S.644, Modernizing Opioid Treatment Access Act Section-by-Section

Section 1. Short Title.

This Act may be cited as the "Modernizing Opioid Treatment Access Act."

Sec. 2. Expansion of Methadone for Opioid Use Disorder through Prescribing and Pharmacies.

This section waives current requirements within the Controlled Substances Act and allows certain licensed and registered providers to prescribe methadone for opioid use disorder, and for pharmacies to dispense it for this purpose. The section provides requirements for prescribing, dispensing, and registration, including that prescriptions should be for no more than a 30 day supply. At the request of a state, the Attorney General may cease registering providers or withdraw one's registration within that state. The section also indicates that relevant maintenance or detoxification treatment may be provided through telehealth. Additionally, the section requires SAMHSA and DEA to submit annual reporting to Congress on the number of providers registered and the states where they are registered, and the number of patients being prescribed.

Sec. 3. Sense of Congress on Need to Reduce Barriers to Patient Care through Opioid Treatment Programs.

This section indicates that it is the sense of Congress that patients receiving care through opioid treatment programs face barriers to care, and each state should regulate their opioid treatment programs in alignment with this bill.