

Act to encourage appropriate prescribing under Medicaid for victims of opioid overdose.

S. 1593

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1593, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the designation of general surgery shortage areas, and for other purposes.

S. 1595

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1595, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide enhanced penalties for convicted murderers who kill or target America's public safety officers.

S. 1599

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1599, a bill to protect law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 9, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require that the Supreme Court of the United States be composed of nine justices.

S. RES. 97

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 97, a resolution calling on the Government of Ethiopia, the Tigray People's Liberation Front, and other belligerents to cease all hostilities, protect human rights, allow unfettered humanitarian access, and cooperate with independent investigations of credible atrocity allegations pertaining to the conflict in the Tigray Region of Ethiopia.

S. RES. 207

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 207, a resolution designating the week beginning November 8, 2021, as "National Pregnancy Center Week" to recognize the vital role that community-supported pregnancy centers play in saving lives and serving women and men faced with difficult pregnancy decisions.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1611. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the responses of the Department of Defense to sex-related offenses, and for other

purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to reintroduce the 'I Am Vanessa Guillén Act' that addresses long-standing systemic problems in the way that the military responds to sexual harassment and sexual assault. I thank Representative SPEIER and Representative MULLIN for reintroducing this important legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Army Specialist Vanessa Guillén disappeared from her Fort Hood, Texas, Army base in April 2020. Tragically, last June, Fort Hood officials confirmed that remains found near the Leon River in Bell County, Texas, were Vanessa's. Vanessa had told other soldiers at Fort Hood that she was being sexually harassed and confided to her family that the perpetrator was a fellow Army Soldier. A separate fellow Soldier was suspected of beating Vanessa to death with a hammer, and then, with his girlfriend, dismembering, burning, and burying Vanessa's body about 30 miles from Fort Hood. This other Soldier—the suspect in question—fatally shot himself when confronted by authorities for questioning off post. His girlfriend has been charged in federal court with conspiracy to tamper with evidence.

The Army finally acknowledged that Vanessa did report being sexually harassed by a superior in her chain of command in the months leading up to her murder. Vanessa's family has called for changes to how the military handles reports of sexual harassment and assault and has asked for a law to allow a third-party investigative team to look into reports of sexual harassment within the military. They are right to demand better from the military—as should we all.

Despite on-going efforts to root out the toxic culture of sexual harassment and sexual assault in the military, it is still very much alive. And that's not just my opinion—the Army itself has confirmed that sad fact in recent months following their release in December 2020 of the Fort Hood Independent Review Committee Report, which shockingly included as one of its findings that the Command Climate at Fort Hood has been permissive of sexual harassment and sexual assault.

How long will victims of sexual harassment and assault continue to be afraid to report their abusers? It seems that the military justice system is rather the military system without justice where survivors of these crimes cannot have confidence to know that their reports will be confidential, taken seriously, and adjudicated properly.

We need to address this injustice now. An effective and strong military unit is one that relies on the trust between all members of that unit. Sexual harassment and sexual assault have no place in our military—they break that

critical trust. It is a betrayal of every Soldier, Sailor, Airman and Marine if leaders do not do everything possible to eradicate the toxic culture which allows sexual harassment and sexual assault to fester and erode good order and discipline within the ranks.

To ensure our military readiness, we need to do everything possible to help ensure victims and survivors of these heinous crimes are supported, treated with respect, and not traumatized again, and that their perpetrators are held accountable in a military justice system they can trust. These are fathers and mothers, daughters and sons, sisters and brothers, who have volunteered to give the ultimate sacrifice when called upon. They should not have to fear their fellow servicemembers at home nor feel that when they raise concerns, they are not taken seriously.

