

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2007

To establish programs to provide services to individuals with autism and the families of such individuals, and to increase public education and awareness of autism, 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 programs to provide services to individuals with autism and the families of such individuals, and to increase public education and awareness of autism, 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 “Autism Spectrum Dis-
5 orders Services Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY AUTISM COORDINATING COM-**
2 **MITTEE.**

3 Section 399CC of the Public Health Service Act (42
4 U.S.C. 280i-2) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “within the
6 Department of Health and Human Services” and in-
7 serting “of Federal agencies”;

8 (2) in subsection (b)—

9 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and
10 the families of such individuals” before the
11 semicolon at the end;

12 (B) in paragraph (2)—

13 (i) by inserting “, evaluate, and as-
14 sess” after “monitor”; and

15 (ii) by inserting “and facilitate col-
16 laboration among Federal agencies regard-
17 ing such activities” before the semicolon at
18 the end;

19 (C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “and
20 other appropriate Federal Government depart-
21 ment and agency heads” after “Secretary”;

22 (D) in paragraph (4), by inserting “and
23 other appropriate Federal Government depart-
24 ment and agency heads” after “Secretary”;

25 (E) in paragraph (5), by inserting “and
26 services and supports for individuals with au-

1 tism spectrum disorder and the families of such
2 individuals” after “research”; and

3 (F) in paragraph (6), by striking “submit
4 to the Congress” and inserting “submit to the
5 President, who shall review and transmit to
6 Congress,”;

7 (3) in subsection (c)—

8 (A) in paragraph (1) in subparagraph (D),
9 by inserting “, the Department of Defense, the
10 National Council on Disability, the Department
11 of Housing and Urban Development, the De-
12 partment of Justice, and the Department of
13 Labor” before the semicolon at the end;

14 (B) in paragraph (2)—

15 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
16 graph (A), by striking “fewer than 6 mem-
17 bers of the Committee, or $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total
18 membership of the Committee, whichever
19 is greater,” and inserting “less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of
20 the total membership of the Committee”;

21 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
22 “one such member shall be an individual”
23 and inserting “2 such members shall be in-
24 dividuals”;

25 (iii) in subparagraph (B)—

1 (I) by striking “one such member
2 shall be a parent or legal guardian”
3 and inserting “2 such members shall
4 be a parent or a legal guardian”; and
5 (II) by striking “and” at the end;
6 (iv) in subparagraph (C)—

7 (I) by striking “one such member
8 shall be a representative” and insert-
9 ing “2 such members shall be rep-
10 resentatives”; and

11 (II) by striking the period at the
12 end and inserting “; and”; and

13 (v) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(D) at least 2 such members shall be cli-
15 nicians who treat individuals with autism spec-
16 trum disorder.”;

17 (4) in subsection (d) in paragraph (2), by in-
18 serting “, except that the term of any member ap-
19 pointed under subsection (c)(2)(C) shall expire if
20 such member no longer represents the organization
21 described in such subsection” after “additional 4
22 year term”;

23 (5) in subsection (e), by striking the first sen-
24 tence and inserting “In carrying out its functions,
25 the Committee may convene workshop and con-

1 ferences. The Committee shall establish a sub-
2 committee on research on autism spectrum dis-
3 orders, a subcommittee on services and supports for
4 individuals with autism spectrum disorders and the
5 families of such individuals, and such other sub-
6 committees as the Committee determines appro-
7 priate. Such subcommittees shall vote separately on
8 matters within their respective jurisdictions.”; and

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

10 “(f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
11 of enactment of the Autism Spectrum Disorders Services
12 Act of 2011 and annually thereafter, the Comptroller Gen-
13 eral of the United States shall submit a report to Congress
14 concerning the progress of the Federal Government in im-
15 plementing the strategic plan for autism spectrum dis-
16 order research and services and supports for individuals
17 with autism spectrum disorder and the families of such
18 individuals.”.

