

AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: To provide financial assistance to certain entities to provide and coordinate the provision of suicide prevention services for eligible individuals and their families.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—116th Cong., 2d Sess.**

**S. 785**

To improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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 intended to be proposed by Mr. TESTER

Viz:

1 Strike section 201 and insert the following:

2 **SEC. 201. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN ENTITIES TO**  
 3 **PROVIDE AND COORDINATE THE PROVISION**  
 4 **OF SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES FOR ELI-**  
 5 **GIBLE INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

6 *(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to reduce*  
 7 *veteran suicide through a community-based grant program*  
 8 *to award grants to eligible entities to provide suicide pre-*  
 9 *vention services to eligible individuals and their family.*

10 *(b) DISTRIBUTION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—*

1           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of Veterans Af-*  
2           *fairs shall provide financial assistance to eligible en-*  
3           *tities approved under this section through the award*  
4           *of grants each fiscal year to such entities to provide*  
5           *and coordinate the provision of suicide prevention*  
6           *services to eligible individuals and their family to re-*  
7           *duce the risk of suicide.*

8           (2) *COORDINATION WITH TASK FORCE.*—*The Sec-*  
9           *retary shall carry out this section in coordination*  
10          *with the President’s Roadmap to Empower Veterans*  
11          *and End the National Tragedy of Suicide Task Force,*  
12          *to the extent practicable.*

13          (c) *AWARD OF GRANTS.*—

14               (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall award a*  
15               *grant to each eligible entity for which the Secretary*  
16               *has approved an application under subsection (f) to*  
17               *provide or coordinate the provision of suicide preven-*  
18               *tion services under this section.*

19               (2) *GRANT AMOUNTS, INTERVALS OF PAYMENT,*  
20               *AND MATCHING FUNDS.*—*In accordance with the serv-*  
21               *ices being provided under a grant under this section*  
22               *and the duration of those services, the Secretary shall*  
23               *establish—*

1           (A) a maximum amount to be awarded  
2           under the grant that is not greater than  
3           \$750,000 per grantee per fiscal year;

4           (B) intervals of payment for the adminis-  
5           tration of the grant; and

6           (C) a requirement for the recipient of the  
7           grant to provide matching funds in a specified  
8           percentage.

9           (d) *DISTRIBUTION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND*  
10 *PREFERENCE.*—

11           (1) *DISTRIBUTION.*—

12           (A) *PRIORITY.*—Subject to subparagraphs  
13           (B) and (C), in determining how to distribute  
14           grants under this section, the Secretary may  
15           prioritize the award of grants in—

16                   (i) rural communities;

17                   (ii) Tribal lands;

18                   (iii) territories of the United States;

19                   (iv) medically underserved areas;

20                   (v) areas with a high number or per-  
21                   centage of minority veterans or women vet-  
22                   erans; and

23                   (vi) areas with a high number or per-  
24                   centage of calls to the Veterans Crisis Line.



1                   (B) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.*—*Nothing in*  
2                   *this paragraph shall be construed to limit the*  
3                   *award of grants under this section only to orga-*  
4                   *nizations that provide or coordinate multiple*  
5                   *suicide prevention services through a collective*  
6                   *impact model.*

7                   (e) *REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIPT OF FINANCIAL AS-*  
8                   *SISTANCE.*—

9                   (1) *NOTIFICATION THAT SERVICES ARE FROM*  
10                  *DEPARTMENT.*—*Each entity receiving financial as-*  
11                  *istance under this section to provide suicide preven-*  
12                  *tion services to eligible individuals and their family*  
13                  *shall notify the recipients of such services that such*  
14                  *services are being paid for, in whole or in part, by*  
15                  *the Department.*

16                  (2) *COORDINATION WITH OTHER SERVICES FROM*  
17                  *DEPARTMENT.*—*Each entity receiving a grant under*  
18                  *this section shall—*

19                         (A) *coordinate with the Secretary with re-*  
20                         *spect to the provision of clinical services to eligi-*  
21                         *ble individuals in accordance with any other*  
22                         *provision of law regarding the delivery of health*  
23                         *care under the laws administered by the Sec-*  
24                         *retary;*

1           (B) inform a veteran in receipt of assist-  
2           ance under this section of the eligibility of the  
3           veteran to enroll in the patient enrollment sys-  
4           tem of the Department under section 1705 of  
5           title 38, United States Code; and

6           (C) if such veteran wishes to so enroll, in-  
7           form the veteran of the point of contact at the  
8           nearest medical center of the Department who  
9           can assist the veteran in such enrollment.

