

115TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

S. 2729

To establish programs related to prevention of prescription opioid misuse, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 23, 2018

Mr. Durbin introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To establish programs related to prevention of prescription opioid misuse, 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 "Addiction Prevention
- 5 and Responsible Opioid Practices Act".

1	SEC. 2. FEDERAL LICENSURE OF PHARMACEUTICAL REP-
2	RESENTATIVES WHO PROMOTE CERTAIN
3	OPIOIDS.
4	Subchapter E of chapter V of the Federal Food,
5	Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360bbb et seq.) is
6	amended by adding at the end the following:
7	"SEC. 569D. FEDERAL LICENSURE OF PHARMACEUTICAL
8	REPRESENTATIVES WHO PROMOTE CERTAIN
9	OPIOIDS.
10	"(a) In General.—The Secretary, in consultation
11	with the Attorney General, shall establish a licensure pro-
12	gram for pharmaceutical representatives described in sub-
13	section (b).
14	"(b) Licensure Program.—
15	"(1) Requirement.—Beginning on January 1,
16	2020, no individual described in paragraph (2) may
17	engage in the marketing or promoting of opioid
18	drugs unless such individual is licensed under this
19	section.
20	"(2) Individuals required to obtain li-
21	CENSURE.—An individual required to obtain a li-
22	cense under this section is any individual who, on
23	behalf of a drug manufacturer, engaged, on more
24	than 15 days in a calendar year, in the marketing
25	or promotion to health care professionals, including
26	educational or sales communications, meetings or

1	paid events, and the provision of goods, gifts, and
2	samples, of any opioid drug (other than methadone)
3	that is listed in schedule II of section 202(c) of the
4	Controlled Substances Act.
5	"(3) Licensure period.—Each license issued
6	under this section shall be valid for 3 years, and
7	may be renewed for additional 3-year periods.
8	"(c) Requirements.—An individual required to ob-
9	tain a license under this section shall—
10	"(1) submit to the Secretary, at such time and
11	in such manner as the Secretary may require—
12	"(A) such information as the Secretary
13	may require; and
14	"(B) a registration fee in the amount of
15	\$3,000;
16	"(2) certify that such individual has completed
17	training on ethics, pharmaceutical marketing regula-
18	tions, the 'CDC Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids
19	for Chronic Pain', published by the Centers for Dis-
20	ease Control and Prevention in 2016 (or any suc-
21	cessor document) or the 'FDA Blueprint for Pre-
22	scriber Education for Extended-Release and Long-
23	Acting Opioid Analgesics', and applicable Federal
24	laws pertaining to drug marketing, labeling, and
25	clinical trials, as the Secretary may require;

- "(3) certify that such individual will not engage
 in any illegal, fraudulent, misleading, or other deceptive marketing of schedule II opioid drugs; and
- "(4) file with the Secretary annual reports disclosing the names of providers visited and any drug samples or gifts such individual gives any such provider.
- 8 "(d) Manufacturer Reporting Require-9 Ments.—The manufacturer who employs or contracts 10 with any individual required to obtain a license under this 11 section shall include in reports required under section 12 1128G of the Social Security Act the name of each such 13 licensed individual that provides payments or other trans-14 fers of value required to be reported under such section
- 15 1128G that relates to an opioid drug that is listed in
- 16 schedule II of the Controlled Substances Act.".

17 SEC. 3. WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL OF CERTAIN OPIOIDS.

- 18 (a) In General.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
- 19 sion of law, any ultra-high-dose opioid shall be considered
- 20 a drug that presents an imminent hazard to the public
- 21 health within the meaning of section 505(e) of the Federal
- 22 Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(e)), and
- 23 the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall sus-
- 24 pend the approval of such drug, in accordance with such
- 25 section 505(e).

- 1 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term "ultra-
- 2 high-dose opioid" means an opioid drug for which the
- 3 daily dosage provided for in the approved label exceeds
- 4 the morphine milligram equivalents per day outlined in the
- 5 report entitled "CDC Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids
- 6 for Chronic Pain", published by the Centers for Disease
- 7 Control and Prevention in 2016 (or any successor docu-
- 8 ment).

