SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR & PENSIONS







Prioritizes funding for states with the highest overdose death rates, including West Virginia, New Hampshire and Ohio, and sets aside money for tribes devastated by drug abuse.



Creates new grants for communities to set up comprehensive recovery centers.

275

Codifes physicians' ability to prescribe opioid treatment buprenorphine to up to 275 patients.

RECOVERY HOUSING

Requires Health and Human Services (HHS) to issue guidance on best practices for operating recovery housing.

PRESCRIPTIONS



Makes permanent the ability of nurse practitioners and physician assistants to prescribe drugs. Congress had allowed them to write the prescriptions through 2021.

OPIOID-RELATED RESEARCH

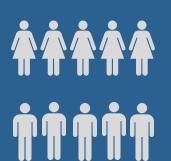


Grants flexibility so the National Institutes of Health (NIH) can move faster on opioid-related research. This would allow NIH to approach companies or universities proactively, instead of waiting for them to submit grant requests.

Tasks the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) with spurring new medications by updating the development process for new non-addictive and non-opioid pain medicines.



GUIDANCE ON CLINICAL TRIALS



- Requires FDA to develop guidance on clinical trial designs for new pain medicines.
- Encourages companies to develop drugs to reduce or eliminate use of opioids.
- Clarifies requirements for getting product approved with a claim that a medicine is as effective at controlling pain as opioids or allows for a reduction in the amount of opioids a patient needs.

For more information on this draft legislation, and new developments in healthcare, read the latest Washington Healthcare Update from the McGuireWoods Consulting federal team.

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