

**[DISCUSSION DRAFT]**

115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide grants for eligible entities to provide technical assistance to outlier prescribers of opioids.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M. \_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide grants for eligible entities to provide technical assistance to outlier prescribers of opioids.

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. GRANTS TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**  
4 **TO OUTLIER PRESCRIBERS OF OPIOIDS.**

5 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Health  
6 and Human Services (in this section referred to as the  
7 “Secretary”) shall, through the Centers for Medicare &  
8 Medicaid Services, award grants, contracts, or cooperative

1 agreements to eligible entities for the purposes described  
2 in subsection (b).

3 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants, contracts, and coopera-  
4 tive agreements awarded under subsection shall be used  
5 to support eligible entities through technical assistance—

6 (1) to educate and provide outreach to outlier  
7 prescribers of opioids about best practices for pre-  
8 scribing opioids;

9 (2) to educate and provide outreach to outlier  
10 prescribers of opioids about non-opioid pain manage-  
11 ment therapies; and

12 (3) to reduce the amount of opioid prescriptions  
13 prescribed by outlier prescribers of opioids.

14 (c) APPLICATION.—Each eligible entity seeking to re-  
15 ceive a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under  
16 subsection (a) shall submit to the Secretary an applica-  
17 tion, at such time, in such manner, and containing such  
18 information as the Secretary may require.

19 (d) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—In awarding  
20 grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements under this  
21 section, the Secretary shall prioritize establishing technical  
22 assistance resources in each State.

23 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
25 ty” means an organization—

1 (A) that has demonstrated experience pro-  
2 viding technical assistance to physicians on a  
3 State or regional basis;

4 (B) that has at least—

5 (i) one individual who is a representa-  
6 tive of consumers on its governing body;  
7 and

8 (ii) one individual who is a representa-  
9 tive of health care providers on its gov-  
10 erning body; and

11 (C) that is a quality improvement entity  
12 with a contract under part B of title XI of the  
13 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320c et seq.).

14 (2) OUTLIER PRESCRIBER OF OPIOIDS.—The  
15 term “outlier prescriber of opioids” means a pre-  
16 scriber, identified by the Secretary of Health and  
17 Human Services (through use of prescriber informa-  
18 tion provided by prescriber National Provider Identifi-  
19 fiers included pursuant to section 1860D–4(c)(4)(A)  
20 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–  
21 104(c)(4)(A)) on claims for covered part D drugs for  
22 part D eligible individuals enrolled in prescription  
23 drug plans under part D of title XVIII of such Act  
24 (42 U.S.C. 1395w–101 et seq.) and MA–PD plans  
25 under part C of such title (42 U.S.C. 1395w–21 et

1 seq.)) as prescribing, as compared to other pre-  
2 scribes in the specialty of the prescriber and geo-  
3 graphic area, amounts of opioids in excess of a  
4 threshold (and other criteria) specified by the Sec-  
5 retary, after consultation with stakeholders.

6 (3) PRESCRIBERS.—The term “prescriber”  
7 means any medical professional who is licensed to  
8 prescribe opioids by the State or territory in which  
9 such professional practices.