

Committee Print

[SHOWING THE TEXT OF H.R. 767 AS FORWARDED BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE
ON HEALTH ON JUNE 29, 2017]

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 767

To establish the Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond to Health and Wellness
Training pilot program to address human trafficking in the health care
system.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 31, 2017

Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mrs. WAGNER)
introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on En-
ergy and Commerce

A BILL

To establish the Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond to Health
and Wellness Training pilot program to address human
trafficking in the health care system.

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 “Stop, Observe, Ask,
5 and Respond to Health and Wellness Act of 2017” or the
6 “SOAR to Health and Wellness Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) HUMAN TRAFFICKING.—The term “human
4 trafficking” has the meaning given the term “severe
5 forms of trafficking in persons” as defined in section
6 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of
7 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

8 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

10 **SEC. 3. PROGRAM ESTABLISHMENT.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a
12 program to be known as the Stop, Observe, Ask, and Re-
13 spond to Health and Wellness Training Program or the
14 SOAR to Health and Wellness Training Program (in this
15 Act referred to as the “Program”) to provide training to
16 health care providers and other related providers, at all
17 levels, on human trafficking in accordance with the pur-
18 pose described in subsection (c).

19 (b) GRANTS.—The Secretary may carry out the Pro-
20 gram through the award of grants to health care sites that
21 represent diversity in—

22 (1) geography;

23 (2) the demographics of the population served;

24 (3) the predominant types of human trafficking
25 cases; and

26 (4) health care provider profiles.

1 (c) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Program shall be
2 to train health care providers and other related providers
3 to enable such providers to—

4 (1) identify potential human trafficking victims;

5 (2) implement proper protocols and procedures
6 for working with law enforcement to report, and fa-
7 cilitate communication with, such victims, in accord-
8 ance with all applicable Federal, State, local, and
9 tribal requirements, including legal confidentiality
10 requirements for patients and health care providers;

11 (3) implement proper protocols and procedures
12 for referring such victims to appropriate social or
13 victims service agencies or organizations;

14 (4) provide such victims care that is—

15 (A) coordinated;

16 (B) victim centered;

17 (C) culturally relevant;

18 (D) comprehensive;

19 (E) evidence-based;

20 (F) gender responsive;

21 (G) age-appropriate, with a focus on care
22 for youth; and

23 (H) trauma-informed; and

24 (5) consider the potential for integrating the
25 training described in paragraphs (1) through (4)

1 with training programs, in effect on the date of en-
2 actment of this Act, for victims of domestic violence,
3 dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, child abuse,
4 child neglect, child maltreatment, and child sexual
5 exploitation.

6 (d) FUNCTIONS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The functions of the Pro-
8 gram shall include the functions of the Stop, Ob-
9 serve, Ask, and Respond to Health and Wellness
10 Training program that was operating on the day be-
11 fore the date of enactment of this Act and the au-
12 thorized initiatives described in paragraph (2).

13 (2) AUTHORIZED INITIATIVES.—The authorized
14 initiatives of the Program shall include—

15 (A) engaging stakeholders, including vic-
16 tims of human trafficking and any Federal,
17 State, local, or tribal partners, to develop a
18 flexible training module—

19 (i) for achieving the purpose described
20 in subsection (c); and

21 (ii) that adapts to changing needs,
22 settings, health care providers, and other
23 related providers;

24 (B) providing technical assistance for
25 health education programs to implement health

1 care protocols, or develop continuing education
2 training materials, that assist in achieving the
3 purpose described in subsection (c);

4 (C) facilitating the dissemination of best
5 practices and recommendations as the Secretary
6 determines appropriate; and

7 (D) developing a reliable methodology for
8 collecting data, and reporting such data, on the
9 number of human trafficking victims identified
10 and served in health care settings or other re-
11 lated provider settings.

12 **SEC. 4. DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING REQUIRE-**
13 **MENTS.**

14 (a) DATA COLLECTION.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—During each of fiscal years
16 2018 through 2022, the Secretary shall collect data
17 on each of the following:

18 (A) The total number of grantees oper-
19 ating under the Program.

20 (B) The total number of health care pro-
21 viders and other related providers trained
22 through the Program.

23 (2) INITIAL REPORT.—In addition to the data
24 required to be collected under paragraph (1), for
25 purposes of the initial report to be submitted under

1 subsection (b), the Secretary shall collect data on
2 the total number of facilities that were operating
3 under, and the total number of health care providers
4 and other related providers trained through, the
5 Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond to Health and
6 Wellness Training program that was operating be-
7 fore the establishment under section 3(a) of the Pro-
8 gram.

9 (b) REPORTING.—Not later than 90 days after the
10 first day of each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023, the
11 Secretary shall prepare and submit to Congress a report
12 on the data collected under subsection (a).

13 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
15 this Act \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through
16 2022.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to establish
the Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond to Health and
Wellness Training Program to address human trafficking
in the health care system.”.