

BPC Action Urges Yes Vote on H.R. 7666 -Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act of 2022

BPC Action commends House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee Chair Frank Pallone and Ranking Member Cathy McMorris Rodger for their bipartisan commitment to addressing the nation's behavioral health crisis via the Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act of 2022. We urge all Energy and Commerce Committee members to vote in favor of passing this legislation out of committee during today's markup.

In particular, BPC Action is pleased to see the following provisions included in this bill that mirror recommendations in our <u>behavioral health integration</u> and <u>opioids</u> reports:

- Mental Health and Crisis Care Needs
 - Crisis Care Services and 9-8-8 Implementation: Establishes a
 Behavioral Health Crisis Coordinating Office within the Substance
 Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Reauthorization
 Act: Requires that five percent of funds granted are used for crisiscare services.
- Substance Use Disorder Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services
 - Summer Barrow Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery:
 Reauthorizes 11 SAMHSA programs to support mental health and substance use disorder services.

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- Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Block Grant: Provides states and Tribes with funding to plan, carry out, and evaluate recovery support services, requires that states' plans describe the recovery support service activities, and requires that funds are disaggregated by type of activity.
- Timely Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder: Eliminates the requirement that an individual be addicted to opioids for at least one year before being admitted for treatment by an Opioid Treatment Program.
- Access to Mental Health Care and Coverage
 - Increasing Uptake of the Collaborative Care Model: Allows states to partner with community programs, health centers, or primary health care physician practices to integrate behavioral health and primary care services.

It is encouraging to see Republicans and Democrats demonstrate their commitment to citizens' wellbeing through this important legislation. Please look forward to our upcoming report on crisis intervention which we hope will be useful to you all as you get this package across the finish line.

We hope to see bipartisan momentum on this critical issue continue and urge all members to vote YES to move this bill forward.