10          (3) *MEASUREMENT AND MONITORING.*—Each en-  
11          tity receiving a grant under this section shall submit  
12          to the Secretary a description of the tools and assess-  
13          ments the entity uses or will use to determine the ef-  
14          fectiveness of the services furnished by the entity  
15          under this section, including the effect of those services  
16          on—

17                 (A) the financial stability of the entity;

18                 (B) the mental resiliency and mental outlook  
19                 of eligible individuals receiving those services;  
20                 and

21                 (C) the social support of eligible individuals  
22                 receiving those services.

23          (4) *REPORTS.*—The Secretary—

24                 (A) shall require each entity receiving fi-  
25                 nancial assistance under this section to submit

1           to the Secretary an annual report that describes  
2           the projects carried out with such financial as-  
3           sistance during the year covered by the report,  
4           including the number of eligible individuals  
5           served;

6           (B) shall specify to each such entity the  
7           evaluation criteria and data and information,  
8           which shall include a mental health measure-  
9           ment of each eligible individual served, to be sub-  
10          mitted in such report; and

11          (C) may require such entities to submit to  
12          the Secretary such additional reports as the Sec-  
13          retary considers appropriate.

14          (f) *APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.*—

15           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—An eligible entity seeking fi-  
16           nancial assistance under this section shall submit to  
17           the Secretary an application therefor in such form, in  
18           such manner, and containing such commitments and  
19           information as the Secretary considers necessary to  
20           carry out this section.

21           (2) *MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.*—Each applica-  
22           tion submitted by an eligible entity under paragraph  
23           (1) shall contain the following:

1           (A) *A description of the suicide prevention*  
2 *services proposed to be provided by the eligible*  
3 *entity and the identified need for those services.*

4           (B) *A detailed plan describing how the eli-*  
5 *gible entity proposes to coordinate and deliver*  
6 *suicide prevention services (including by pro-*  
7 *viding opportunities for mental wellness and*  
8 *personal growth) to eligible individuals not cur-*  
9 *rently receiving care furnished by the Depart-*  
10 *ment, including—*

11                 (i) *an identification of the community*  
12 *partners, if any, with which the eligible en-*  
13 *tity proposes to work in delivering such*  
14 *services;*

15                 (ii) *a description of the arrangements*  
16 *currently in place between the eligible entity*  
17 *and such partners; and*

18                 (iii) *an identification of how long such*  
19 *arrangements have been in place.*

20           (C) *Clearly defined objectives for the provi-*  
21 *sion of suicide prevention services.*

22           (D) *A description of the services the eligible*  
23 *entity proposes to deliver directly and a descrip-*  
24 *tion of any services the eligible entity proposes to*

1           *deliver through an agreement with a community*  
2           *partner, if any.*

3           *(E) A description of the types of eligible in-*  
4           *dividuals at risk of suicide and their family pro-*  
5           *posed to be provided suicide prevention services.*

6           *(F) An estimate of the number of eligible*  
7           *individuals at risk of suicide and their family*  
8           *proposed to be provided suicide prevention serv-*  
9           *ices and the basis for such estimate, including*  
10          *the percentage of those individuals who are not*  
11          *currently receiving care furnished by the Depart-*  
12          *ment.*

13          *(G) The physical address of the primary lo-*  
14          *cation of the eligible entity.*

15          *(H) A description of the geographic area*  
16          *and boundaries the eligible entity plans to serve*  
17          *during the year for which the application ap-*  
18          *plies.*

19          *(I) Evidence of the experience of the eligible*  
20          *entity (and the proposed partners of the entity)*  
21          *in providing suicide prevention services to indi-*  
22          *viduals at risk of suicide, particularly to eligible*  
23          *individuals at risk of suicide and their family.*

24          *(J) A description of the managerial and*  
25          *technological capacity of the eligible entity—*

1                   (i) to coordinate the provision of sui-  
2                   cide prevention services with the provision  
3                   of other services;

4                   (ii) to assess continuously the needs of  
5                   eligible individuals at risk of suicide and  
6                   their family for suicide prevention services;

7                   (iii) to coordinate the provision of sui-  
8                   cide prevention services with the services of  
9                   the Department for which the beneficiaries  
10                  are eligible;

11                  (iv) to continuously seek new sources of  
12                  assistance to ensure the continuity of sui-  
13                  cide prevention services for eligible individ-  
14                  uals at risk of suicide and their family as  
15                  long as the individual is determined to be  
16                  at risk of suicide; and

17                  (v) to measure, over a long-term pe-  
18                  riod, the improved mental resiliency and  
19                  mental outlook of the eligible individual  
20                  served.

