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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the Transition Assistance Program and Solid Start Program to address mental health issues, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. NUNN of Iowa introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the Transition Assistance Program and Solid Start Program to address mental health issues, 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 “Daniel J. Harvey, Jr.
5 and Adam Lambert Improving Servicemember Transition
6 to Reduce Veteran Suicide Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IN THE**
2 **TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF THE**
3 **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE SOLID**
4 **START PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF**
5 **VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

6 (a) TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF THE DE-
7 PARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—Section 1142(b) of title 10,
8 United States Code, is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (5), by inserting “(11),” be-
10 fore “and (16)”; and

11 (2) by striking paragraph (11) and inserting
12 the following:

13 “(11) Information concerning mental health, in-
14 cluding—

15 “(A) the availability of mental health serv-
16 ices furnished by the Secretary concerned, the
17 Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Veterans
18 Affairs, or a non-profit entity;

19 “(B) the treatment of post-traumatic
20 stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, anxiety
21 disorders, depression, chronic pain, sleep dis-
22 orders, suicidal ideation, or other mental health
23 conditions associated with service in the armed
24 forces;

25 “(C) the risk of suicide, including signs,
26 symptoms, and risk factors (including adverse

1 childhood experiences, depression, bipolar dis-
2 order, homelessness, unemployment, and rela-
3 tionship strain);

4 “(D) the availability of treatment options
5 and resources to address substance abuse, in-
6 cluding alcohol, prescription drug, and opioid
7 abuse;

8 “(E) the potential effects of the loss of
9 community and support systems experienced by
10 a member separating from the armed forces;

11 “(F) isolation from family, friends, or soci-
12 ety; and

13 “(G) the potential stressors associated with
14 separation from the armed forces.”.

15 (b) SOLID START PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT
16 OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—Section 6320(b)(1) of title 38,
17 United States Code, is amended—

18 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (G) and
19 (H) as subparagraphs (I) and (J), respectively; and

20 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the fol-
21 lowing new subparagraphs:

22 “(G) assisting eligible veterans who elect to en-
23 roll in the system of patient enrollment under sec-
24 tion 1705(a) of this title;

1 “(H) educating veterans about mental health
2 and counseling services available through the Vet-
3 erans Health Administration;”.

4 (c) REPORT.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
7 retary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Af-
8 fairs shall jointly submit to the appropriate congres-
9 sional committees a report on the information and
10 materials developed pursuant to the amendments
11 made by this Act.

12 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
13 TEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “ap-
14 propriate congressional committees” means—

15 (A) the Committee on Armed Services and
16 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Sen-
17 ate; and

18 (B) the Committee on Armed Services and
19 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the
20 House of Representatives.