

Union Calendar No.

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 8163

[Report No. 117-]

To amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to trauma care.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 21, 2022

Mr. O'HALLERAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Energy and Commerce

SEPTEMBER --, 2022

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 June 21, 2022]

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to
trauma care.

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 “Improving Trauma Sys-*
5 *tems and Emergency Care Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. TRAUMA CARE REAUTHORIZATION.**

7 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1201 of the Public Health*
8 *Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300d) is amended—*

9 *(1) in subsection (a)—*

10 *(A) in paragraph (3)—*

11 *(i) by inserting “analyze,” after “com-*
12 *pile,”; and*

13 *(ii) by inserting “and medically un-*
14 *derserved areas” before the semicolon;*

15 *(B) in paragraph (4), by adding “and”*
16 *after the semicolon;*

17 *(C) by striking paragraph (5); and*

18 *(D) by redesignating paragraph (6) as*
19 *paragraph (5);*

20 *(2) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection*
21 *(c); and*

22 *(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-*
23 *lowing:*

24 *“(b) TRAUMA CARE READINESS AND COORDINA-*
25 *TION.—The Secretary, acting through the Assistant Sec-*

1 *retary for Preparedness and Response, shall support the ef-*
2 *forts of States and consortia of States to coordinate and*
3 *improve emergency medical services and trauma care dur-*
4 *ing a public health emergency declared by the Secretary*
5 *pursuant to section 319 or a major disaster or emergency*
6 *declared by the President under section 401 or 501, respec-*
7 *tively, of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-*
8 *gency Assistance Act. Such support may include—*

9 “(1) *developing, issuing, and updating guidance,*
10 *as appropriate, to support the coordinated medical*
11 *triage and evacuation to appropriate medical institu-*
12 *tions based on patient medical need, taking into ac-*
13 *count regionalized systems of care;*

14 “(2) *disseminating, as appropriate, information*
15 *on evidence-based or evidence-informed trauma care*
16 *practices, taking into consideration emergency med-*
17 *ical services and trauma care systems, including such*
18 *practices identified through activities conducted under*
19 *subsection (a) and which may include the identifica-*
20 *tion and dissemination of performance metrics, as*
21 *applicable and appropriate; and*

22 “(3) *other activities, as appropriate, to optimize*
23 *a coordinated and flexible approach to the emergency*
24 *response and medical surge capacity of hospitals,*

1 *other health care facilities, critical care, and emer-*
2 *gency medical systems.”.*

3 (b) *GRANTS TO IMPROVE TRAUMA CARE IN RURAL*
4 *AREAS.—Section 1202 of the Public Health Service Act (42*
5 *U.S.C. 300d–3) is amended—*

6 (1) *by amending the section heading to read as*
7 *follows: “GRANTS TO IMPROVE TRAUMA CARE IN*
8 *RURAL AREAS”;*

9 (2) *by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read*
10 *as follows:*

11 “(a) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants*
12 *to eligible entities for the purpose of carrying out research*
13 *and demonstration projects to support the improvement of*
14 *emergency medical services and trauma care in rural areas*
15 *through the development of innovative uses of technology,*
16 *training and education, transportation of seriously injured*
17 *patients for the purposes of receiving such emergency med-*
18 *ical services, access to prehospital care, evaluation of proto-*
19 *cols for the purposes of improvement of outcomes and dis-*
20 *semination of any related best practices, activities to facili-*
21 *tate clinical research, as applicable and appropriate, and*
22 *increasing communication and coordination with applica-*
23 *ble State or Tribal trauma systems.*

24 “(b) *ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—*

1 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*To be eligible to receive a*
2 *grant under this section, an entity shall be a public*
3 *or private entity that provides trauma care in a*
4 *rural area.*”

5 “(2) *PRIORITY.*—*In awarding grants under this*
6 *section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible en-*
7 *tities that will provide services under the grant in*
8 *any rural area identified by a State under section*
9 *1214(d)(1).”; and*

10 (3) *by adding at the end the following:*

11 “(d) *REPORTS.*—*An entity that receives a grant under*
12 *this section shall submit to the Secretary such reports as*
13 *the Secretary may require to inform administration of the*
14 *program under this section.”.*

15 (c) *PILOT GRANTS FOR TRAUMA CENTERS.*—*Section*
16 *1204 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300d-*
17 *6) is amended—*

18 (1) *by amending the section heading to read as*
19 *follows: “**PILOT GRANTS FOR TRAUMA CEN-***
20 ***TERS**”;*

21 (2) *in subsection (a)—*

22 (A) *by striking “not fewer than 4” and in-*
23 *serting “10”;*

1 (B) by striking “that design, implement,
2 and evaluate” and inserting “to design, imple-
3 ment, and evaluate new or existing”;