19 **SEC. 3. SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM SPEC-**
20 **TRUM DISORDERS.**

21 Part R of title III of the Public Health Service Act
22 (42 U.S.C. 280i et seq.) is amended—

23 (1) by redesignating section 399EE (relating to
24 authorization of appropriations) as section 399FF;
25 and

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

3 **“SEC. 399EE. PLANNING AND DEMONSTRATION GRANT FOR**
4 **SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, TRANSITIONING**
5 **YOUTH, AND ADULTS.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—To assist selected eligible enti-
7 ties in providing appropriate services to children, youth
8 with autism spectrum disorders who are transitioning
9 from secondary education to careers or postsecondary edu-
10 cation (referred to in this section as ‘transitioning youth’),
11 adults with autism spectrum disorders, and individuals of
12 any age with autism spectrum disorders who may be at
13 risk due to behavioral and preventable environmental fac-
14 tors, such as wandering (referred to in this section as ‘in-
15 dividuals at risk’), the Secretary shall establish—

16 “(1) a one-time, single-year planning grant pro-
17 gram for eligible entities; and

18 “(2) a multiyear service provision demonstra-
19 tion grant program for selected eligible entities.

20 “(b) PURPOSE OF GRANTS.—Grants shall be award-
21 ed to eligible entities to provide all or part of the funding
22 needed to carry out programs that focus critical aspects
23 of life for children, transitioning youth, and adults with
24 autism spectrum disorders (including adults not eligible

1 for developmental disability services provided by a State),
2 such as—

3 “(1) postsecondary education, peer support, vo-
4 cational training, self-advocacy skills, and employ-
5 ment;

6 “(2) community-based behavioral supports and
7 interventions;

8 “(3) residential services, housing, and transpor-
9 tation;

10 “(4) nutrition, health and wellness, and rec-
11 reational and social activities; and

12 “(5) personal safety for individuals at risk and
13 the needs of individuals with autism spectrum dis-
14 orders who become involved with the criminal justice
15 system.

16 “(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—An eligible entity desiring
17 to receive a grant under this section shall be a State or
18 other public or private nonprofit organization, including
19 a State Council on Developmental Disabilities, as defined
20 in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assist-
21 ance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000.

22 “(d) PLANNING GRANTS.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award
24 one-time grants to eligible entities to support the
25 planning and development of initiatives that will ex-

1 pand and enhance service delivery systems for chil-
2 dren, individuals at risk, transitioning youth, and
3 adults with autism spectrum disorders.

4 “(2) APPLICATION.—In order to receive such a
5 grant, an eligible entity shall—

6 “(A) submit an application at such time
7 and containing such information as the Sec-
8 retary may require; and

9 “(B) demonstrate the ability to carry out
10 such planning grant in coordination with the
11 applicable State Council on Developmental Dis-
12 abilities and organizations representing or serv-
13 ing individuals with autism spectrum disorders
14 and the families of such individuals.

15 “(e) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award
17 grants to eligible entities that have received a plan-
18 ning grant under subsection (d) to enable such enti-
19 ties to provide appropriate services to children, indi-
20 viduals at risk, transitioning youth, and adults with
21 autism spectrum disorders.

22 “(2) APPLICATION.—In order to receive a grant
23 under paragraph (1), the eligible entity shall submit
24 an application at such time and containing such in-
25 formation as the Secretary may require, including—

1 “(A) the services that the eligible entity
2 proposes to provide and the expected outcomes
3 for the individuals who receive such services;

4 “(B) the number of individuals who will be
5 served by such grant, including an estimate of
6 the individuals in underserved areas who will be
7 served by such grant;

8 “(C) the ways in which services will be co-
9 ordinated among both public and nonprofit pro-
10 viders of services for children, transitioning
11 youth, and adults with disabilities, including
12 community-based services;

13 “(D) where applicable, the process through
14 which the eligible entity will distribute funds to
15 a range of community-based or nonprofit pro-
16 viders of services, including local governments,
17 and the capacity of such entity to provide such
18 services;

19 “(E) the process through which the eligible
20 entity will monitor and evaluate the outcome of
21 activities funded through the grant, including
22 the effect of the activities upon individuals who
23 receive such services;

1 “(F) where applicable, the plans of the eli-
2 gible entity to coordinate and streamline transi-
3 tions from youth to adult services;

4 “(G) the process by which the eligible enti-
5 ty will ensure compliance with the integration
6 requirement under section 302 of the Ameri-
7 cans With Disabilities Act of 1990; and

8 “(H) a description of how such services
9 may be sustained following the grant period.

10 “(f) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall contract
11 with a third-party organization with expertise in evalua-
12 tion to evaluate such demonstration grant program and,
13 not later than 180 days after the conclusion of the grant
14 program under subsection (e), submit a report to the Sec-
15 retary. The evaluation and report may include an analysis
16 of whether and to what extent the services provided
17 through the grant program described in this section re-
18 sulted in improved safety, health, education, employment,
19 and community integration outcomes or other measures,
20 as the Secretary determines appropriate.

