

Union Calendar No.

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1734

[Report No. 118-]

To require coordinated National Institute of Standards and Technology science and research activities regarding illicit drugs containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other substances of concern, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 23, 2023

Mr. COLLINS (for himself, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. LUCAS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mrs. McCLELLAN, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Ms. ROSS, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. TRONE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. STRONG) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

APRIL --, 2023

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

[Insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To require coordinated National Institute of Standards and Technology science and research activities regarding illicit drugs containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other substances of concern, 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 “Testing, Rapid Anal-
5 ysis, and Narcotic Quality Research Act” or the “TRANQ
6 Research Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. XYLAZINE DETECTION AND ANALYSIS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall—

9 (1) support NIST intramural basic measure-
10 ment science and research to advance—

11 (A) analytical methods to identify, under-
12 stand, differentiate, and categorize illicit drugs
13 containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, or
14 other emerging substances of concern;

15 (B) measurement technologies to shorten
16 analysis timelines and enhance narcotic and
17 opioid detection and analysis capabilities in il-
18 licit drugs;

19 (C) new data tools, techniques, and proc-
20 esses to identify and publicly disclose relevant
21 information concerning illicit drugs containing
22 xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, or other
23 emerging substances of concern; and

24 (D) all other areas determined by the Di-
25 rector to be critical to the development and de-

1 ployment of technologies to measure and ana-
2 lyze the presence of xylazine, novel synthetic
3 opioids, and other emerging substances of con-
4 cern in illicit drugs;

5 (2) support activities to inform and expand the
6 development of near-real time spectrometry capabili-
7 ties regarding xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and
8 other emerging compounds in illicit drugs;

9 (3) convene the private sector, institutions of
10 higher education, nonprofit organizations, Federal
11 laboratories, and other Federal agencies engaged in
12 the analysis of illicit drugs to develop coordinated
13 strategies and voluntary best practices for the safe
14 handling, transport, and analysis of illicit drugs con-
15 taining xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, or other
16 emerging substances of concern;

17 (4) establish or expand collaborative partner-
18 ships or consortia with other government agencies
19 engaged in counternarcotic research and develop-
20 ment, institutions of higher education, Federal lab-
21 oratories, and the private sector to enhance narcotic
22 and opioid detection and analysis capabilities regard-
23 ing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other
24 emerging substances of concern in illicit drugs; and

1 (5) provide opportunities for graduate and post-
2 graduate research on the detection and identification
3 of xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other emerg-
4 ing substances of concern in illicit drugs.

5 (b) CONTROLS.—In carrying out activities authorized
6 under this section, the Director shall ensure proper secu-
7 rity controls are implemented to protect sensitive informa-
8 tion, as appropriate.

9 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
11 the Director of the National Institute of Standards
12 and Technology.

13 (2) FEDERAL LABORATORY.—The term “Fed-
14 eral laboratory” has the meaning given such term in
15 section 4 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Inno-
16 vation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3703).

17 (3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
18 term “institution of higher education” has the
19 meaning given such term in section 101 of the High-
20 er Education Act of 1965 (19 U.S.C. 1001).

21 (4) NIST.—The term “NIST” means the Na-
22 tional Institute of Standards and Technology.

23 (5) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term
24 “nonprofit organization” means an organization de-
25 scribed in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue

1 Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section
2 501(a) of such code.

3 (6) XYLAZINE.—The term “xylazine” means
4 the nonopioid tranquilizer methyl benzene compound
5 frequently used in veterinary medicine as an emetic
6 and sedative with analgesic and muscle relaxant
7 properties.

8 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

9 *Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of*
10 *this Act, the Director of the National Institute of Standards*
11 *and Technology shall submit to the Committee on Science,*
12 *Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and*
13 *the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation*
14 *of the Senate a report on the implementation of this Act.*
15 *Such report may include legislative recommendations to*
16 *improve the Director’s ability to carry out section 2.*