



Improving Measurements for Loneliness and Isolation Act

Summary

Americans of all ages are becoming increasingly isolated and disconnected—posing increased threats to their mental and physical health. Over four decades of research has produced robust evidence that loneliness and isolation are associated with a significantly increased risk for early death from all causes. Furthermore, the negative health outcomes associated with loneliness and isolation can increase preventable healthcare costs.

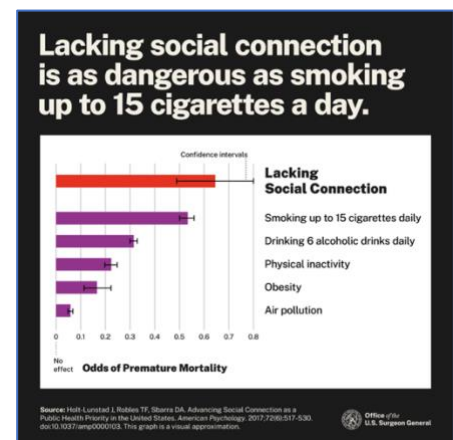
To address this challenge, the **Improving Measurements for Loneliness and Isolation Act** calls the Secretary of Health and Human Services to convene a working group of experts and stakeholders to provide recommendations for standardizing the measurements and definitions of loneliness and isolation—unifying private and public efforts to study, understand and combat them. This bill incurs no cost.

Why address measurements?

While loneliness and isolation have been studied and surveyed in the past, it has been through various, different methods.

As efforts to study and combat loneliness continue to gain attention, it is prudent to initiate a uniform way in which researchers and experts study and communicate about these phenomena.

Standardizing the measurements for loneliness and isolation is a recommendation provided by both the National Academies and the U.S. Surgeon General's advisory on loneliness.



The Improving Measurements for Loneliness and Isolation Act

In a significant first step to combat loneliness and isolation federally, this bill brings subject matter experts, researchers and various stakeholders to unify existing efforts to increase social connection.

With updated, clear measures and definitions, public and private groups can communicate their efforts with accuracy and more easily build off each others' findings. Furthermore, more reliable findings and data will provide federal and local governments with a better picture of existing challenges and potential solutions.

Endorsing Organizations

American Association of Suicidology, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Coalition to End Social Isolation and Loneliness, National Association for County Behavioral Health and Disability Directors, National Association for Rural Mental Health

For questions or if you would like to be an original cosponsor, please email Jesse Ferguson (jesse.ferguson@mail.house.gov) with Rep. Mike Flood (NE-01).