9 SEC. 4. EXPANDING AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION IN

- 10 THE ARCOS DATABASE.
- Section 307(d) of the Controlled Substances Act (21)
- 12 U.S.C. 827(d)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 13 lowing:
- 14 "(3) The Attorney General shall make available to
- 15 the medical licensing board and board of pharmacy for
- 16 each State the information in the Automation of Reports
- 17 and Consolidated Orders System, or any subsequent auto-
- 18 mated system developed by the Attorney General to mon-
- 19 itor the sale, delivery, and disposal of controlled sub-
- 20 stances within such State.".

1	SEC. 5. CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION AND PRESCRIP-
2	TION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM REG-
3	ISTRATION FOR PRESCRIBERS.
4	Section 303 of the Controlled Substances Act (21
5	U.S.C. 823) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6	lowing:
7	"(k)(1) The Attorney General shall not register, or
8	renew the registration of, a practitioner under subsection
9	(f) who is licensed under State law to prescribe controlled
10	substances in schedule II, III, or IV, unless the practi-
11	tioner submits to the Attorney General, for each such reg-
12	istration or renewal request, a written certification that—
13	"(A)(i) the practitioner has, during the 1-year
14	period preceding the registration or renewal request,
15	completed a training program described in para-
16	graph (2); or
17	"(ii) the practitioner, during the applicable reg-
18	istration period, will not prescribe such controlled
19	substances in amounts in excess of a 72-hour supply
20	(for which no refill is available); and
21	"(B) the practitioner has registered with the
22	prescription drug monitoring program of the State
23	in which the practitioner practices, if the State has
24	such program.
25	"(2) A training program described in this paragraph
26	is a training program that—

1	"(A) follows the best practices for pain manage-
2	ment, as described in the 'Guideline for Prescribing
3	Opioids for Chronic Pain' as published by the Cen-
4	ters for Disease Control and Prevention in 2016, or
5	any successor thereto, or the 'FDA Blueprint for
6	Prescriber Education for Extended-Release and
7	Long-Acting Opioid Analgesics' as published by the
8	Food and Drug Administration in 2017, or any suc-
9	cessor thereto;
10	"(B) includes information on—
11	"(i) recommending non-opioid and non-
12	pharmacological therapy;
13	"(ii) establishing treatment goals and eval-
14	uating patient risks;
15	"(iii) prescribing the lowest dose and few-
16	est number of pills considered effective;
17	"(iv) addictive and overdose risks of
18	opioids;
19	"(v) diagnosing and managing substance
20	use disorders, including linking patients to evi-
21	dence-based treatment;
22	"(vi) identifying narcotics-seeking behav-
23	iors; and
24	"(vii) using prescription drug monitoring
25	programs; and

1	"(C) is approved by the Secretary of Health
2	and Human Services.".

SEC. 6. REPORT ON PRESCRIBER EDUCATION COURSES

- 4 FOR MEDICAL AND DENTAL STUDENTS. 5 Each school of medicine, school of osteopathic medicine, and school of dentistry participating in a program under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20) 8 U.S.C. 1070a et seq.), as a condition for such participation, shall submit an annual report to the Secretary of 10 Education and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on any prescriber education courses focused specifi-12 cally on pain management and responsible opioid prescribing practices that such school requires students to take, and whether such courses are consistent with the 14 15 most recently published version of the "Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain" of the Centers for Dis-16 ease Control and Prevention or the "FDA Blueprint for Prescriber Education for Extended-Release and Long-Acting Opioid Analgesics", as published by the Food and 19 Drug Administration in 2017. The Secretary of Education 20 21 and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall compile the reports submitted by such schools and submit
- an annual summary of such reports to Congress.

