

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4573

To clarify that the Dickey Amendment does not prevent the use of funds for research on mental health, gun violence, and how they intersect, and to provide for reporting on the effects of gun violence.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 6, 2017

Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. CLAY, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. RUSH, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mrs. BEATTY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. BASS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. FUDGE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. ADAMS, and Mr. EVANS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To clarify that the Dickey Amendment does not prevent the use of funds for research on mental health, gun violence, and how they intersect, and to provide for reporting on the effects of gun violence.

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 “Gun Violence Research
5 Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds as follows:

3 (1) As of December 4, 2017, there have been
4 56,825 incidents of gun violence in the United
5 States in 2017.

6 (2) As of December 4, 2017, there have been
7 14,319 deaths related to gun violence in the United
8 States in 2017.

9 (3) Defining a mass shooting as an incident of
10 violence during which four or more people are shot,
11 not including the shooter—

12 (A) there have been 327 mass shootings in
13 the United States in 2017;

14 (B) on average, there is more than one
15 mass shooting each day in the United States;
16 and

17 (C) there have been more than 1,500 mass
18 shootings in the United States since the shoot-
19 ing at Sandy Hook Elementary in 2012.

20 **SEC. 3. RESEARCH ON MENTAL HEALTH, GUN VIOLENCE,**
21 **AND HOW THEY INTERSECT.**

22 Effective on the date of enactment of the Consoli-
23 dated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–113),
24 section 210 (prohibiting the availability of funds to advo-
25 cate or promote gun control) of title II of division H of

1 such Act (relating to the Department of Health and
2 Human Services) is amended to read as follows:

3 “SEC. 210. None of the funds made available in this
4 title may be used, in whole or in part, to advocate or pro-
5 mote gun control. Nothing in this section shall be con-
6 strued to limit funding for the conduct or support of re-
7 search on mental health, gun violence, and how they inter-
8 sect.”.

9 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON EFFECTS OF GUN VIOLENCE ON PUB-**
10 **LIC HEALTH.**

11 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
12 ment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Surgeon
13 General of the Public Health Service shall submit to Con-
14 gress a report on the effects on public health, including
15 mental health, of gun violence in the United States during
16 the preceding year, and the status of actions taken to ad-
17 dress such effects.

18 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON EFFECTS OF GUN VIOLENCE ON MEN-**
19 **TAL HEALTH IN MINORITY COMMUNITIES.**

20 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
21 ment of this Act, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Mi-
22 nority Health in the Office of the Secretary of Health and
23 Human Services shall submit to Congress a report on the
24 effects of gun violence on public health, including mental

- 1 health, in minority communities in the United States, and
- 2 the status of actions taken to address such effects.

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