

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5231

To provide for a primary prevention research agenda and workforce.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 12, 2022

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. SINEMA) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To provide for a primary prevention research agenda and
workforce.

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 “Protecting our
5 Servicemembers through Proven Methods Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 547. PRIMARY PREVENTION RESEARCH AGENDA AND**
7 **WORKFORCE.**

8 (a) ANNUAL PRIMARY PREVENTION RESEARCH
9 AGENDA.—Section 549A(c) of the National Defense Au-
10 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117–
11 81; 135 Stat. 1722) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), and
2 (4) as paragraphs (5), (6), and (7), respectively;

3 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
4 lowing new paragraphs:

5 “(2) include a focus on whether and to what ex-
6 tent sub-populations of the military community may
7 be targeted for interpersonal violence more than oth-
8 ers;

9 “(3) seek to identify factors that influence the
10 prevention, perpetration, and victimization of inter-
11 personal and self-directed violence;

12 “(4) seek to improve the collection and dissemi-
13 nation of data on hazing and bullying related to
14 interpersonal and self-directed violence;”;

15 (3) by amending paragraph (6), as redesignated
16 by paragraph (1) of this section, to read as follows:

17 “(6) incorporate collaboration with other Fed-
18 eral departments and agencies, including the De-
19 partment of Health and Human Services and the
20 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, State
21 governments, academia, industry, federally funded
22 research and development centers, nonprofit organi-
23 zations, and other organizations outside of the De-
24 partment of Defense, including civilian institutions

1 that conduct similar data-driven studies, collection,
2 and analysis; and”.

3 (b) PRIMARY PREVENTION WORKFORCE.—Section
4 549B of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fis-
5 cal Year 2022 (Public Law 117–81; 135 Stat. 1722) is
6 amended—

7 (1) in subsection (c)—

8 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “sub-
9 section (a)” and inserting “paragraph (1)”; and

10 (B) by adding at the end the following new
11 paragraph:

12 “(3) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT.—Not
13 later than one year after the date of the enactment
14 of this paragraph, the Comptroller General of the
15 United States shall submit to the congressional de-
16 fense committees a report that—

17 “(A) compares the sexual harassment and
18 prevention training of the Department of De-
19 fense with similar programs at other depart-
20 ments and agencies of the Federal Government;
21 and

22 “(B) includes relevant data collected by
23 colleges and universities and other relevant out-
24 side entities on hazing and bullying and inter-
25 personal and self-directed violence.”; and

1 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
2 section:

3 “(e) INCORPORATION OF RESEARCH AND FIND-
4 INGS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the
5 findings and conclusions from the primary prevention re-
6 search agenda established under section 549A are regu-
7 larly incorporated, as appropriate, within the primary pre-
8 vention workforce established under subsection (a).”.

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