Therefore, I am reintroducing the "I Am Vanessa Guillén Act". The provisions in this legislation will move prosecution decisions on sexual assault and sexual harassment cases outside of the chain of command to an Office of the Chief Prosecutor within each military service; create a standalone military offense for sexual harassment; establish trained sexual harassment investigators who are outside of the chain of command of the complainant and the accused to investigate all claims of sexual harassment; implement the recommendations of the Fort Hood Independent Review Committee Report to strengthen the independence and effectiveness of the Army's Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) Program; require both DoD and the Comptroller General to conduct separate evaluations of the military services' sexual assault prevention and response programs; and establish a process by which servicemembers can make claims for negligence against DoD in the case of sexual assault or sexual harassment. I was quite pleased to hear that DoD's Sexual Assault Independent Review Commission recently released initial recommendations to the Secretary that tracked closely with several of the provisions in this legislation: moving prosecution decisions on sexual assault and sexual harassment cases outside of the chain of command to an Office of the Chief Prosecutor within each military service and requiring all sexual harassment allegations to be investigated outside the immediate chain of command.

These changes will encourage survivors to come forward to report sexual assault and sexual harassment, more effectively bring justice for survivors, and strengthen the ability of the military services to protect its most important resource—the people who wear the uniform of the United States.

We need to pass the 'I am Vanessa Guillén Act' to fix a broken military justice system.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

## SENATE RESOLUTION 212—ESTABLISHING A MCCAIN-MANSFIELD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN THE SENATE

Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COONS, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 212

*Resolved,*

## SECTION 1. MCCAIN-MANSFIELD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this resolution—

(1) the term “eligible military veteran” means a veteran, as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code, that meets any eligibility requirements established by the Secretary for participation in the program under this section; and

(2) the term “Sergeant at Arms” means the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Sergeant at Arms shall establish a program through which eligible military veterans may apply for and participate in a fellowship position in the personal office of a Senator.

(2) DESIGNATION.—The program established under paragraph (1) shall be referred to as the “McCain-Mansfield Fellowship Program”.

(3) ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OFFICE.—The Sergeant at Arms shall establish, in the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, an office to administer the McCain-Mansfield Fellowship Program. The office shall develop a process through which—

(A) Senators who wish to participate in the McCain-Mansfield Fellowship Program may notify the Sergeant at Arms; and

(B) eligible military veterans may apply for a McCain-Mansfield Fellowship.

(c) DURATION, NUMBER, DISTRIBUTION, AND AMOUNT OF FELLOWSHIPS.—

(1) DURATION.—A McCain-Mansfield Fellowship shall be for a 2-year period.

(2) NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF FELLOWSHIPS.—Subject to the availability of appropriations—

(A) the Sergeant at Arms shall award not more than 100 McCain-Mansfield Fellowships; and

(B) the Sergeant at Arms shall distribute the McCain-Mansfield Fellowships under this section for an award period in a manner that provides not less than 1 Fellowship position for each Senator wishing to participate in the program.

(3) AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The Sergeant at Arms shall determine the stipend or other financial assistance appropriate for each particular McCain-Mansfield Fellowship position under this section, depending on the duties of the position and the recommendations from the Senator offering the position.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 213—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES-REPUBLIC OF KOREA RELATIONSHIP TO SAFEGUARDING PEACE SECURITY AND PROSPERITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA, IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION AND BEYOND, AND WELCOMING THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT MOON JAE-IN TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. ROMNEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 213

Whereas the United States-Republic of Korea alliance is the linchpin of peace, security, and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula and in the Indo-Pacific region and is critical to close coordination to face the challenges posed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and address future security challenges;

Whereas the United States-Republic of Korea alliance is rooted in mutual trust, shared values, intertwined economic interests, and generations of people-to-people ties through friendship, family, and community that, taken together, provides a foundation for one of the strongest, most interoperable, and dynamic bilateral alliances in the world;

Whereas the United States and Korea established diplomatic relations on May 22, 1882, with the signing of the Treaty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation;

Whereas, on October 1, 1953, the Mutual Defense Treaty Between the United States and the Republic of Korea (5 U.S.T. 2368) was signed in Washington with ratification advised by the Senate on January 26, 1954, and the shared commitment to recognize an armed attack on either of the Parties as dangerous to the peace and security of the other and to “act to meet the common danger in accordance with [each’s] constitutional processes” remains in force today;