SEC. 7. REQUIREMENTS UNDER PRESCRIPTION DRUG MON-

- 2 **ITORING PROGRAMS.**
- 3 (a) In General.—Beginning 1 year after the date
- 4 of enactment of this Act, each State that receives funding
- 5 under any of the programs described in subsection (c)
- 6 shall—
- 7 (1) require practitioners, or their designees, in
- 8 the State to consult the database of the prescription
- 9 drug monitoring program before writing prescrip-
- tions for controlled substances (as such term is de-
- fined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances
- 12 Act (21 U.S.C. 802)) in schedule II, III, or IV
- 13 under section 202 of such Act (21 U.S.C. 812);
- 14 (2) require dispensers of controlled substances
- in schedule II, III, or IV, or their designees, to input
- data into the database of the prescription drug mon-
- itoring program within 24 hours of filling a quali-
- fying prescription, as required by the Attorney Gen-
- eral and the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
- ices, including patient identifier information, the na-
- 21 tional drug code of the dispensed drug, date of dis-
- pensing the drug, quantity and dosage of the drug
- dispensed, form of payment, Drug Enforcement Ad-
- 24 ministration registration number of the practitioner,
- 25 Drug Enforcement Administration registration num-
- ber of the dispenser;

- (3) allow practitioners and dispensers to designate other appropriate individuals to act as agents of such practitioners and dispensers for purposes of obtaining and inputing data from the database for purposes of complying with paragraphs (1) and (2), as applicable;
 - (4) provide informational materials for practitioners and dispensers to identify and refer patients with possible substance use disorders to professional treatment specialists;
 - (5) establish formal data sharing agreements to foster electronic connectivity with the prescription drug monitoring programs of each State (if such State has such a program) with which the State shares a border, to facilitate the exchange of information through an established technology architecture that ensures common data standards, privacy protection, and secure and streamlined information sharing;
 - (6) notwithstanding section 399O(f)(1)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g– 3(f)(1)(B)), authorize direct access to the State's database of the prescription drug monitoring program to all State law enforcement agencies, State boards responsible for the licensure, regulation, or

1	discipline of practitioners, pharmacists, or other per-
2	sons authorized to prescribe, administer, or dispense
3	controlled substances; and
4	(7) in order to enhance accountability in pre-
5	scribing and dispensing patterns, not fewer than 4
6	times per year, proactively provide informational re-
7	ports on aggregate trends and individual outliers,
8	based on information available through the State
9	prescription drug monitoring program to—
10	(A) the State entities and persons de-
11	scribed in paragraph (6); and
12	(B) the Medicaid agency and the depart-
13	ment of public health of the State.
14	(b) Transparency in Prescribing Practices and
15	Intervention for High Prescribers.—
16	(1) State reporting requirement.—Each
17	State that receives funding under any of the pro-
18	grams described in subsection (c) shall, twice per
19	year, submit to the Secretary of Health and Human
20	Services and the Administrator of the Drug Enforce-
21	ment Administration—
22	(A) a list of all practitioners and dis-
23	pensers who, in the applicable reporting period,
24	have prescribed or dispensed schedule II, III, or
25	IV opioids in the State;

- (B) the amount of schedule II, III, or IV opioids that were prescribed and dispensed by each individual practitioner and dispenser described in subparagraph (A); and
 - (C) any additional information that the Secretary and Administrator may require to support surveillance and evaluation of trends in prescribing or dispensing of schedule II, III, or IV opioids, or to identify possible non-medical use and diversion of such substances.
 - (2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the Director of the Indian Health Service, shall submit to Congress, and make public, a report identifying outliers among the medical specialties and geographic areas with the highest rates of opioid prescribing in the Nation, by zip code.

(3) DEVELOPMENT OF ACTION PLAN.—

(A) Initial Plan.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in con-

1 sultation with the Administrator of the Drug 2 Enforcement Administration, the Secretary of 3 Defense, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and 4 the Director of the Indian Health Service, shall 5 submit to Congress a plan of action, including 6 warning letters and enforcement mechanisms, 7 for addressing outliers in opioid prescribing 8 practices and ensuring an adequate Federal re-9 sponse to protect the public health.

