117th CONGRESS
2d Session

S. ______

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to promote comprehensive campus mental health and suicide prevention plans, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Blumenthal (for himself, Mr. Scott of South Carolina, Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Capito, Mr. Bennet, and Mr. Cassidy) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to promote comprehensive campus mental health and suicide prevention plans, 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 “Enhancing Mental
5 Health and Suicide Prevention Through Campus Planning
6 Act”.

SEC. 2. ENCOURAGING CAMPUS COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION PLANS.


(1) by redesignating section 826 as section 827;

and

(2) by inserting after section 825 the following new section:

“SEC. 826. ENCOURAGING CAMPUS COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION PLANS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make efforts to encourage institutions of higher education to develop and implement comprehensive campus mental health and suicide prevention plans. Such efforts—

“(1) shall be conducted in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services (acting through the Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration);

“(2) shall align with—

“(A) the efforts of the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, specifically the Center’s model of nine strategies that form a comprehensive approach to suicide prevention;

“(B) the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114–225); and
“(C) the programs authorized under the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act (42 U.S.C. 201 note; Public Law 108–355); “(3) shall take into consideration existing State efforts to address mental health and suicide prevention at institutions of higher education; and “(4) may be carried out in collaboration with nonprofit organizations and other experts and stakeholders in the field of campus mental health and suicide prevention.

“(b) REPORTS.—The Secretary, or a designee of the Secretary, shall report to Congress on the efforts of the Secretary carried out under this section—

“(1) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Enhancing Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Through Campus Planning Act; and “(2) 3 years after the date of enactment of such Act.

“(c) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as creating new statutory requirements for institutions of higher education or granting the Secretary new regulatory authority.”.