

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make opioid overdose rescue medications available to veterans and their caregivers, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. CRAPO) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make opioid overdose rescue medications available to veterans and their caregivers, 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 “End Veterans Over-
5 dose Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROVISION OF OPIOID OVERDOSE RESCUE MEDICA-**
2 **TIONS BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
3 **FAIRS TO VETERANS AND THEIR CARE-**
4 **GIVERS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
6 shall make covered medications available at pharmacies of
7 the Department of Veterans Affairs to any covered veteran
8 or caregiver of a covered veteran at no charge and without
9 a prescription.

10 (b) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary
11 shall ensure that any veteran or caregiver of a covered
12 veteran who receives a covered medication under sub-
13 section (a) also receives drug information on the use of
14 such medication.

15 (c) LIMITATION ON USE OF INFORMATION.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this section,
17 the Secretary may only collect the personally identi-
18 fiable information needed for prescribing covered
19 medication, and any personally identifiable informa-
20 tion collected under this section may be used solely
21 for the purpose of delivering, evaluating, and en-
22 hancing the quality of health care.

23 (2) EXCLUSION.—The Secretary may not use
24 any personally identifiable information collected
25 under this section—

1 (A) for the purpose of preventing a veteran
2 from employment;

3 (B) as evidence of a history of drug use;
4 or

5 (C) as evidence that an individual is an un-
6 lawful user of or addicted to any controlled sub-
7 stance.

8 (d) REPORT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than two years
10 after the date on which the Secretary first makes
11 covered medications available to covered veterans
12 and the caregivers of covered veterans pursuant to
13 subsection (a), and annually thereafter, the Sec-
14 retary shall submit to Congress a report on this sec-
15 tion.

16 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under
17 paragraph (1) shall include each of the following:

18 (A) The number of covered veterans and
19 caregivers of covered veterans who received cov-
20 ered medications under this section.

21 (B) An assessment of the feasibility of ex-
22 panding the authority under this section to pro-
23 vide covered medications to immediate family
24 members of covered veterans.

1 (C) An assessment of the feasibility of ex-
2 panding the authority under this section to in-
3 clude non-Department health care providers
4 through which the Secretary furnishes hospital
5 care, medical services, and extended care serv-
6 ices to covered veterans under section 1703 of
7 title 38, United States Code.

8 (D) An assessment of trends in the utiliza-
9 tion of covered medications provided under this
10 section.

11 (E) Any other recommendations of the
12 Secretary with respect to the authority under
13 this section.

14 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) CAREGIVER.—The term “caregiver”
16 means—

17 (A) a family caregiver of a veteran partici-
18 pating in the program of comprehensive assist-
19 ance for family caregivers under subsection (a)
20 of section 1720G of title 38, United States
21 Code; or

22 (B) a caregiver of a veteran participating
23 in the program of general caregiver support
24 services under subsection (b) of such section.

1 (2) COVERED MEDICATION.—The term “cov-
2 ered medication” means any opioid overdose rescue
3 medication, such as naloxone.

4 (3) COVERED VETERAN.—The term “covered
5 veteran” has the meaning given that term in section
6 1703(b) of title 38, United States Code.