21                  (K) An agreement to use the measurement  
22                  tool provided by the Department for purposes of  
23                  measuring effectiveness of the programming as  
24                  described in paragraph (2) of subsection (h).

1                   (L) *A description of how the eligible entity*  
2                   *plans to assess the effectiveness of the provision*  
3                   *of suicide prevention services under this section.*

4                   (M) *Such additional application criteria as*  
5                   *the Secretary considers appropriate.*

6           (g) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—*

7                   (1) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide*  
8                   *training and technical assistance to eligible entities*  
9                   *in receipt of financial assistance under this section*  
10                   *regarding—*

11                   (A) *the data required to be collected and*  
12                   *shared with the Department;*

13                   (B) *the means of data collection and shar-*  
14                   *ing;*

15                   (C) *familiarization with and appropriate*  
16                   *use of any tool to be used to measure the effec-*  
17                   *tiveness of the use of the financial assistance pro-*  
18                   *vided; and*

19                   (D) *the requirements for reporting under*  
20                   *subsection (e)(4) on services provided via such fi-*  
21                   *nancial assistance.*

22                   (2) *PROVISION OF TRAINING AND TECHNICAL AS-*  
23                   *SISTANCE.—The Secretary may provide the training*  
24                   *and technical assistance described in paragraph (1)*

1       *directly or through grants or contracts with appro-*  
2       *priate public or nonprofit entities.*

3       *(h) ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT PROGRAM.—*

4             *(1) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary, in*  
5       *consultation with entities specified in paragraph (3),*  
6       *shall establish criteria for the selection of eligible enti-*  
7       *ties that have submitted applications under subsection*  
8       *(f).*

9             *(2) DEVELOPMENT OF MEASURES AND*  
10       *METRICS.—The Secretary shall develop, in consulta-*  
11       *tion with entities specified in paragraph (3), the fol-*  
12       *lowing:*

13                *(A) A framework for collecting and sharing*  
14       *information about entities in receipt of financial*  
15       *assistance under this section for purposes of im-*  
16       *proving the discovery of services available for eli-*  
17       *gible individuals at risk of suicide and their*  
18       *family, set forth by service type, locality, and eli-*  
19       *gibility criteria.*

20                *(B) The measures to be used by each entity*  
21       *in receipt of financial assistance under this sec-*  
22       *tion to determine the effectiveness of the pro-*  
23       *gramming being provided by such entity in im-*  
24       *proving mental resiliency and mental outlook of*

1           *eligible individuals at risk of suicide and their*  
2           *family.*

3           (C) *Metrics for measuring the effectiveness*  
4           *of the provision of financial assistance under*  
5           *this section, including reducing suicide risk*  
6           *among eligible individuals.*

7           (3) *COORDINATION.—In developing a plan for*  
8           *the design and implementation of the provision of fi-*  
9           *nancial assistance under this section, including cri-*  
10          *teria for the award of grants, the Secretary shall con-*  
11          *sult with the following:*

12                   (A) *Veterans service organizations.*

13                   (B) *National organizations representing po-*  
14                   *tential community partners of eligible entities in*  
15                   *providing supportive services to address the*  
16                   *needs of eligible individuals at risk of suicide*  
17                   *and their family, including national organiza-*  
18                   *tions that—*

19                           (i) *advocate for the needs of individ-*  
20                           *uals with or at risk of behavioral health*  
21                           *conditions;*

22                           (ii) *represent mayors;*

23                           (iii) *represent first responders;*

24                           (iv) *represent chiefs of police and sher-*  
25                           *iffs;*

1                   (v) represent governors;

2                   (vi) represent a territory of the United  
3 States; or

4                   (vii) represent a Tribal alliance.

