

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—115th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 2838

To amend the Controlled Substances Act to require the Drug Enforcement Administration to report certain information on distribution of opioids, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended
to be proposed by _____

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Using Data to Prevent
5 Opioid Diversion Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) In 2016, there were nearly 64,000 drug
9 overdose deaths in the United States. More than
10 42,000 of these deaths were opioid-related.

1 (2) The regulations promulgated under the
2 Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.)
3 require drug manufacturers and distributors to—

4 (A) provide effective controls against the
5 diversion of controlled substances;

6 (B) detect and disclose suspicious orders to
7 the Drug Enforcement Administration; and

8 (C) keep complete and accurate records re-
9 lating to the manufacture or distribution of
10 controlled substances.

11 (3) Despite the requirements described in para-
12 graph (2), it has been publicly reported that between
13 2006 and 2016, nearly 21,000,000 opioids were dis-
14 tributed to 2 pharmacies in Williamson, West Vir-
15 ginia, which has a population of approximately
16 3,000. It has been further reported that between
17 2007 and 2008, nearly 9,000,000 pills were distrib-
18 uted to a single pharmacy in Kermit, West Virginia,
19 which has a population of 392.

20 (4) Similarly, it has been publicly reported that
21 780,000,000 oxycodone and hydrocodone pills were
22 distributed to pharmacies throughout West Virginia
23 between 2007 and 2012. In the same period, more
24 than 1,700 people in the State died from overdoses
25 of these 2 substances.

1 (5) Drug manufacturers and distributors are
2 required to report the sale, delivery or other disposal
3 of narcotics to the Drug Enforcement Administra-
4 tion through the Automated Reports and Consoli-
5 dated Orders System.

6 (6) Notwithstanding the reporting requirement
7 described in paragraph (5), the Drug Enforcement
8 Administration does not disclose the total quantity
9 and type of opioids distributed to a single pharmacy
10 or practitioner with those manufacturers and dis-
11 tributors who are required to input information into
12 the Automated Reports and Consolidated Orders
13 System. This creates a barrier to identifying and
14 stopping potentially suspicious orders.

15 (7) Although manufacturers and distributors
16 are already required to provide effective controls
17 against the diversion of controlled substances, this
18 lack of data sharing may create a barrier to better
19 identifying and stopping potentially suspicious or-
20 ders.

21 (8) On an annual basis, the Attorney General
22 of the United States is statutorily required to share
23 the controlled substance or substances in schedule II
24 that have the highest rates of abuse and to prepare
25 and make available reports on the distribution pat-

1 terms of such substances, with State regulatory, li-
2 censing, and law enforcement agencies. The Attor-
3 ney General of the United States has entered into
4 data sharing agreements with the attorneys general
5 of the vast majority of States, Puerto Rico, and the
6 District of Colombia to share, pursuant to State law
7 and policy, data obtained from State prescription
8 drug monitoring programs and other sources.

9 (9) To further reduce barriers associated with
10 identifying suspicious patterns and stopping the di-
11 version of opioids, the remaining States and terri-
12 tories of the United States should enter into similar
13 agreements with, and to the greatest extent practical
14 share data obtained from State prescription drug
15 monitoring programs with, the Attorney General of
16 the United States.

17 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The purpose of this Act is to pro-
19 vide drug manufacturers and distributors with access to
20 anonymized information through the Automated Reports
21 and Consolidated Orders System to help drug manufactur-
22 ers and distributors identify, report, and stop suspicious
23 orders of opioids and reduce diversion rates.

24 (b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
25 should be construed to absolve a drug manufacturer, drug

1 distributor, or other Drug Enforcement Administration
2 registrant from the responsibility of the manufacturer, dis-
3 tributor, or other registrant to—

4 (1) identify, stop, and report suspicious orders;

5 or

6 (2) maintain effective controls against diversion
7 in accordance with section 303 of the Controlled
8 Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823) or any successor
9 law or associated regulation.

10 **SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS.**

11 (a) RECORDS AND REPORTS OF REGISTRANTS.—Sec-
12 tion 307 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 827)
13 is amended—

14 (1) by redesignating subsections (f), (g), and
15 (h) as subsections (g), (h), and (i), respectively;

16 (2) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-
17 lowing:

18 “(f)(1) The Attorney General shall, not less fre-
19 quently than quarterly, make the following information
20 available to manufacturer and distributor registrants
21 through the Automated Reports and Consolidated Orders
22 System, or any subsequent automated system developed
23 by the Drug Enforcement Administration to monitor se-
24 lected controlled substances:

1 “(A) The total number of distributor reg-
2 istrants that distribute controlled substances to a
3 pharmacy or practitioner registrant, aggregated by
4 the name and address of each pharmacy and practi-
5 tioner registrant.

