

Union Calendar No.

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5487

[Report No. 117-]

To improve research and data collection on stillbirths, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 5, 2021

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER (for herself, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. MULLIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

NOVEMBER --, 2021

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 5, 2021]

A BILL

To improve research and data collection on stillbirths, 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 “Stillbirth Health Im-*
5 *provement and Education for Autumn Act of 2021” or the*
6 *“SHINE for Autumn Act of 2021”.*

7 **SEC. 2. STILLBIRTH RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION IM-**
8 **PROVEMENTS.**

9 *Title III of the Public Health Service Act is amended*
10 *by inserting after section 317L–1 of such Act (42 U.S.C.*
11 *247b–13a) the following:*

12 **“SEC. 317L–2. STILLBIRTH RESEARCH AND DATA COLLEC-**
13 **TION IMPROVEMENTS.**

14 *“(a) STILLBIRTH SURVEILLANCE AND RISK FACTOR*
15 *STUDIES.—*

16 *“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award*
17 *grants to States for purposes of—*

18 *“(A) conducting surveillance and collecting*
19 *data with respect to stillbirths;*

20 *“(B) building State and local public health*
21 *capacity to assess stillbirth data; and*

22 *“(C) collecting and reporting data on still-*
23 *birth risk factors, including any quantifiable*
24 *outcomes with respect to such risk factors.*

1 “(2) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To*
2 *carry out this subsection, there is authorized to be ap-*
3 *propriated \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022*
4 *through 2026.*

5 “(b) *GUIDELINES AND EDUCATIONAL AWARENESS MA-*
6 *TERIALS.—*

7 “(1) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—*

8 “(A) *issue guidelines to State departments*
9 *of health and State and local vital statistics*
10 *units on—*

11 “(i) *collecting data on stillbirth from*
12 *health care providers, and with the consent*
13 *of the family involved, including any such*
14 *data with respect to the clinical history,*
15 *postmortem examination, and placental pa-*
16 *thology;*

17 “(ii) *sharing such data with Federal*
18 *agencies determined appropriate by the Di-*
19 *rector of the Centers for Disease Control and*
20 *Prevention; and*

21 “(iii) *improving processes and train-*
22 *ing related to stillbirth data collection and*
23 *reporting to ensure standardization and*
24 *completeness of data; and*

1 “(B) develop, and make publicly available,
2 educational awareness materials on stillbirths.

3 “(2) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out para-
4 graph (1), the Secretary may consult with—

5 “(A) national health care professional asso-
6 ciations;

7 “(B) national associations representing
8 State and local public health officials;

9 “(C) organizations that assist families with
10 burial support and bereavement services;

11 “(D) nurses and nurse practitioners;

12 “(E) obstetricians and gynecologists;

13 “(F) pediatricians;

14 “(G) maternal-fetal medicine specialists;

15 “(H) midwives;

16 “(I) mental health professionals;

17 “(J) statisticians;

18 “(K) individuals who have experienced a
19 stillbirth; and

20 “(L) advocacy organizations representing
21 such individuals.

22 “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
23 carry out this subsection, there is authorized to be ap-
24 propriated \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022
25 through 2026.

1 “(c) *VITAL STATISTICS UNIT DEFINED.*—*In this sec-*
2 *tion, the term ‘vital statistics unit’ means the entity that*
3 *is responsible for maintaining vital records for a State, or*
4 *a political subdivision of such State, including official*
5 *records of live births, deaths, fetal deaths, marriages, di-*
6 *vorces, and annulments.*”.

7 **SEC. 3. PERINATAL PATHOLOGY FELLOWSHIPS.**

8 *The Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting*
9 *after section 1122 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 300c–12) the fol-*
10 *lowing:*

11 **“SEC. 1123. IMPROVING PERINATAL PATHOLOGY.**

12 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall establish and*
13 *implement, or incorporate into an existing training pro-*
14 *gram, a Perinatal Pathology Fellowship Program or a*
15 *Postdoctoral Research Fellowship on Factors Associated*
16 *with Stillbirth Program to—*

17 “(1) *provide training in perinatal autopsy pa-*
18 *thology;*

19 “(2) *conduct research on, and improve data col-*
20 *lection through fetal autopsies with respect to, still-*
21 *birth; and*

22 “(3) *address challenges in stillbirth education,*
23 *research, and data collection.*

1 “(b) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There*
2 *are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section*
3 *\$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.*”.

4 **SEC. 4. REPORTS.**

5 (a) *EDUCATIONAL GUIDELINES REPORT.*—

6 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than five years after*
7 *the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of*
8 *Health and Human Services shall publish on a public*
9 *website of the Department of Health and Human*
10 *Services a report with educational guidelines on still-*
11 *birth and stillbirth risk factors.*

12 (2) *CONTENTS.*—*Such report shall include, to the*
13 *extent practicable and appropriate, the guidelines*
14 *issued and educational awareness materials developed*
15 *under section 317L–2 of the Public Health Service*
16 *Act, as added by section 2 of this Act.*

17 (b) *PROGRESS REPORT.*—*Not later than five years*
18 *after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of*
19 *Health and Human Services shall submit to the Congress*
20 *a comprehensive report on the progress and effectiveness of*
21 *the Perinatal Pathology Fellowship Program established*
22 *under section 1123 of the Public Health Service Act, as*
23 *added by section 3 of this Act.*