

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for institutions of higher education to prevent substance abuse, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. TESTER (for himself and Ms. HASSAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

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**A BILL**

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for institutions of higher education to prevent substance abuse, 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 “Healthier Students for  
5 Stronger Campuses Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT**  
2 **GRANTS FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDU-**  
3 **CATION.**

4 Section 120(e) of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
5 (20 U.S.C. 1011i(e)) is amended to read as follows:

6 “(e) SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION AND TREAT-  
7 MENT GRANTS FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDU-  
8 CATION.—

9 “(1) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this grant  
10 program are to—

11 “(A) address the effect of substance use on  
12 students enrolled in higher education;

13 “(B) prevent students enrolled in higher  
14 education from developing a substance use dis-  
15 order;

16 “(C) educate faculty and other staff about  
17 the warning signs of substance use disorders  
18 and how to help students who are affected by  
19 such disorders; and

20 “(D) identify and promote evidence-based  
21 and promising practices for helping to prevent  
22 and address substance use disorders among stu-  
23 dents enrolled in higher education.

24 “(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

25 “(A) EVIDENCE-BASED.—The term ‘evi-  
26 dence-based’, when used with respect to a pro-

1           gram or practice, means a program or practice  
2           that—

3                   “(i) is demonstrated to be effective  
4                   when implemented with fidelity;

5                   “(ii) is based on a clearly articulated  
6                   and empirically supported theory;

7                   “(iii) has measurable outcomes rel-  
8                   evant to substance use disorder prevention,  
9                   treatment, and recovery, including a de-  
10                  tailed description of the outcomes produced  
11                  in a particular population;

12                  “(iv) has been scientifically tested and  
13                  proven effective through randomized con-  
14                  trol studies or comparison group studies;  
15                  and

16                  “(v) has the ability to replicate and  
17                  scale.

18                  “(B) PROMISING.—The term ‘promising’,  
19                  when used with respect to a program or prac-  
20                  tice, means a program or practice that—

21                   “(i) is demonstrated to be effective  
22                   based on positive outcomes relevant to sub-  
23                   stance use disorder prevention or treat-  
24                   ment from one or more objective, inde-  
25                   pendent, and scientifically valid evalua-

1                   tions, as documented in writing to the Sec-  
2                   retaries; and

3                   “(ii) will be evaluated through a well-  
4                   designed and rigorous study, as described  
5                   in subparagraph (A)(iv).

6                   “(C) SECRETARIES.—The term ‘Secre-  
7                   taries’ means the Secretary of Education and  
8                   the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

9                   “(D) SUBSTANCE USE.—The term ‘sub-  
10                  stance use’ may include the misuse or abuse of  
11                  alcohol, prescription opioids, methamphetamine,  
12                  or other legal or illegal substances.

13                  “(3) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

14                  “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries, in  
15                  accordance with the interagency agreement de-  
16                  scribed in paragraph (4), may award, on a com-  
17                  petitive basis, grants to institutions of higher  
18                  education, or consortia of institutions of higher  
19                  education, with high incidences of substance use  
20                  disorders, overdoses, and deaths, in order to  
21                  prevent and address the effects of substance use  
22                  on the campuses of the institutions of higher  
23                  education.

24                  “(B) DURATION.—A grant under this sub-  
25                  section shall be for a period of not more than

1           5 years, and may be renewed for an additional  
2           2 years if satisfactory progress is made in pre-  
3           venting and reducing substance use disorders as  
4           described in paragraph (5)(A).

5           “(C) RESERVATION FOR RURAL AREAS.—  
6           The Secretaries shall ensure that at least 25  
7           percent of funds are awarded to institutions of  
8           higher education in rural areas.

9           “(4) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT.—The Sec-  
10          retary of Education and the Secretary of Health and  
11          Human Services shall jointly administer the program  
12          under this subsection in accordance with such terms  
13          as the Secretaries set forth in an interagency agree-  
14          ment. Such interagency agreement shall include a  
15          description of the respective roles and responsibil-  
16          ities of the Secretaries (both jointly and separately).

17          “(5) APPLICATION.—An institution of higher  
18          education, or consortium of institutions of higher  
19          education, desiring a grant under paragraph (3)(A)  
20          shall submit an application at such time and in such  
21          manner as the Secretaries may require. Such appli-  
22          cation shall include—

23                  “(A) a description of the impact of sub-  
24                  stance use disorders on students enrolled in

1 each participating institution of higher edu-  
2 cation, including—

3 “(i) the number of overdoses in the  
4 past year;

5 “(ii) the number of deaths related to  
6 substance use in the past school year;

7 “(iii) the degree to which students  
8 have substance use disorders, if such infor-  
9 mation is available; and

10 “(iv) other indicators or information  
11 related to the most prevalent substance use  
12 in the region that such institution feels is  
13 necessary to fully describe the impact of  
14 the substance use on students;

15 “(B) an assurance that the institution of  
16 higher education, or consortia of institutions,  
17 has convened a taskforce to address the impact  
18 of the most prevalent substance use in the re-  
19 gion on students, which shall include—