6 “(B) The total quantity and type of opioids dis-
7 tributed, listed by Administration Controlled Sub-
8 stances Code Number, to each pharmacy and practi-
9 tioner registrant described in subparagraph (A).

10 “(2) The information required to be made available
11 under paragraph (1) shall be made available not later than
12 the 15th day of the first month following the quarter to
13 which the information relates.

14 “(3)(A) All registered manufacturers and distributors
15 shall be responsible for reviewing the information made
16 available by the Attorney General under this subsection.

17 “(B) In determining whether to initiate proceedings
18 under this title against a registered manufacturer or dis-
19 tributor based on the failure of the registrant to maintain
20 effective controls against diversion or otherwise comply
21 with the requirements of this title or the regulations issued
22 thereunder, the Attorney General may take into account
23 that the information made available under this subsection
24 was available to the registrant.”; and

1 (3) by inserting after subsection (i), as so re-
2 designated, the following:

3 “(j) All of the reports required under this section
4 shall be provided in an electronic format.”.

5 (b) COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.—Section 503 of
6 the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 873) is amend-
7 ed—

8 (1) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the
9 following:

10 “(c)(1) The Attorney General shall, once every 6
11 months, prepare and make available to regulatory, licens-
12 ing, attorneys general, and law enforcement agencies of
13 States a standardized report containing descriptive and
14 analytic information on the actual distribution patterns,
15 as gathered through the Automated Reports and Consoli-
16 dated Orders System, or any subsequent automated sys-
17 tem, pursuant to section 307 and which includes detailed
18 amounts, outliers, and trends of distributor and pharmacy
19 registrants, in such States for the controlled substances
20 contained in schedule II, which, in the discretion of the
21 Attorney General, are determined to have the highest
22 abuse.

23 “(2) If the Attorney General publishes the report de-
24 scribed in paragraph (1) once every 6 months as required
25 under paragraph (1), nothing in this subsection shall be

1 construed to bring an action in any court to challenge the
2 sufficiency of the information or to compel the Attorney
3 General to produce any documents or reports referred to
4 in this subsection.”.

5 (c) CIVIL AND CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—Section 402
6 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 842) is
7 amended—

8 (1) in subsection (a)—

9 (A) in paragraph (15), by striking “or” at
10 the end;

11 (B) in paragraph (16), by striking the pe-
12 riod at the end and inserting “; or”; and

13 (C) by inserting after paragraph (16) the
14 following:

15 “(17) in the case of a registered manufacturer
16 or distributor of opioids, to fail to review the most
17 recent information, directly related to the customers
18 of the manufacturer or distributor, made available
19 by the Attorney General in accordance with section
20 307(f).”; and

21 (2) in subsection (c)—

22 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking subpara-
23 graph (B) and inserting the following:

1 “(B)(i) Except as provided in clause (ii), in the case
2 of a violation of paragraph (5), (10), or (17) of subsection
3 (a), the penalty shall not exceed \$10,000.

4 “(ii) In the case of a violation described in clause (i)
5 committed by a registered manufacturer or distributor of
6 opioids and related to the reporting of suspicious orders
7 for opioids, failing to maintain effective controls against
8 diversion of opioids, or failing to review the most recent
9 information made available by the Attorney General in ac-
10 cordance with section 307(f), the penalty shall not exceed
11 \$100,000.”; and

12 (B) in paragraph (2)—

13 (i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
14 “or (D)” after “subparagraph (B)”; and

15 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(D) In the case of a violation described in subpara-
18 graph (A) that was a violation of paragraph (5), (10), or
19 (17) of subsection (a) committed by a registered manufac-
20 turer or distributor of opioids that relates to the reporting
21 of suspicious orders for opioids, failing to maintain effec-
22 tive controls against diversion of opioids, or failing to re-
23 view the most recent information made available by the
24 Attorney General in accordance with section 307(f), the

1 criminal fine under title 18, United States Code, shall not
2 exceed \$500,000.”.

3 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

4 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
5 of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress
6 a report that provides information about how the Attorney
7 General is using data in the Automation of Reports and
8 Consolidated Orders System to identify and stop sus-
9 picious activity, including whether the Attorney General
10 is looking at aggregate orders from individual pharmacies
11 to multiple distributors that in total are suspicious, even
12 if no individual order rises to the level of a suspicious
13 order to a given distributor.