5                   (C) National organizations that represent  
6 counties.

7                   (D) Organizations with which the Depart-  
8 ment has a current memorandum of agreement  
9 or understanding related to mental health or sui-  
10 cide prevention.

11                   (E) State departments of veterans affairs.

12                   (F) National organizations representing  
13 members of the reserve components of the Armed  
14 Forces.

15                   (G) Vet Centers.

16                   (H) Organizations, including institutions of  
17 higher education, with experience in creating  
18 measurement tools for purposes of determining  
19 programmatic effectiveness.

20                   (I) The National Alliance on Mental Illness.

21                   (J) The Centers for Disease Control and  
22 Prevention.

23                   (K) The Substance Abuse and Mental  
24 Health Services Administration of the Depart-  
25 ment of Health and Human Services.

1           (L) A labor organization (as such term is  
2 defined in section 7103(a)(4) of title 5, United  
3 States Code).

4           (M) The PREVENTS task force established  
5 under Executive Order 13861 (84 Fed. Reg.  
6 8585; relating to the national roadmap to em-  
7 power veterans and end suicide) .

8           (N) Such other organizations as the Sec-  
9 retary considers appropriate.

10          (4) REPORT ON GRANT CRITERIA.—Not later  
11 than 30 days before notifying eligible entities of the  
12 availability of funding under this section, the Sec-  
13 retary shall submit to Congress a report containing—

14           (A) criteria for the award of a grant under  
15 this section;

16           (B) the tool or tools and metrics to be used  
17 by the Department to measure the effectiveness of  
18 the use of financial assistance provided under  
19 this section;

20           (C) a framework for the sharing of informa-  
21 tion about entities in receipt of financial assist-  
22 ance under this section; and

23           (D) the method by which the Secretary de-  
24 termines financial responsibility for purposes of  
25 paragraph (3) of subsection (m).

1       (i) *INFORMATION ON POTENTIAL BENEFICIARIES.*—

2           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary may make*  
3 *available to recipients of financial assistance under*  
4 *this section certain information regarding potential*  
5 *beneficiaries of services for which such financial as-*  
6 *sistance is provided.*

7           (2) *INFORMATION INCLUDED.*—*The information*  
8 *made available under paragraph (1) with respect to*  
9 *potential beneficiaries may include the following:*

10           (A) *Confirmation of the status of a poten-*  
11 *tial beneficiary as a veteran.*

12           (B) *Confirmation of whether the potential*  
13 *beneficiary is enrolled in the patient enrollment*  
14 *system of the Department under section 1705 of*  
15 *title 38, United States Code.*

16           (C) *Confirmation of whether a potential*  
17 *beneficiary is currently receiving care furnished*  
18 *by the Department or has recently received such*  
19 *care.*

20           (3) *OPT-OUT.*—*The Secretary shall allow an eli-*  
21 *gible individual to opt out of having their informa-*  
22 *tion shared under this subsection with recipients of fi-*  
23 *nancial assistance under this section.*

24       (j) *DURATION.*—*The authority of the Secretary to pro-*  
25 *vide financial assistance under this section shall terminate*

1 *on the date that is three years after the date on which the*  
2 *first grant is awarded under this section.*

3 *(k) REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT.—*

4 *(1) INTERIM REPORT.—*

5 *(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18*  
6 *months after the date on which the first grant is*  
7 *awarded under this section, the Secretary shall*  
8 *submit to the appropriate committees of Congress*  
9 *a report on the provision of financial assistance*  
10 *under this section.*

11 *(B) ELEMENTS.—The report submitted*  
12 *under subparagraph (A) shall include the fol-*  
13 *lowing:*

14 *(i) An assessment of the effectiveness of*  
15 *the provision of financial assistance under*  
16 *this section, including—*

17 *(I) the effectiveness of community*  
18 *partners in conducting outreach to eli-*  
19 *gible individuals at risk of suicide and*  
20 *their family and reducing suicide rates*  
21 *for eligible individuals; and*

22 *(II) the effectiveness of the meas-*  
23 *ures and metrics developed under sub-*  
24 *section (h)(2) at improving coordina-*  
25 *tion of suicide prevention services.*

1                   (ii) *A list of grant recipients and their*  
2                   *partner organizations that delivered services*  
3                   *funded by the grant and the amount of such*  
4                   *grant received by each recipient and part-*  
5                   *ner organization.*