- (B) UPDATED PLAN.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to Congress updates to the plan of action described in subparagraph (A), as such Secretary, in consultation with the heads of agencies described in such subparagraph, determines appropriate.
- 17 Programs Described.—The programs described in this subsection are— 18
- 19 (1) the Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Moni-20 toring Program established under the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and 22 Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002 (Public 23 Law 107–77; 115 Stat. 748);

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1	(2) the controlled substance monitoring pro-
2	gram under section 3990 of the Public Health Serv-
3	ice Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-3);
4	(3) the Prescription Drug Overdose: Prevention
5	for States program of the Centers for Disease Con-
6	trol and Prevention;
7	(4) the Prescription Drug Overdose: Data-Driv-
8	en Prevention Initiative of Centers for Disease Con-
9	trol and Prevention;
10	(5) the Enhanced State Opioid Overdose Sur-
11	veillance program of the Centers for Disease Control
12	and Prevention;
13	(6) the opioid grant program under section
14	1003 of the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law
15	114–255); and
16	(7) the State Opioid Response Grant program
17	described under the heading "SUBSTANCE ABUSE
18	TREATMENT" under the heading "Substance
19	Abuse and Mental Health Services Adminis-
20	TRATION" of title II of division H of the Consoli-
21	dated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-
22	141).
23	(d) Definitions.—In this section, the terms "dis-

24 penser" and "practitioner" have the meanings given such

1	terms in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21
2	U.S.C. 802).
3	SEC. 8. INTEROPERABILITY OF CERTIFIED HEALTH INFOR-
4	MATION TECHNOLOGY.
5	Section 3001(e)(5) of the Public Health Service Act
6	(42 U.S.C. $300jj-11(c)(5)$) is amended by adding at the
7	end the following:
8	"(F) Interoperability.—Beginning on
9	January 1, 2021, the National Coordinator
10	shall not certify electronic health records as
11	health information technology that is in compli-
12	ance with applicable certification criteria under
13	this paragraph unless such technology is inter-
14	operable with the prescription drug monitoring
15	programs of each State that, at the time of the
16	request for such certification, has such a pro-
17	gram.".
18	SEC. 9. STUDIES RELATED TO OVERDOSE DISCHARGE AND
19	FOLLOW-UP POLICIES.
20	(a) STUDY.—Not later than January 1, 2021, the
21	Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—
22	(1) conduct a study on the scope and cir-
23	cumstances of non-fatal opioid overdoses, the policies
24	and procedures that States, health care systems, and
25	first responders have implemented; and

1	(2) in partnership with stakeholder organiza-
2	tions with subject matter expertise, establish guide-
3	lines for hospital procedures following non-fatal
4	opioid overdose and the administration of overdose
5	reversal medication.
6	(b) STUDY AND DEVELOPMENT OF QUALITY MEAS-
7	URES UNDER MEDICARE RELATED TO OPIOID ABUSE
8	AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.—Section 1890A(e) of
9	the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395aaa-1(e)) is
10	amended—
11	(1) by striking "Measures.—The Adminis-
12	trator" and inserting "Measures.—
13	"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator"; and
14	(2) by adding at the end the following new
15	paragraph:
16	"(2) Study and development of quality
17	MEASURES RELATED TO OPIOID ABUSE AND SUB-
18	STANCE USE DISORDER.—Beginning not later than
19	1 year after the date of enactment of this para-
20	graph, the Administrator of the Center for Medicare
21	and Medicaid Services shall study and through con-

tracts develop, in coordination with appropriate sub-

ject matter organizations (such as the entity with a

contract under section 1890), for use under this Act,

quality measures related to standards of care for

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- 1 treating individuals with non-fatal opioid overdose,
- 2 discharge procedures, and linkages to appropriate
- 3 substance use disorder treatment and community
- 4 support services.".

5 SEC. 10. MEDICAID OPIOID DRUG MAPPING TOOL.

- 6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
- 7 Human Services shall create an interactive opioid drug
- 8 mapping tool, which shall be made publicly available on
- 9 the internet website of the Centers for Medicare & Med-
- 10 icaid Services, showing prescribing practices of providers
- 11 that participate in State Medicaid programs and geo-
- 12 graphic comparisons, at the State, county, and ZIP code
- 13 levels, of de-identified opioid prescription claims made
- 14 under State Medicaid programs under title XIX of the So-
- 15 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.).
- 16 (b) COLLECTION OF DATA FROM STATES.—The Sec-
- 17 retary of Health and Human Services may request from
- 18 States such data as the Secretary determines necessary
- 19 to create the opioid mapping tool described in subsection
- 20 (a).