Whereas the United States assures its ironclad security commitment to the Republic of Korea, including the United States extended deterrent underpinned by the full range of United States capabilities;

Whereas the United States-Republic of Korea alliance was forged in blood, with 1,789,000 United States soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines serving in theater during the war, of whom 36,574 paid the ultimate sacrifice with their lives in defense of freedom in the Republic of Korea, including 7,174 Korean Augmentation to the United States Army (KATUSA) soldiers, and over 7,500 members of the United States Armed Forces remain classified by the Department of Defense as missing in action;

Whereas casualties of the Republic of Korea were more than 217,000 soldiers killed, more than 291,000 wounded, and over 1,000,000 civilians killed or missing;

Whereas 2021 marks the 68th anniversary of the cessation of hostilities in the Korean War and the signing of the Armistice Agreement on July 27, 1953, which remains in force today and that by its terms has neither formally ended the Korean War nor constituted a permanent settlement of peace on the Korean Peninsula;

Whereas, according to section 2 of the Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Act (Public Law 114-230; 130 Stat. 947), a Wall of Remembrance is currently being added to the Korean War Veterans Memorial with the names of those that died in theater, are listed as missing, or were prisoners of war, and would also list the

number of members of the KATUSA who were killed in action, wounded in action, prisoners of war, or are listed as missing in action;

Whereas the Republic of Korea, in an extraordinary gesture of lasting gratitude, has contributed to the construction of the Wall of Remembrance, which will serve as an eternal reminder for generations to come of the sacrifices made by the United States and Republic of Korea alliance in defense of freedom and regional security;

Whereas the United States-Republic of Korea Foreign and Defense Ministerial Meeting (2+2) met on March 18, 2021, in Seoul and reaffirmed that “the ROK-U.S. Alliance, forged in blood on the battlefield 70 years ago, serves as the linchpin of peace, security, and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula and the Indo-Pacific region”;

Whereas a new, six-year Special Measures Agreement (SMA) was initiated on the same day in the presence of the secretaries and ministers and was later signed on April 8, 2021;

Whereas the United States and the Republic of Korea are committed to pursuing closely coordinated diplomatic efforts through a shared strategy to achieve the complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearization of North Korea and establishing peace on the Korean Peninsula;

Whereas Secretary of State Antony Blinken stated that the United States-Republic of Korea relationship is “rooted in mutual trust, in shared values, deeply intertwined economic interests, and, of course—and maybe most important—generations of family and community ties and having one another’s back in the most difficult times”;

Whereas Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin stated the United States-Republic of Korea alliance is “ironclad” and “among the strongest bilateral, interoperable, and dynamic alliances in the world”, further stating that “the United States remains fully committed to the defense of the Republic of Korea, using the full range of U.S. capabilities, including our extended deterrent”;

Whereas, on April 2, 2021, the United States-Republic of Korea-Japan Trilateral National Security Advisors meeting took place at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and also on May 5, 2021, a Trilateral Foreign Ministers’ meeting took place in London “to consult on the United States’ review of its North Korea policy and to discuss issues of common concern including Indo Pacific security”;

Whereas, according to the joint press statement, “the national security advisors shared their concerns about North Korea’s nuclear and ballistic missile programs and reaffirmed their commitment to address and resolve these issues through concerted trilateral cooperation towards denuclearization” and further “agreed on the imperative for full implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions by the international community, including North Korea, preventing proliferation, and cooperating to strengthen deterrence and maintain peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula”;

Whereas a robust and effective trilateral relationship between and among the United States, the Republic of Korea, and Japan is critical for joint security and interests in defending freedom and democracy, upholding human rights, promoting peace, security, and the rule of law in the Indo-Pacific and across the globe, championing women’s empowerment, and combating and adapting to complex environmental challenges;

Whereas Secretary Blinken said during a March 17, 2021, meeting with Republic of Korea Foreign Minister Chung Eui-yong that “the authoritarian regime in North Korea