6                   (iii) *The number of eligible individuals*  
7                   *supported by each grant recipient, includ-*  
8                   *ing through services provided to family*  
9                   *members.*

10                  (iv) *The types of suicide prevention*  
11                  *services provided by each grant recipient*  
12                  *and partner organization.*

13                  (v) *The number of eligible individuals*  
14                  *supported by each grant recipient under*  
15                  *this section, including through services pro-*  
16                  *vided to family members, who were not pre-*  
17                  *viously receiving care furnished by the De-*  
18                  *partment.*

19                  (vi) *The number of eligible individuals*  
20                  *whose mental resiliency and mental outlook*  
21                  *received a baseline measurement assessment*  
22                  *under this section and the number of such*  
23                  *individuals whose mental resiliency and*  
24                  *mental outlook will be measured by the De-*

1                    *partment or a community partner over a*  
2                    *period of time.*

3                    *(vii) The types of data the Department*  
4                    *was able to collect and share with partners,*  
5                    *including a characterization of the benefits*  
6                    *of that data.*

7                    *(viii) The number of eligible individ-*  
8                    *uals newly enrolled in the Veterans Health*  
9                    *Administration by grant recipients, set*  
10                   *forth by grant recipient.*

11                   *(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than three years*  
12                   *after the date on which the first grant is awarded*  
13                   *under this section, the Secretary shall submit to the*  
14                   *appropriate committees of Congress—*

15                   *(A) a follow-up on the interim report sub-*  
16                   *mitted under paragraph (1) containing the ele-*  
17                   *ments set forth in subparagraph (B) of such*  
18                   *paragraph; and*

19                   *(B) a report on—*

20                   *(i) the effectiveness of the provision of*  
21                   *financial assistance under this section, in-*  
22                   *cluding the effectiveness of community part-*  
23                   *ners in conducting outreach to eligible indi-*  
24                   *viduals at risk of suicide and their family*

1                   *and reducing suicide rates for eligible indi-*  
2                   *viduals;*

3                   (ii) *an assessment of the increased ca-*  
4                   *capacity of the Department to provide services*  
5                   *to eligible individuals at risk of suicide and*  
6                   *their family, set forth by State, as a result*  
7                   *of the provision of financial assistance*  
8                   *under this section; and*

9                   (iii) *the feasibility and advisability of*  
10                  *extending or expanding the provision of fi-*  
11                  *nancial assistance under this section.*

12                  (3) *THIRD PARTY ASSESSMENT.—*

13                  (A) *STUDY OF GRANT PROGRAM.—*

14                  (i) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180*  
15                  *days after the date on which the first grant*  
16                  *is awarded under this section, the Secretary*  
17                  *shall seek to enter into a contract with an*  
18                  *appropriate entity described in subpara-*  
19                  *graph (C) to conduct a study on the provi-*  
20                  *sion of grants under this section.*

21                  (ii) *ELEMENTS.—In conducting the*  
22                  *study under clause (i), the appropriate enti-*  
23                  *ty shall—*

24                                  (I) *evaluate the effectiveness of*  
25                                  *grants under this section in addressing*

1                    *the factors that contribute to suicide*  
2                    *through the provision of services by eli-*  
3                    *gible entities located in the commu-*  
4                    *nities where the eligible individuals re-*  
5                    *ceiving those services live; and*

6                    *(II) compare the results of the*  
7                    *provision of grants under this section*  
8                    *with other national programs in deliv-*  
9                    *ering resources to eligible individuals*  
10                   *in the communities where they live*  
11                   *that address the factors that contribute*  
12                   *to suicide.*

13                   *(B) ASSESSMENT.—*

14                   *(i) IN GENERAL.—The contract under*  
15                   *subparagraph (A) shall require that not*  
16                   *later than two years after the date on which*  
17                   *the first grant is awarded under this sec-*  
18                   *tion, the appropriate entity shall submit to*  
19                   *the Secretary an assessment of the provision*  
20                   *of grants under this section based on the*  
21                   *study conducted pursuant to such contract.*

22                   *(ii) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—Upon*  
23                   *receipt of the assessment under clause (i),*  
24                   *the Secretary shall submit to the appro-*

1                    *priate committees of Congress a copy of the*  
2                    *assessment.*