20 “(i) faculty and other staff;

21 “(ii) current and former students, in-  
22 cluding students affected by substance use  
23 disorders;

1                   “(iii) staff from campus health cen-  
2                   ters, if the institution operates campus  
3                   health centers;

4                   “(iv) representatives from campus dis-  
5                   ability support services offices and student  
6                   access support offices, if such offices exist  
7                   at the institution;

8                   “(v) representatives from fraternities  
9                   and sororities, if such organizations exist  
10                  at the institution;

11                  “(vi) area local educational agencies;

12                  “(vii) non-profit organizations special-  
13                  izing in substance use treatment and pre-  
14                  vention;

15                  “(viii) local hospitals, physicians, or  
16                  other medical professionals;

17                  “(ix) local or campus law enforcement  
18                  entities; and

19                  “(x) other stakeholders that the insti-  
20                  tution or consortium chooses to include;

21                  “(C) a plan developed by the taskforce de-  
22                  scribed in subparagraph (B) to use funds in ac-  
23                  cordance with paragraph (6) to address the im-  
24                  pact of substance use on students enrolled in

1 higher education, which shall include a descrip-  
2 tion of—

3 “(i) the goals of the project, which  
4 shall include decreasing the number of stu-  
5 dents with substance use disorders; and

6 “(ii) how the institution or consortium  
7 will—

8 “(I) use funds in accordance with  
9 paragraph (6), including the evidence  
10 base for proposed activities;

11 “(II) coordinate funds with other  
12 programs designed to prevent and ad-  
13 dress substance use disorders among  
14 students; and

15 “(III) sustain grant activities be-  
16 yond the grant period, including  
17 methods for continuous improvement  
18 of grant activities; and

19 “(D) an assurance that the institution or  
20 consortium will continue to convene the  
21 taskforce described in subparagraph (B) peri-  
22 odically to improve institutional programming  
23 and policy related to substance use disorders.

24 “(6) USES OF FUNDS.—



1           “(A) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—An institu-  
2           tion of higher education, or consortium of insti-  
3           tutions of higher education, receiving a grant  
4           under paragraph (3) shall use grant funds for  
5           evidence-based or promising interventions de-  
6           signed to address and prevent substance use  
7           disorders among students enrolled in higher  
8           education.

9           “(B) ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES.—The activi-  
10          ties described in subparagraph (A) may in-  
11          clude—

12                 “(i) education efforts to provide stu-  
13                 dents enrolled in higher education with in-  
14                 formation on the impact of substance use  
15                 disorders;

16                 “(ii) recovery services for such stu-  
17                 dents with substance use disorders, which  
18                 may include recovery dorms that offer  
19                 sober living along with substance use treat-  
20                 ment services;

21                 “(iii) treatment or referrals to treat-  
22                 ment for such students with substance use  
23                 disorders;

1                   “(iv) institution-wide prevention ef-  
2                   forts, which may include public service an-  
3                   nouncements;

4                   “(v) efforts to identify programs tar-  
5                   geting populations of students, such as  
6                   student athletes, fraternity members, so-  
7                   rority members, and others enrolled in  
8                   higher education, with an increased risk  
9                   for substance use disorders;

10                   “(vi) mental or behavioral health  
11                   counseling for students enrolled in higher  
12                   education who are affected by substance  
13                   use disorders; and

14                   “(vii) other programs designed to ad-  
15                   dress or prevent substance use disorders  
16                   among students enrolled in higher edu-  
17                   cation.

18                   “(7) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds  
19                   made available under this subsection shall be used to  
20                   supplement and not supplant other Federal, State,  
21                   and local funds available to the institution to carry  
22                   out the activities described in paragraph (6).

23                   “(8) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—An institution  
24                   of higher education, or consortium of institutions of  
25                   higher education, receiving a grant under paragraph

1 (3) shall provide, from non-Federal sources, not less  
2 than 20 percent of matching funds, which may be in  
3 cash or in-kind contributions.

4 “(9) NATIONAL ACTIVITIES.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries may  
6 reserve not more than 5 percent of funds made  
7 available under paragraph (10) to—

8 “(i) conduct a rigorous, independent  
9 evaluation of each grant funded under this  
10 Act, particularly its impact on the indica-  
11 tors described in paragraph (5)(A);

12 “(ii) disseminate and promote the uti-  
13 lization of evidence-based or promising  
14 practices regarding substance use disorder  
15 prevention and treatment for students en-  
16 rolled in higher education; and

17 “(iii) provide technical assistance to  
18 institutions of higher education or con-  
19 sortia receiving a grant under paragraph  
20 (3).

21 “(B) ROLE FOR IES DIRECTOR.—The Di-  
22 rector of the Institute of Education Sciences  
23 shall carry out the roles and responsibilities  
24 under this paragraph that are assigned to the

1 Secretary of Education in accordance with the  
2 interagency agreement under paragraph (4).

3 “(10) AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

4 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
5 this subsection \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2019  
6 and each of the five succeeding fiscal years.”.