H. R. ______

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to carry out certain activities to prevent controlled substances overdoses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M. ____________ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ____________________

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to carry out certain activities to prevent controlled substances overdoses, 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 [“______________ Act
5 of 2018”].
SEC. 2. PREVENTING OVERDOSES OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

Part P of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“SEC. 399V–7. PREVENTING OVERDOSES OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

“(a) Evidence-based Prevention Grants.—

“(1) In general.—The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may—

“(A) to the extent practicable, carry out any evidence-based prevention activity described in paragraph (2);

“(B) provide training and technical assistance to States for purposes of carrying out any such activity; and

“(C) award grants to States for purposes of carrying out any such activity.

“(2) Evidence-based prevention activities.—An evidence-based prevention activity described in this paragraph is any of the following activities:

“(A) With respect to a State, improving the efficiency and use of the State prescription drug monitoring program by—
“(i) encouraging all authorized users (as specified by the State) to register with and use the program and making the program easier to use;

“(ii) enabling such users to access any updates to information collected by the program in as close to real-time as possible;

“(iii) providing for a mechanism for the program to automatically flag any potential misuse or abuse of controlled substances and any detection of inappropriate prescribing practices relating to such substances;

“(iv) enhancing interoperability between the program and any electronic health records system, including by integrating the use of electronic health records into the program for purposes of improving clinical decisionmaking;

“(v) continually updating program capabilities to respond to technological innovation for purposes of appropriately addressing a controlled substance overdose
epidemic as such epidemic may occur and evolve; and

“(vi) facilitating data sharing between the program and the prescription drug monitoring programs of neighboring States.

“(B) Achieving community or health system interventions through activities such as—

“(i) establishing or improving controlled substances prescribing interventions for insurers and health systems;

“(ii) enhancing the use of evidence-based controlled substances prescribing guidelines across sectors and health care settings; and

“(iii) implementing strategies to align the prescription of controlled substances with the guidelines described in clause (ii).

“(C) Evaluating interventions to better understand what works to prevent overdoses, including those involving prescription and illicit controlled substances.

“(D) Implementing projects to advance an innovative prevention approach with respect to new and emerging public health crises and op-
opportunities to address such crises, such as enhancing public education and awareness on the risks associated with opioids.

“(b) ENHANCED SURVEILLANCE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE OVERDOSE GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may—

“(A) to the extent practicable, carry out any controlled substance overdose surveillance activity described in paragraph (2);

“(B) provide training and technical assistance to States for purposes of carrying out any such activity; and

“(C) award grants to States for purposes of carrying out any such activity.

“(2) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE OVERDOSE SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES.—A controlled substance overdose surveillance activity described in this paragraph is any of the following activities:

“(A) Enhancing the timeliness of reporting data to the public, including data on fatal and nonfatal overdoses of controlled substances.

“(B) Enhancing comprehensiveness of data on controlled substances overdoses by collecting information on such overdoses from appropriate
sources such as toxicology reports, death scene investigations, and other risk factors.

“(C) Using data to help identify risk factors associated with controlled substances overdoses.

“(D) With respect to a State, supporting entities involved in providing information to inform efforts within the State, such as by coroners and medical examiners, to improve accurate testing and reporting of causes and contributing factors to controlled substances overdoses.

“(E) Working to enable information sharing regarding controlled substances overdoses among data sources.

“(c) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘controlled substance’ has the meaning given that term in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act.

“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For purposes of carrying out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated [($)_____] for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023.”.