

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2006

To establish a National Autism Spectrum Disorders Initiative, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 26, 2011

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. DOYLE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To establish a National Autism Spectrum Disorders Initiative, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Autism Spec-
5 trum Disorders Initiative Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL AUTISM SPEC-**
7 **TRUM DISORDERS INITIATIVE.**

8 Part R of title III of the Public Health Service Act
9 (42 U.S.C. 280i et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating section 399E (42 U.S.C.
2 280i-4) as section 399FF; and

3 (2) by inserting after section 399DD the fol-
4 lowing:

5 **“SEC. 399EE. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL AUTISM**
6 **SPECTRUM DISORDERS INITIATIVE.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Office
8 of the Secretary of Health and Human Services the Na-
9 tional Autism Spectrum Disorders Initiative (referred to
10 in this Act as the ‘Initiative’). The principal goal of the
11 Initiative is to improve the lives of persons with autism
12 spectrum disorders through research focused on preven-
13 tion, treatment, services, and cures.

14 “(b) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY UNDER THE INI-
15 TIATIVE.—The Secretary (or the Secretary’s designee)
16 shall—

17 “(1) act as the primary Federal official with re-
18 sponsibility for overseeing all research on autism
19 spectrum disorders conducted or supported by the
20 National Institutes of Health;

21 “(2) approve the strategic plan described in sec-
22 tion 399CC(b)(5) and be responsible for its imple-
23 mentation;

24 “(3) receive directly from the President and the
25 Director of the Office of Management and Budget

1 all funds available for autism spectrum disorder ac-
2 tivities of the National Institutes of Health;

3 “(4) from the amounts received under para-
4 graph (3) for the fiscal year, allocate, in consultation
5 with the Director of the National Institutes of
6 Health, to the agencies of the National Institutes of
7 Health in accordance with the strategic plan all
8 amounts available for such year for carrying out au-
9 tism spectrum disorder activities;

10 “(5) to the extent practicable, allocate amounts
11 under paragraph (4) not later than 30 days after
12 the date on which the Secretary receives the
13 amounts described under paragraph (3);

14 “(6) have authority to reallocate up to 3 per-
15 cent of the total amount allocated under paragraph
16 (4) as needs change and opportunities arise;

17 “(7) plan and evaluate research and other ac-
18 tivities related to autism spectrum disorders con-
19 ducted or supported by the agencies of the National
20 Institutes of Health, evaluating the activities of each
21 of such agencies and providing for the periodic re-
22 evaluation of such activities;

23 “(8) maintain communications with all relevant
24 departments and agencies of the Federal Govern-

1 ment to ensure the timely transmission of informa-
2 tion concerning autism spectrum disorders; and

3 “(9) carry out this subsection in consultation
4 with the heads of the agencies of the National Insti-
5 tutes of Health, with the advisory councils of such
6 agencies, and with the Interagency Autism Coordi-
7 nating Committee.

8 “(c) SUNSET PROVISION.—This section shall not
9 apply after the date that is 7 years after the date of the
10 enactment of this section.”

11 **SEC. 3. ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF**
12 **HEALTH WITH RESPECT TO AUTISM SPEC-**
13 **TRUM DISORDERS.**

14 Section 409C of the Public Health Service Act (42
15 U.S.C. 284g) is amended—

16 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “basic and
17 clinical research” and inserting “basic, clinical, and
18 translational research”;

19 (2) in subsection (b)—

20 (A) in paragraph (2)—

21 (i) by striking “basic and clinical re-
22 search” and inserting “basic, clinical, and
23 translational research”; and

24 (ii) by inserting “, building upon the
25 recommendations set forth in the most re-

1 cent strategic plan for autism spectrum
2 disorders of the Interagency Autism Co-
3 ordinating Committee established under
4 section 399CC” before the period at the
5 end of the second sentence; and

6 (B) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(6) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term
8 ‘translational’, with respect to research, means em-
9 phasizing the development and delivery of effective
10 new therapies to patients.”; and

11 (3) in subsection (e), by inserting “, biosamples
12 relevant to environmental exposures,” after “tis-
13 sues”.

14 **SEC. 4. CLARIFYING AMENDMENTS WITH RESPECT TO AU-**
15 **TISM INTERVENTION.**

16 Section 399BB(f) of the Public Health Service Act
17 (42 U.S.C. 280i–1(f)) is amended—

18 (a) by inserting “to research networks” after “con-
19 tracts”; and

20 (b) by striking “interventions for individuals” and in-
21 serting “interventions to improve the physical and behav-
22 ioral health and well-being of individuals”.

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