3                    *(C) APPROPRIATE ENTITY.—An appropriate*  
4                    *entity described in this subparagraph is a non-*  
5                    *government entity with experience optimizing*  
6                    *and assessing organizations that deliver services.*

7                    *(l) PROVISION OF CARE TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—*

8                    *(1) IN GENERAL.—When the Secretary deter-*  
9                    *mines it is clinically appropriate, the Secretary shall*  
10                    *furnish to an eligible individual receiving suicide pre-*  
11                    *vention services through a grant provided under this*  
12                    *section an initial mental health assessment and men-*  
13                    *tal health or behavioral health care services author-*  
14                    *ized under chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code,*  
15                    *that are required to treat the mental or behavioral*  
16                    *health care needs of the eligible individual, including*  
17                    *risk of suicide.*

18                    *(2) INELIGIBLE.—If an eligible individual re-*  
19                    *fuses to receive services under paragraph (1) or is in-*  
20                    *eligible for such services, any ongoing clinical services*  
21                    *provided by an eligible entity receiving a grant under*  
22                    *this section, or a community partner of such entity,*  
23                    *shall be at the expense of the entity.*

24                    *(m) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

1           (1) *APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.*—

2           The term “appropriate committees of Congress”  
3           means—

4                   (A) *the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs and*  
5                   *the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Vet-*  
6                   *erans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Com-*  
7                   *mittee on Appropriations of the Senate; and*

8                   (B) *the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs and*  
9                   *the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Vet-*  
10                  *erans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Com-*  
11                  *mittee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-*  
12                  *resentatives.*

13           (2) *COLLECTIVE IMPACT MODEL.*—The term “col-  
14           lective impact model” means a partnership between  
15           several entities that—

16                   (A) *collectively provides multiple suicide*  
17                   *prevention services;*

18                   (B) *shares the common goal of reducing the*  
19                   *risk of suicide among eligible individual;*

20                   (C) *has a shared measurement system;*

21                   (D) *engages in continuous communication;*

22                   and

23                   (E) *includes an organization that acts as*  
24                   *the supporting infrastructure of the model by*  
25                   *creating a structured process for—*

- 1                   (i) *strategic planning;*  
2                   (ii) *project management; and*  
3                   (iii) *supporting partner entities*  
4                   *through ongoing—*  
5                   (I) *facilitation;*  
6                   (II) *technology and communica-*  
7                   *tions support;*  
8                   (III) *data collection and report-*  
9                   *ing; and*  
10                  (IV) *administrative support.*

11                  (3) *ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-*  
12                  *ty” means—*

13                  (A) *an incorporated private institution or*  
14                  *foundation—*

15                   (i) *no part of the net earnings of which*  
16                   *incurs to the benefit of any member, found-*  
17                   *er, contributor, or individual;*

18                   (ii) *that has a governing board that*  
19                   *would be responsible for the operation of the*  
20                   *suicide prevention services provided under*  
21                   *this section; and*

22                   (iii) *that is approved by the Secretary*  
23                   *as to financial responsibility;*

24                  (B) *a corporation wholly owned and con-*  
25                  *trolled by an organization meeting the require-*

1            *ments of clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subpara-*  
2            *graph (A);*

3            *(C) a tribally designated housing entity (as*  
4            *defined in section 4 of the Native American*  
5            *Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act*  
6            *of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103));*

7            *(D) a community-based organization—*

8            *(i) that is physically based in the tar-*  
9            *geted community;*

10           *(ii) that can effectively network with*  
11           *local civic organizations, regional health*  
12           *systems, and other settings where eligible*  
13           *individuals at risk of suicide and their fam-*  
14           *ily are likely to have contact; and*

15           *(iii) that is approved by the Secretary*  
16           *as to financial responsibility;*

17           *(E) a community-based organization—*

18           *(i) that is physically based in the tar-*  
19           *geted community;*

20           *(ii) that has demonstrated the poten-*  
21           *tial to use a collective impact model to effec-*  
22           *tively network and partner with community*  
23           *partners that offer suicide prevention serv-*  
24           *ices to reduce the risk of suicide for eligible*  
25           *individuals; and*

1                   (iii) that is approved by the Secretary  
2                   as to financial responsibility; or

3                   (F) a State or local government that is ap-  
4                   proved by the Secretary as to financial responsi-  
5                   bility.