21 SEC. 11. NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE STUDY.

- 22 (a) Study.—The Secretary of Health and Human
- 23 Services shall enter into a contract with the National
- 24 Academy of Medicine to carry out a study on the addition
- 25 of coverage under the Medicare program under title XVIII

- 1 of the Social Security Act of alternative treatment modali-
- 2 ties (such as integrative medicine, including acupuncture
- 3 and exercise therapy, neural stimulation, biofeedback, ra-
- 4 diofrequency ablation, and trigger point injections) fur-
- 5 nished to Medicare beneficiaries who suffer from acute or
- 6 chronic lower back pain. Such study shall, pursuant to the
- 7 contract under this paragraph, include an analysis of—
- 8 (1) scientific research on the short-term and
- 9 long-term impact of the addition of such coverage on
- 10 clinical efficacy for pain management of such bene-
- 11 ficiaries;
- 12 (2) whether the lack of Medicare coverage for
- alternative treatment modalities impacts the volume
- of opioids prescribed for beneficiaries; and
- 15 (3) the cost to the Medicare program of the ad-
- dition of such coverage to treat pain and mitigate
- the progression of chronic pain, as weighed against
- the cost of opioid use disorder, overdose, readmis-
- sion, subsequent surgeries, and utilization and ex-
- penditures under parts B and D of such title.
- 21 (b) Report.—Not later than 1 year after the date
- 22 of enactment of this Act, pursuant to the contract under
- 23 subsection (a), the National Academy of Medicine shall
- 24 submit to Congress a report on the study under subsection
- 25 (a).

- 1 (c) Authorization of Appropriations.—To carry
- 2 out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated
- 3 such sums as may be necessary.
- 4 SEC. 12. EXCISE TAX ON OPIOID PAIN RELIEVERS.
- 5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter E of chapter 32 of the
- 6 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at
- 7 the end the following new section:
- 8 "SEC. 4192. OPIOID PAIN RELIEVERS.
- 9 "(a) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby imposed on the
- 10 manufacturer or producer of any taxable active opioid a
- 11 tax equal to the amount determined under subsection (b).
- 12 "(b) Amount Determined.—The amount deter-
- 13 mined under this subsection with respect to a manufac-
- 14 turer or producer for a calendar year is 1 cent per milli-
- 15 gram of taxable active opioid in the production or manu-
- 16 facturing quota determined for such manufacturer or pro-
- 17 ducer for the calendar year under section 306 of the Con-
- 18 trolled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 826).
- 19 "(c) Taxable Active Opioid.—For purposes of this
- 20 section—
- 21 "(1) In General.—The term 'taxable active
- opioid' means any controlled substance (as defined
- in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21
- U.S.C. 802), as in effect on the date of the enact-
- 25 ment of this section) manufactured in the United

1	States which is opium, an opiate, or any derivative
2	thereof.
3	"(2) Exclusions.—
4	"(A) OTHER INGREDIENTS.—In the case
5	of a product that includes a taxable active
6	opioid and another ingredient, subsection (a)
7	shall apply only to the portion of such product
8	that is a taxable active opioid.
9	"(B) Drugs used in addiction treat-
10	MENT.—The term 'taxable active opioid' shall
11	not include any controlled substance (as so de-
12	fined) which is used exclusively for the treat-
13	ment of opioid addiction as part of a medica-
14	tion-assisted treatment.".
15	(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—
16	(1) The heading of subchapter E of chapter 32
17	of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by
18	striking "Medical Devices" and inserting
19	"Other Medical Products".
20	(2) The table of subchapters for chapter 32 of
21	such Code is amended by striking the item relating
22.	to subchapter E and inserting the following new

"SUBCHAPTER E. OTHER MEDICAL PRODUCTS".

item:

1	(3) The table of sections for subchapter E of
2	chapter 32 of such Code is amended by adding at
3	the end the following new item:
	"Sec. 4192. Opioid pain relievers.".
4	(c) Effective Date.—The amendments made by
5	this section shall apply to calendar years beginning after
6	the date of the enactment of this Act.
7	SEC. 13. OPIOID CONSUMER ABUSE REDUCTION PROGRAM.
8	(a) Opioid Take-Back Program.—Section 302 of
9	the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 822) is amend-
10	ed by adding at the end the following:
11	"(h)(1) The Attorney General shall establish a na-
12	tional take-back program for the safe and environmentally
13	responsible disposal of controlled substances.
14	"(2) In establishing the take-back program required
15	under paragraph (1), the Attorney General—
16	"(A) shall consult with the Secretary and the
17	Administrator of the Environmental Protection
18	Agency; and
19	"(B) may coordinate with States, law enforce-
20	ment agencies, water resource management agencies,
21	manufacturers, practitioners, pharmacists, public
22	health entities, transportation and incineration serv-
23	ice contractors, and other entities and individuals, as
24	appropriate.

1	"(3) The take-back program established under para-
2	graph (1)—
3	"(A) shall—
4	"(i) ensure appropriate geographic dis-
5	tribution so as to provide—
6	"(I) reasonably convenient and equi-
7	table access to permanent take-back loca-
8	tions, including not less than 1 disposal
9	site for every 25,000 residents and not less
10	than 1 physical disposal site per town, city,
11	county, or other unit of local government,
12	where possible; and
13	"(II) periodic collection events and
14	mail-back programs, including public no-
15	tice of such events and programs, as a sup-
16	plement to the permanent take-back loca-
17	tions described in subclause (I), particu-
18	larly in areas in which the provision of ac-
19	cess to such locations at the level described
20	in that subclause is not possible;
21	"(ii) establish a process for the accurate
22	cataloguing and reporting of the quantities of
23	controlled substances collected; and

1	"(iii) include a public awareness campaign
2	and education of practitioners and pharmacists;
3	and
4	"(B) may work in coordination with State and
5	locally implemented public and private take-back
6	programs.
7	"(4) From time to time, beginning in the second cal-
8	endar year that begins after the date of enactment of this
9	subsection, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer
10	from the general fund of the Treasury an amount equal
11	to one-half of the total amount of taxes collected under
12	section 4192 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to the
13	Attorney General to carry out this subsection. Amounts
14	transferred under this subparagraph shall remain avail-
15	able until expended.".
16	(b) Funding of Substance Abuse Programs.—
17	From time to time, beginning in the second calendar year
18	that begins after the date of enactment of this Act, the
19	Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer from the general
20	fund of the Treasury an amount equal to one-half of the
21	total amount of taxes collected under section 4192 of the

22 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this Act, to

24 of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Ad-

25 ministration for programs of the Center, including the

the Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment

- 1 Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance
- 2 Abuse program under subpart II of part B of title XIX
- 3 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300x–21 et
- 4 seq.) and Programs of Regional and National Significance.
- 5 Amounts transferred under this subsection shall remain
- 6 available until expended.

7 SEC. 14. GAO STUDY.

- 8 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
- 9 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
- 10 shall conduct a study evaluating the various State laws,
- 11 commercial insurance methods, and existing research on
- 12 requirements that place limitations on opioid prescribing
- 13 practices and provide analysis on best practices to address
- 14 over-prescribing of opioids, while ensuring that individuals
- 15 who need such opioids can access them safely. Such study
- 16 shall provide recommendations, including with respect
- 17 to—
- 18 (1) requiring non-opioid pain treatments to be
- 19 front line therapies;
- 20 (2) limiting first-time opioid prescriptions to a
- 21 patient for acute pain to a 72-hour supply; and
- 22 (3) pain management treatment contracts be-
- 23 tween practitioners and patients that establish in-
- formed consent regarding the expectations, risks,
- long-term effects, and benefits of the course of

opioid treatment, treatment goals, the potential for opioid misuse, abuse, or diversion, and requirements and responsibilities of patients, such as submitting to a urine drug screening.