21 “(g) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of the amounts
22 appropriated to carry out this section, the Secretary shall
23 set aside not more than 7 percent for administrative ex-
24 penses, including the expenses related to carrying out the
25 evaluation described in subsection (f).

1 “(h) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Demonstra-
2 tion grant funds provided under this section shall supple-
3 ment, not supplant, existing treatments, interventions,
4 and services for individuals with autism spectrum dis-
5 orders.

6 **“SEC. 399EE-1. NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER**
7 **FOR AUTISM TREATMENTS, INTERVENTIONS,**
8 **AND SERVICES.**

9 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL TECHNICAL AS-
10 SISTANCE CENTER FOR AUTISM TREATMENTS, INTER-
11 VENTIONS, AND SERVICES.—The Secretary shall award a
12 grant to a national nonprofit organization for the estab-
13 lishment and maintenance of a national technical assist-
14 ance center.

15 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—An organization shall be eligible
16 to receive a grant under subsection (a) if the organiza-
17 tion—

18 “(1) has demonstrated knowledge and expertise
19 in serving children with autism and adults with au-
20 tism and the families of such individuals;

21 “(2) has demonstrated knowledge of how to
22 translate research to practice, and present informa-
23 tion in a way that is easily accessible and under-
24 standable to the family members of individuals with
25 autism;

1 “(3) has demonstrated capacity of training edu-
2 cators, health care providers, family members, and
3 others to support the needs of individuals with au-
4 tism;

5 “(4) has demonstrated capacity of dissemi-
6 nating information throughout the United States;
7 and

8 “(5) has demonstrated capacity to establish and
9 maintain a Web site through which to disseminate
10 information in an easily accessible manner.

11 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—The national technical assist-
12 ance center established under this section shall—

13 “(1) gather and disseminate information on evi-
14 dence-based treatments, interventions, and services
15 for children with autism and adults with autism, in-
16 cluding best practices in delivering such treatments,
17 interventions, and services, and make this informa-
18 tion available to State agencies with responsibilities
19 under section 399BB(c)(2), local communities, and
20 individuals;

21 “(2) gather and disseminate information on ac-
22 tivities of the Interagency Autism Coordinating
23 Committee established under section 399CC;

1 “(3) provide analysis of activities funded under
2 the Autism Spectrum Disorders Services Act of
3 2011, including—

4 “(A) the effectiveness of State and commu-
5 nity-based models for delivering comprehensive
6 services to individuals with autism;

7 “(B) identification and dissemination of
8 best practices emerging from States, commu-
9 nity-based organizations, nonprofit providers,
10 and local governments receiving demonstration
11 grants under this subpart;

12 “(C) the State-by-State availability of, and
13 gaps in, services for individuals with autism
14 spectrum disorders, including information on
15 services or service gaps in rural areas; and

16 “(D) levels of funding and funding sources
17 of services for individuals with autism spectrum
18 disorders in States;

19 “(4) provide technical assistance to States and
20 organizations funded under this part;

21 “(5) gather and disseminate information about
22 autism spectrum disorders;

23 “(6) establish and maintain a Web site through
24 which to disseminate the information gathered under
25 this section in an easily accessible manner;

1 “(7) establish partnerships with advocacy orga-
2 nizations to disseminate accurate information on
3 education, service-provision, and support options and
4 provide assistance in navigating service-provision
5 systems; and

6 “(8) gather and disseminate other information
7 as determined appropriate by the Secretary.”.

8 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 Section 399FF of the Public Health Service Act (42
10 U.S.C. 240i-4), as redesignated by section 3(1), is amend-
11 ed by adding at the end the following:

12 “(d) **PLANNING AND DEMONSTRATION GRANT FOR**
13 **SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, TRANSITIONING YOUTH, AND**
14 **ADULTS.**—To carry out section 399EE, there are author-
15 ized to be appropriated the following:

16 “(1) For fiscal year 2012, \$80,000,000.

17 “(2) For fiscal year 2013, \$90,000,000.

18 “(3) For fiscal year 2014, \$100,000,000.

19 “(4) For fiscal year 2015, \$110,000,000.

