

Dear Ms. Mckinnon,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Comprehensive Addiction Resources Emergency (CARE) Act of 2019 (S. 1365). I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

The CARE Act was introduced by Senator Elizabeth Warren on May 8, 2019, and was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. This bill would establish several new grant programs for local and tribal communities to respond to the opioid epidemic. Although I do not serve on this Committee, I will be sure to keep your views in mind should this legislation be considered by the full Senate

As Governor, I oversaw the investment of more than \$65 million in our Florida communities in 2018 alone to help families battling the national opioid epidemic. In 2017, I directed a statewide public health emergency for the opioid epidemic, allowing the state to immediately draw down more than \$27 million in federal grant funding. Also, I proposed legislation that limits the chance of drug addiction, reduces the ability for dangerous drugs to spread in Florida's communities, and gives vulnerable Floridians the support they need. I am proud to have signed HB 21, a bill modeled after my proposal, into Florida law on March 19, 2018, as part of my efforts to combat the national opioid epidemic and keep Floridians healthy.

Again, thank you for your correspondence. I am proud to represent every citizen in Florida and I appreciate the time you took to provide your position on this matter. Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rick Scott United States Senator

You can follow my work in the U.S. Senate on <u>Twitter</u>. Additionally, please do not reply to this email as this mailbox unfortunately is for outgoing messages only. If you would like to contact me again, please visit my <u>website</u>.