

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 894

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to collect and disseminate information on concussion and traumatic brain injury among public safety officers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 21, 2023

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

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to collect and disseminate information on concussion and traumatic brain injury among public safety officers.

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 “Public Safety Officer
5 Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Health Act of
6 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. INFORMATION ON CONCUSSION AND TRAUMATIC**
2 **BRAIN INJURY AMONG PUBLIC SAFETY OFFI-**
3 **CERS.**

4 Part J of title III of the Public Health Service Act
5 (42 U.S.C. 280b et seq.) is amended by inserting after
6 section 393D of such Act the following:

7 **“SEC. 393E. INFORMATION ON CONCUSSION AND TRAU-**
8 **MATIC BRAIN INJURY AMONG PUBLIC SAFE-**
9 **TY OFFICERS.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through
11 the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
12 vention, shall collect and make publicly available informa-
13 tion on concussion and traumatic brain injury among pub-
14 lic safety officers, including research related to evidence-
15 based practices and personal protective equipment rec-
16 ommendations, and medical information related to diag-
17 nosing, protocols for identifying and treating, and meas-
18 ures for reducing the incidence of concussion and trau-
19 matic brain injury among public safety officers.

20 “(b) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of making in-
22 formation available under subsection (a), the Sec-
23 retary shall—

24 “(A) update the website of the Centers for
25 Disease Control and Prevention with respect to
26 traumatic brain injury; and

1 “(B) develop other means to disseminate
2 such information to—

3 “(i) medical professionals and public
4 health professionals, to improve care and
5 treatment services provided to public safety
6 officers suffering from concussion or trau-
7 matic brain injury;

8 “(ii) public safety employers and em-
9 ployee representatives, to improve strate-
10 gies and practices to reduce the incidence
11 of concussion and traumatic brain injury
12 resulting from firefighting, fire protection,
13 law enforcement, and other public safety
14 activities;

15 “(iii) mental health professionals, to
16 develop a better understanding of the link
17 between concussion and traumatic brain
18 injury and conditions such as trauma and
19 stress related disorders, mood disorders,
20 and suicidal ideations;

21 “(iv) patients and their families, to
22 improve awareness of health care special-
23 ists in the area of concussion and trau-
24 matic brain injury, and to improve patient

1 understanding of the effects of concussion
2 and traumatic brain injury; and

3 “(v) institutions of higher education,
4 including medical schools and schools of
5 public health, and other researchers.

6 “(2) CONSULTATION.—In developing the
7 website under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall
8 consult with the individuals and entities described in
9 clauses (i) through (v) of paragraph (1)(B) to en-
10 sure that information collected and disseminated
11 best meets the needs of the public safety community
12 in terms of content, quality, and utility.

13 “(3) ADDITIONAL DISSEMINATION ACTIVI-
14 TIES.—The Secretary may disseminate information
15 described in subsection (a) through arrangements
16 with nonprofit organizations, labor organizations
17 and employee representatives, other governmental
18 organizations or entities, and the media.

19 “(c) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out this
20 section, the Secretary may support public and private ef-
21 forts to identify and create model guidelines, protocols,
22 and evidence-based practices to treat concussion and trau-
23 matic brain injury in public safety officers, including
24 through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements.

1 “(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘public
2 safety officer’ has the meaning given such term in section
3 1204 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act
4 of 1968.”.

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