6                   (4) *ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.*—The term “eligible  
7                   individual” means—

8                   (A) a veteran, as defined in section 101 of  
9                   title 38, United States Code;

10                  (B) an eligible individual described in sec-  
11                  tion 1720I(b) of such title;

12                  (C) an individual described in any of  
13                  clauses (i) through (iv) of section 1712A(a)(1)(C)  
14                  of such title; or

15                  (D) such other individual as the Secretary  
16                  considers appropriate.

17                  (5) *EMERGENCY MEDICAL CONDITION DE-*  
18                  *FINED.*—The term “emergency medical condition”  
19                  means a medical or behavioral condition manifesting  
20                  itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, includ-  
21                  ing severe pain, such that the absence of immediate  
22                  medical attention could reasonably be expected to re-  
23                  sult in—

24                  (A) placing the health of the individual in  
25                  serious jeopardy;

1                   (B) *serious impairment to bodily functions;*

2                   *or*

3                   (C) *serious dysfunction of bodily organs.*

4                   (6) *FAMILY.*—*The term “family” means, with re-*  
5 *spect to an eligible individual at risk of suicide, any*  
6 *of the following:*

7                   (A) *A parent.*

8                   (B) *A spouse.*

9                   (C) *A child.*

10                  (D) *A sibling.*

11                  (E) *A step-family member.*

12                  (F) *An extended family member.*

13                  (G) *Any other individual who lives with the*  
14 *eligible individual.*

15                  (7) *NECESSARY STABILIZING TREATMENT DE-*  
16 *FINED.*—*The term “necessary stabilizing treatment”*  
17 *means, with respect to an emergency medical condi-*  
18 *tion, to provide, for not greater than 72 hours, such*  
19 *medical treatment for the condition necessary to as-*  
20 *sure, within reasonable medical probability, that no*  
21 *material deterioration of the condition is likely to re-*  
22 *sult from or occur during the transfer of the indi-*  
23 *vidual from a facility.*

24                  (8) *PEER SPECIALIST.*—*The term “peer spe-*  
25 *cialist” means a person eligible to be appointed as a*

1       *peer specialist under section 7402(b)(13) of title 38,*  
2       *United States Code.*

3               (9) *RISK OF SUICIDE.*—*The term “risk of sui-*  
4       *cide” means exposure to or the existence of any of the*  
5       *following:*

6               (A) *Health risk factors, including the fol-*  
7       *lowing:*

8                       (i) *Mental health challenges.*

9                       (ii) *Substance abuse.*

10                      (iii) *Serious or chronic health condi-*  
11       *tions or pain.*

12                      (iv) *Traumatic brain injury.*

13               (B) *Environmental risk factors, including*  
14       *the following:*

15                      (i) *Access to lethal means (such as*  
16       *drugs, firearms, etc.).*

17                      (ii) *Prolonged stress.*

18                      (iii) *Stressful life events.*

19                      (iv) *Exposure to the suicide of another*  
20       *person or to graphic or sensationalized ac-*  
21       *counts of suicide.*

22                      (v) *Unemployment.*

23                      (vi) *Homelessness.*

24                      (vii) *Recent loss.*

25                      (viii) *Legal or financial challenges.*

1                   (C) *Historical risk factors, including the*  
2                   *following:*

3                   (i) *Previous suicide attempts.*

4                   (ii) *Family history of suicide.*

5                   (iii) *History of abuse, neglect, or trau-*  
6                   *ma.*

7                   (10) *RURAL.*—*With respect to an area or com-*  
8                   *munity, the term “rural” has the meaning given that*  
9                   *term in the Rural-Urban Commuting Areas coding*  
10                  *system of the Department of Agriculture.*

11                  (11) *STATE.*—*The term “State” means each of*  
12                  *several States, the District of Columbia, the Northern*  
13                  *Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto*  
14                  *Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands.*

15                  (12) *SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES.*—

16                  (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The term “suicide pre-*  
17                  *vention services” means services to address the*  
18                  *needs of eligible individuals at risk of suicide*  
19                  *and their family and includes the following:*

20                  (i) *Outreach to identify eligible indi-*  
21                  *viduals at risk of suicide, with an emphasis*  
22                  *on eligible individuals who are at highest*  
23                  *risk or who are not receiving health care or*  
24                  *other services furnished by the Department.*

