

# Union Calendar No. 272

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4704

[Report No. 116-342]

To direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to support multi-disciplinary research on the science of suicide, and to advance the knowledge and understanding of issues that may be associated with several aspects of suicide including intrinsic and extrinsic factors related to areas such as wellbeing, resilience, and vulnerability.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 16, 2019

Mr. MCADAMS (for himself, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. BALDERSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

DECEMBER 12, 2019

Additional sponsors: Ms. STEVENS, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. TRONE, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. LAMB, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LIPINSKI, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. PANETTA, and Mr. LAMALFA

DECEMBER 12, 2019

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on October 16, 2019]

# **A BILL**

To direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to support multidisciplinary research on the science of suicide, and to advance the knowledge and understanding of issues that may be associated with several aspects of suicide including intrinsic and extrinsic factors related to areas such as wellbeing, resilience, and vulnerability.

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 “Advancing Research to*  
5 *Prevent Suicide Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7        *Congress finds the following:*

8            (1) *The rate of Americans dying by suicide is on*  
9 *the rise, increasing 10.7 to 14.0 deaths per 100,000*  
10 *people from 2001 to 2017.*

11           (2) *Suicide is the tenth-leading cause of death*  
12 *among people in the United States and the second-*  
13 *leading cause of death for young people between the*  
14 *ages of 15 and 34.*

15           (3) *The National Science Foundation funds re-*  
16 *search that is improving our basic understanding of*  
17 *factors with potential relevance to suicide, including*  
18 *potential relevance to prevention and treatment.*

19           (4) *Despite progress in mental health research,*  
20 *current gaps exist in scientific understanding and*  
21 *basic knowledge of human neural, genetic, cognitive,*  
22 *perceptual, behavioral, social, and environmental fac-*  
23 *tors with potential relevance to suicide.*

1 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION RESEARCH.**

2       (a) *The Director of the National Science Foundation,*  
3 *in consultation with the Director of the National Institutes*  
4 *of Health and the Director of the National Institute on*  
5 *Mental Health where appropriate, shall award grants on*  
6 *a competitive, merit-reviewed basis to institutions of higher*  
7 *education (or consortia of such institutions) to support*  
8 *multidisciplinary, fundamental research with potential rel-*  
9 *evance to suicide, including potential relevance to preven-*  
10 *tion and treatment, including but not limited to—*

11               (1) *basic understanding of human social behav-*  
12 *ior;*

13               (2) *the neural basis of human cognition;*

14               (3) *basic understanding of cognitive, linguistic,*  
15 *social, cultural and biological processes related to*  
16 *human development across the lifespan;*

17               (4) *basic understanding of perceptual, motor,*  
18 *and cognitive processes, and their interaction, in typ-*  
19 *ical human behavior; and*

20               (5) *basic understanding of the relevance of drug*  
21 *and alcohol abuse.*

22       (b) *To promote the development of early career re-*  
23 *searchers, in awarding funds under subsection (a) the Na-*  
24 *tional Science Foundation shall encourage applications*  
25 *submitted by early career researchers, including doctoral*  
26 *students or postdoctoral researchers.*



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