REFERENCES.—

18 (1) UPDATE.—Not later than December 31,
19 2023, the Secretary shall update each regulation,
20 guidance, and other document described in para-
21 graph (2) such that any reference to an opioid over-
22 dose reversal agent, including any reference to
23 naloxone, is a reference to any drug or device ap-
24 proved, cleared, or otherwise legally marketed under
25 the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21

1 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) for emergency treatment of
2 known or suspected opioid overdose.

3 (2) REGULATIONS, GUIDANCE, DOCUMENTS DE-
4 SCRIBED.—A regulation, guidance, or other docu-
5 ment described in this paragraph is any regulation,
6 guidance, or other document of the Department of
7 Health and Human Services that—

8 (A) was issued before the date of enact-
9 ment of this Act; and

10 (B) is for—

11 (i) the grant program for State and
12 Tribal response to opioid use disorders
13 under section 1003 of the 21st Century
14 Cures Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee–3a; commonly
15 referred to as “State Opioid Response
16 Grants” and “Tribal Opioid Response
17 Grants”); or

18 (ii) the grant program for priority
19 substance use disorder prevention needs of
20 regional and national significance under
21 section 516 of the Public Health Service
22 Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–22).

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