

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2235

To amend the Controlled Substances Act to require physicians and other prescribers of controlled substances to complete training on treating and managing patients with opioid and other substance use disorders, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 24, 2021

Mr. BENNET (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Controlled Substances Act to require physicians and other prescribers of controlled substances to complete training on treating and managing patients with opioid and other substance use disorders, 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 “Medication Access and
5 Training Expansion Act of 2021” or the “MATE Act of
6 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING PRESCRIBERS OF CONTROLLED SUB-**
 2 **STANCES TO COMPLETE TRAINING ON**
 3 **TREATING AND MANAGING PATIENTS WITH**
 4 **OPIOID AND OTHER SUBSTANCE USE DIS-**
 5 **ORDERS.**

6 Section 303 of the Controlled Substances Act (21
 7 U.S.C. 823) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 8 lowing:

9 “(1) **REQUIRED TRAINING FOR PRESCRIBERS ON**
 10 **TREATING AND MANAGING PATIENTS WITH OPIOID AND**
 11 **OTHER SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS.—**

12 “(1) **APPLICABILITY.—**This subsection ap-
 13 plies—

14 “(A) with respect to any practitioner who
 15 is licensed under State law to prescribe con-
 16 trolled substances and is not a veterinarian; and

17 “(B) beginning with the first registration
 18 or renewal of registration by the practitioner
 19 under this section occurring not less than 180
 20 days after the date of enactment of the Medica-
 21 tion Access and Training Expansion Act of
 22 2021.

23 “(2) **TRAINING REQUIRED.—**As a condition on
 24 registration under this section to dispense controlled
 25 substances in schedule II, III, IV, or V, the Attorney

1 General shall require any practitioner described in
2 paragraph (1)(A) to meet the following:

3 “(A) If the practitioner is a physician, the
4 practitioner shall meet 1 or more of the fol-
5 lowing conditions:

6 “(i) The physician holds a board cer-
7 tification in addiction psychiatry or addic-
8 tion medicine from the American Board of
9 Medical Specialties.

10 “(ii) The physician holds a board cer-
11 tification from the American Board of Ad-
12 diction Medicine.

13 “(iii) The physician holds a board cer-
14 tification in addiction medicine from the
15 American Osteopathic Association.

16 “(iv) With respect to the treatment
17 and management of patients with opioid
18 and other substance use disorders, includ-
19 ing the appropriate clinical use of any drug
20 approved or authorized by the Food and
21 Drug Administration for the treatment of
22 a substance use disorder, the physician has
23 completed not less than 8 hours of training
24 (through classroom situations, seminars at
25 professional society meetings, electronic

1 communications, or otherwise) that is pro-
2 vided by—

3 “(I) the American Society of Ad-
4 diction Medicine, the American Acad-
5 emy of Addiction Psychiatry, the
6 American Medical Association, the
7 American Osteopathic Association, the
8 American Psychiatric Association, the
9 American Academy of Hospice and
10 Palliative Medicine, the American
11 Academy of Pain Medicine, or any
12 other organization accredited by the
13 Accreditation Council for Continuing
14 Medical Education (referred to in this
15 subsection as the ‘ACCME’);

16 “(II) any organization accredited
17 by a State medical society accreditor
18 recognized by the ACCME; or

19 “(III) any organization accred-
20 ited by the American Osteopathic As-
21 sociation to provide continuing med-
22 ical education.

23 “(v) The physician graduated in good
24 standing from an accredited school of
25 allopathic medicine or osteopathic medicine

1 in the United States during the 5-year pe-
2 riod immediately preceding the date on
3 which the physician first registers or re-
4 news under this section and has success-
5 fully completed a comprehensive allopathic
6 or osteopathic medicine curriculum or ac-
7 credited medical residency that included
8 not less than 8 hours of training on treat-
9 ing and managing patients with opioid and
10 other substance use disorders, including
11 the appropriate clinical use of all drugs ap-
12 proved or authorized by the Food and
13 Drug Administration for the treatment of
14 a substance use disorder.

15 “(B) If the practitioner is not a physician,
16 the practitioner shall meet 1 or more of the fol-
17 lowing conditions:

18 “(i) The practitioner has completed
19 not less than 8 hours of training with re-
20 spect to the treatment and medication
21 management of patients with opioid and
22 other substance use disorders (through
23 classroom situations, seminars at profes-
24 sional society meetings, electronic commu-
25 nications, or otherwise) provided by the

1 American Society of Addiction Medicine,
 2 the American Academy of Addiction Psy-
 3 chiatry, the American Medical Association,
 4 the American Osteopathic Association, the
 5 American Nurses Credentialing Center, the
 6 American Psychiatric Association, the
 7 American Association of Nurse Practi-
 8 tioners, the American Academy of Physi-
 9 cian Assistants, the American Academy of
 10 Hospice and Palliative Medicine, the Amer-
 11 ican Academy of Pain Medicine, the Amer-
 12 ican Dental Association, or any other orga-
 13 nization that the Secretary determines is
 14 appropriate for purposes of this clause.

15 “(ii) The practitioner graduated in
 16 good standing from an accredited physician
 17 assistant school, an accredited school of
 18 advanced practice nursing, or an accred-
 19 ited dental school in the United States
 20 during the 5-year period immediately pre-
 21 ceding the date on which the practitioner
 22 first registers or renews under this section
 23 and has successfully completed a com-
 24 prehensive physician assistant, advanced
 25 practice nursing, or dental curriculum that

1 included not less than 8 hours of training
 2 on treating and managing patients with
 3 opioid and other substance use disorders,
 4 including the appropriate clinical use of all
 5 drugs approved or authorized by the Food
 6 and Drug Administration for the treatment
 7 of a substance use disorder.

8 “(3) ONE-TIME TRAINING.—The Attorney Gen-
 9 eral shall not require any practitioner to complete
 10 the training described in clause (iv) or (v) of para-
 11 graph (2)(A) or clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph
 12 (2)(B) more than once.

13 “(4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
 14 this subsection shall be construed to prevent a prac-
 15 titioner from using the same training to satisfy the
 16 training requirement under this subsection and for
 17 another purpose, such as satisfying State licensing
 18 requirements.”.

19 **SEC. 3. PRACTITIONER EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

20 Title V of the Public Health Service Act is amended
 21 by inserting after section 509 of such Act (42 U.S.C.
 22 290bb–2) the following:

23 **“SEC. 510. PRACTITIONER EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a
 25 program to award grants to eligible entities to expand the

1 integration of substance use disorder education, including
2 training on treatment and medication management, into
3 the standard curriculum of relevant health care and health
4 services education programs, thereby expanding the num-
5 ber of practitioners who deliver high-quality, evidence-
6 based substance use disorder treatment.

7 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive
8 a grant under this section, an entity shall be—

9 “(1) a private nonprofit or public professional
10 association representing health care professionals in
11 the field of medicine, physician assistants, nursing,
12 dentistry, pharmacy, social work, psychology, mar-
13 riage and family therapy, or health services adminis-
14 tration; or

15 “(2) a private nonprofit or public entity that is
16 a university, college, or other professional school.

17 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
18 carry out this section, there is authorized to be appro-
19 priated such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal
20 years 2022 through 2027.”.

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