1                   (ii) *A baseline mental health assess-*  
2                   *ment for risk screening and referral to care*  
3                   *at—*

4                   (I) *a medical facility of the De-*  
5                   *partment;*

6                   (II) *a Vet Center; or*

7                   (III) *a non-Department facility if*  
8                   *the eligible individual refuses to or is*  
9                   *ineligible for care from the Department*  
10                  *or a Vet Center.*

11                  (iii) *Education on suicide risk and*  
12                  *prevention to families and communities.*

13                  (iv) *Individual and group therapy.*

14                  (v) *Case management services.*

15                  (vi) *Peer support services provided by*  
16                  *peer specialists.*

17                  (vii) *Assistance in obtaining any ben-*  
18                  *efit from the Department that the eligible*  
19                  *individual at risk of suicide or their family*  
20                  *may be eligible to receive, including—*

21                  (I) *vocational and rehabilitation*  
22                  *counseling;*

23                  (II) *supportive services for home-*  
24                  *less veterans;*

1                   (III) *employment and training*  
2                   *services;*

3                   (IV) *educational assistance; and*

4                   (V) *health care services.*

5                   (viii) *Assistance in obtaining and co-*  
6                   *ordinating the provision of other benefits*  
7                   *provided by the Federal Government, a*  
8                   *State or local government, or an eligible en-*  
9                   *tity.*

10                  (ix) *The provision of emergency mental*  
11                  *health treatment to an eligible individual,*  
12                  *which may include—*

13                         (I) *assessing the eligible indi-*  
14                         *vidual for immediate suicide risk;*

15                         (II) *connecting the eligible indi-*  
16                         *vidual to the Veterans Crisis Line; and*

17                         (III) *in the case of an eligible in-*  
18                         *dividual who is experiencing an emer-*  
19                         *gency medical condition—*

20                                 (aa) *paying for the provision*  
21                                 *of necessary stabilizing treatment*  
22                                 *provided in a hospital or other*  
23                                 *medical facility; and*

24                                 (bb) *transporting the indi-*  
25                                 *vidual—*

1                                    (AA) if the individual is  
2                                    eligible for care from the De-  
3                                    partment, to a medical facil-  
4                                    ity of the Department; or

5                                    (BB) if the individual  
6                                    is not eligible for care from  
7                                    the Department, to a medical  
8                                    facility not operated by the  
9                                    Department.

10                                (x) Such other services necessary for  
11                                improving the resiliency of eligible individ-  
12                                uals at risk of suicide and their family as  
13                                the Secretary considers appropriate, which  
14                                may include—

15                                    (I) assistance with emergent needs  
16                                relating to—

17                                    (aa) daily living services;

18                                    (bb) personal financial plan-  
19                                ning;

20                                    (cc) transportation services;

21                                    (dd) legal services to assist  
22                                the eligible individual with issues  
23                                that may contribute to risk of sui-  
24                                cide; and

1                    *(ee) child care (not to exceed*  
2                    *\$5,000 per family of the eligible*  
3                    *individual per fiscal year);*

4                    *(II) adaptive sports, equine as-*  
5                    *sisted therapy, or in-place or outdoor*  
6                    *recreational therapy;*

7                    *(III) substance use reduction pro-*  
8                    *gramming;*

9                    *(IV) individual, group, or family*  
10                    *counseling; and*

11                    *(V) relationship coaching.*

12                    *(B) EXCLUSION.—The term “suicide pre-*  
13                    *vention services” does not include direct cash as-*  
14                    *sistance to eligible individuals or their family.*

15                    *(13) VET CENTER.—The term “Vet Center” has*  
16                    *the meaning given that term in section 1712A(h)(1)*  
17                    *of title 38, United States Code.*

18                    *(14) VETERANS CRISIS LINE.—The term “Vet-*  
19                    *erans Crisis Line” means the toll-free hotline for vet-*  
20                    *erans established under section 1720F(h) of such title.*

21                    *(15) VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION.—The*  
22                    *term “veterans service organization” means any orga-*  
23                    *nization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Af-*  
24                    *airs for the representation of veterans included as*

- 1 *part of the annually updated list at [https://](https://www.va.gov/vso/)*
- 2 *www.va.gov/vso/ or a successor website.*