

1 “(6) a description of the standards for accredi-
2 tation described in subsection (c), including any
3 variations in those standards, and any efforts to cre-
4 ate and maintain consistent standards across organi-
5 zations that accredit poison control centers; and

6 “(7) the number of and reason for any waivers
7 provided under subsection (d).”.

8 **SEC. 404. KAY HAGAN TICK ACT.**

9 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the
10 “Kay Hagan Tick Act”.

11 (b) **COMBATING VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES.**—Title
12 III of the Public Health Service Act is amended by insert-
13 ing after section 317T (42 U.S.C. 247b–22) the following:

14 **“SEC. 317U. NATIONAL STRATEGY AND REGIONAL CENTERS**
15 **OF EXCELLENCE IN VECTOR-BORNE DIS-**
16 **EASES.**

17 “(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall—

18 “(1)(A) ensure the development and implemen-
19 tation of a national strategy to address vector-borne
20 diseases, including tick-borne diseases, that—

21 “(i) identifies and assesses gaps and any
22 unnecessary duplication in federally-funded pro-
23 grams; and

24 “(ii) identifies strategic goals to address
25 such diseases and appropriate benchmarks to

1 measure progress toward achieving such goals;

2 and

3 “(B) update such strategy, as appropriate; and

4 “(2) coordinate programs and activities, includ-

5 ing related to data collection, research, and the de-

6 velopment of diagnostics, treatments, vaccines, and

7 other related activities, to address vector-borne dis-

8 eases, including tick-borne diseases, across the De-

9 partment of Health and Human Services and with

10 other Federal agencies or departments, as appro-

11 priate.

12 “(b) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out subsection

13 (a)(1), the Secretary shall consult with the Tick-Borne

14 Disease Working Group established under section 2062 of

15 the 21st Century Cures Act (42 U.S.C. 284s) and other

16 individuals, as appropriate, such as—

17 “(1) epidemiologists with experience in vector-

18 borne diseases;

19 “(2) representatives of patient advocacy and re-

20 search organizations that focus on vector-borne dis-

21 eases, including such organizations that have dem-

22 onstrated experience in related research, public

23 health, data collection, or patient access to care;

24 “(3) health information technology experts or

25 other information management specialists;

1 “(4) clinicians, entomologists, vector manage-
2 ment professionals, public health professionals, and
3 others with expertise in vector-borne diseases; and

4 “(5) researchers, including researchers with ex-
5 perience conducting translational research.

6 “(c) CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.—The Secretary, in
7 coordination with the Director of the Centers for Disease
8 Control and Prevention, shall award grants, contracts, or
9 cooperative agreements to institutions of higher education
10 for the establishment or continued support of regional cen-
11 ters of excellence in vector-borne diseases to address vec-
12 tor-borne diseases, including tick-borne diseases, by—

13 “(1) facilitating collaboration between academia
14 and public health organizations for public health
15 surveillance, prevention, and response activities re-
16 lated to vector-borne diseases, including tick-borne
17 diseases;

18 “(2) providing training for public health ento-
19 mologists and other health care professionals, as ap-
20 propriate, to address vector-borne diseases, including
21 tick-borne diseases;

22 “(3) conducting research to develop and vali-
23 date prevention and control tools and methods, in-
24 cluding evidence-based and innovative, evidence-in-

1 formed tools and methods to anticipate and respond
2 to disease outbreaks; or

3 “(4) preparing for and responding to outbreaks
4 of vector-borne diseases, including tick-borne dis-
5 eases.

6 “(d) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant,
7 contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (c),
8 an entity shall submit to the Secretary an application at
9 such time, in such manner, and containing such informa-
10 tion as the Secretary may require, including a description
11 of how the entity will conduct the activities described in
12 such subsection.

13 “(e) REPORTS.—

14 “(1) PROGRAM SUMMARY.—An entity receiving
15 an award under subsection (c) shall, not later than
16 one year after receiving such award, and annually
17 thereafter, submit to the Secretary a summary of
18 programs and activities funded under the award.

19 “(2) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 4
20 years after the date of enactment of this section, the
21 Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health,
22 Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and
23 the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the
24 House of Representatives, a report on the progress
25 made in addressing vector-borne diseases, including

1 tick-borne diseases, through activities carried out
2 under this section.

3 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the
4 purpose of carrying out this section, there are authorized
5 to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years
6 2021 through 2025.”.

7 (c) ENHANCING CAPACITY TO ADDRESS VECTOR-
8 BORNE DISEASES.—Subtitle C of title XXVIII of the Pub-
9 lic Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh-31 et seq.) is
10 amended by adding at the end the following:

11 **“SEC. 2822. ENHANCED SUPPORT TO ASSIST HEALTH DE-**
12 **PARTMENTS IN ADDRESSING VECTOR-BORNE**
13 **DISEASES.**

14 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through
15 the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
16 vention, may enter into cooperative agreements with
17 health departments of States, political subdivisions of
18 States, and Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations in
19 areas at high risk of vector-borne diseases in order to in-
20 crease capacity to identify, report, prevent, and respond
21 to such diseases and related outbreaks.

22 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to enter into a co-
23 operative agreement under this section, an entity de-
24 scribed in subsection (a) shall prepare and submit to the
25 Secretary an application at such time, in such manner,

1 and containing such information as the Secretary may re-
2 quire, including a plan that describes—

3 “(1) how the applicant proposes to develop or
4 expand programs to address vector-borne disease
5 risks, including through—

6 “(A) related training and workforce devel-
7 opment;

8 “(B) programmatic efforts to improve ca-
9 pacity to identify, report, prevent, and respond
10 to such disease and related outbreaks; and

11 “(C) other relevant activities identified by
12 the Director of the Centers for Disease Control
13 and Prevention, as appropriate;

14 “(2) the manner in which the applicant will co-
15 ordinate with other Federal, Tribal, and State agen-
16 cies and programs, as applicable, related to vector-
17 borne diseases, as well as other relevant public and
18 private organizations or agencies; and

19 “(3) the manner in which the applicant will
20 evaluate the effectiveness of any program carried out
21 under the cooperative agreement.

22 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the
23 purposes of carrying out this section, there are authorized
24 to be appropriated \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years
25 2021 through 2025.”.