



Lamar Alexander of Tennessee - Chairman

## **Respond to America's Opioid Abuse Crisis**

### **The Problem:**

More people died from drug overdoses in 2014 than in any year on record, and the majority of drug overdose deaths involve an opioid. Opioid abuse continues to devastate families and communities across the country.

### **The Solution:**

States are on the front lines of the opioid abuse crisis and additional funding will help curb the epidemic and save lives. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures legislation provides grants to states to supplement activities to prevent and treat opioid abuse, such as:

- Improving prescription drug monitoring programs;
- Implementing prevention activities;
- Training for health care providers; and
- Expanding access to opioid treatment programs.

The Cures legislation ensures accountability of taxpayer dollars without increasing the paperwork burden on states by requiring grantees to report on activities funded by the grant in the substance abuse block grant report.