4 (C) by striking “emergency care” and in-
5 serting “emergency medical”; and

6 (D) by inserting “, and improve access to
7 trauma care within such systems” before the pe-
8 riod;

9 (3) in subsection (b)(1), by striking subpara-
10 graphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

11 “(A) a State or consortia of States;

12 “(B) an Indian Tribe or Tribal organiza-
13 tion (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-
14 Determination and Education Assistance Act);

15 “(C) a consortium of level I, II, or III trau-
16 ma centers designated by applicable State or
17 local agencies within an applicable State or re-
18 gion, and, as applicable, other emergency services
19 providers; or

20 “(D) a consortium or partnership of non-
21 profit Indian Health Service, Indian Tribal, and
22 urban Indian trauma centers.”;

23 (4) in subsection (c)—

24 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph

25 (1)—

1 (i) by striking “that proposes a pilot
2 project”; and

3 (ii) by striking “an emergency medical
4 and trauma system that—” and inserting
5 “a new or existing emergency medical and
6 trauma system. Such eligible entity shall
7 use amounts awarded under this subsection
8 to carry out 2 or more of the following ac-
9 tivities:”;

10 (B) in paragraph (1)—

11 (i) by striking “coordinates” and in-
12 serting “Strengthening coordination and
13 communication”; and

14 (ii) by striking “an approach to emer-
15 gency medical and trauma system access
16 throughout the region, including 9–1–1
17 Public Safety Answering Points and emer-
18 gency medical dispatch;” and inserting
19 “approaches to improve situational aware-
20 ness and emergency medical and trauma
21 system access.”;

22 (C) in paragraph (2)—

23 (i) by striking “includes” and insert-
24 ing “Providing”;

1 (ii) by inserting “support patient
2 movement to” after “region to”; and

3 (iii) by striking the semicolon and in-
4 serting a period;

5 (D) in paragraph (3)—

6 (i) by striking “allows for” and insert-
7 ing “Improving”; and

8 (ii) by striking “; and” and inserting
9 a period;

10 (E) in paragraph (4), by striking “includes
11 a consistent” and inserting “Supporting a con-
12 sistent”; and

13 (F) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(5) Establishing, implementing, and dissemi-
15 nating, or utilizing existing, as applicable, evidence-
16 based or evidence-informed practices across facilities
17 within such emergency medical and trauma system to
18 improve health outcomes, including such practices re-
19 lated to management of injuries, and the ability of
20 such facilities to surge.

21 “(6) Conducting activities to facilitate clinical
22 research, as applicable and appropriate.”;

23 (5) in subsection (d)(2)—

24 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

1 *(i) in the matter preceding clause (i),*
2 *by striking “the proposed” and inserting*
3 *“the applicable emergency medical and*
4 *trauma system”;*

5 *(ii) in clause (i), by inserting “or*
6 *Tribal entity” after “equivalent State of-*
7 *fice”;* and

8 *(iii) in clause (vi), by striking “; and”*
9 *and inserting a semicolon;*

10 *(B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as*
11 *subparagraph (C); and*

12 *(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the*
13 *following:*

14 *“(B) for eligible entities described in sub-*
15 *paragraph (C) or (D) of subsection (b)(1), a de-*
16 *scription of, and evidence of, coordination with*
17 *the applicable State Office of Emergency Medical*
18 *Services (or equivalent State Office) or applica-*
19 *ble such office for a Tribe or Tribal organization;*
20 *and”;*

21 *(6) in subsection (f), by striking “population in*
22 *a medically underserved area” and inserting “medi-*
23 *cally underserved population”;*

24 *(7) in subsection (g)—*

1 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
2 by striking “described in”;

3 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “the sys-
4 tem characteristics that contribute to” and in-
5 serting “opportunities for improvement, includ-
6 ing recommendations for how to improve”;

7 (C) by striking paragraph (4);

8 (D) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and
9 (6) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

10 (E) in paragraph (4), as so redesignated, by
11 striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

12 (F) in paragraph (5), as so redesignated, by
13 striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

14 (G) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(6) any evidence-based or evidence-informed
16 strategies developed or utilized pursuant to subsection
17 (c)(5).”; and

18 (8) by amending subsection (h) to read as fol-
19 lows:

20 “(h) *DISSEMINATION OF FINDINGS.*—Not later than 1
21 year after the completion of the final project under sub-
22 section (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on
23 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and
24 the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of
25 Representatives a report describing the information con-

1 *tained in each report submitted pursuant to subsection (g)*
2 *and any additional actions planned by the Secretary re-*
3 *lated to regionalized emergency care and trauma systems.”.*

4 *(d) PROGRAM FUNDING.—Section 1232(a) of the Pub-*
5 *lic Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300d–32(a)) is amended*
6 *by striking “2010 through 2014” and inserting “2023*
7 *through 2027”.*