20 “(5) For fiscal year 2016, \$120,000,000.

21 “(e) **NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER**
22 **FOR AUTISM TREATMENTS, INTERVENTIONS, AND SERV-**
23 **ICES.**—To carry out section 399EE-1, there are author-
24 ized to be appropriated the following:

25 “(1) For fiscal year 2012, \$2,000,000.

1 “(2) For fiscal year 2013, \$2,100,000.

2 “(3) For fiscal year 2014, \$2,200,000.

3 “(4) For fiscal year 2015, \$2,300,000.

4 “(5) For fiscal year 2016, \$2,400,000.”.

5 **SEC. 5. GAO STUDY ON SERVICE PROVISION AND FINANC-**
6 **ING.**

7 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
8 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
9 shall release a report that examines the following issues:

10 (1) The ways in which autism services and
11 treatments are currently financed in the United
12 States.

13 (2) Current policies for public and private
14 health insurance coverage of autism treatments,
15 interventions, and services.

16 (3) Geographic and regional disparities in provi-
17 sion of services across the lifespan of individuals
18 with autism, levels of community-based versus insti-
19 tutional services, and coverage for such services.

20 (4) Ways in which to improve financing of au-
21 tism treatments, interventions, and services, so as to
22 ensure a minimum level of coverage across the
23 United States.

24 (5) Gaps in financing and availability of serv-
25 ices for adults on the autism spectrum, focusing par-

1 particularly on the needs of adults not eligible for devel-
 2 opmental disability services provided by the State.

3 (6) Areas of need to improve the quality of
 4 services available to individuals on the autism spec-
 5 trum in cross-disability contexts, such as vocational
 6 rehabilitation and centers for independent living.

7 (7) Findings from replicable studies that indi-
 8 cate an increased risk of mortality for individuals
 9 with autism due to preventable circumstances such
 10 as wandering, exposure, drowning, and untreated
 11 seizure disorders.

12 **SEC. 6. EMERGING NEEDS PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY**
 13 **PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM**
 14 **SPECTRUM DISORDERS.**

15 (a) INITIATIVES ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DIS-
 16 ORDERS.—Title I of the Developmental Disabilities Assist-
 17 ance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15001
 18 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

19 **“Subpart F—Initiatives on Autism Spectrum**
 20 **Disorders**

21 **“SEC. 171. EMERGING NEEDS PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY**
 22 **PROGRAM.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make grants
 24 to protection and advocacy systems for the purpose of ena-

1 bling such systems to address the needs of individuals with
2 autism spectrum disorders.

3 “(b) SERVICES PROVIDED.—Services provided under
4 this section may include the provision of—

5 “(1) information, referrals, and advice;

6 “(2) individual and family advocacy;

7 “(3) legal representation;

8 “(4) specific assistance in self-advocacy and as-
9 sistance in capacity building for organizations that
10 advocate on behalf of individuals with autism spec-
11 trum disorder; or

12 “(5) training to individuals with autism spec-
13 trum disorders, the families of such individuals, or
14 advocates for individuals with autism spectrum dis-
15 orders.

16 “(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant
17 under this section, a protection and advocacy system
18 shall—

19 “(1) have the right and authority to investigate
20 incidents of abuse and neglect of youth and adults
21 with autism spectrum disorders if the incidents are
22 reported to the protection and advocacy system or if
23 there is probable cause to believe that the incidents
24 occurred;

1 “(2) have the right and authority to pursue ad-
2 ministrative, legal, and other appropriate remedies
3 and approaches to ensure the protection of youth
4 and adults with autism spectrum disorders; and

5 “(3) have the rights and authorities, including
6 access authority, described in section 143 of this Act
7 and section 105 of the Protection and Advocacy for
8 Individuals with Mental Illness Act.

9 “(d) GRANT AMOUNTS.—The Secretary shall make
10 grants under this section during each fiscal year beginning
11 on October 1 to protection and advocacy systems as fol-
12 lows:

13 “(1) APPROPRIATIONS LESS THAN \$6,700,000.—
14 With respect to any fiscal year for which the amount
15 appropriated under subsection (i) is less than
16 \$6,700,000, the Secretary shall make grants from
17 such amount to protection and advocacy systems
18 that apply for a grant under this section in the
19 amounts described in paragraph (3).

20 “(2) APPROPRIATIONS OF \$6,700,000 OR
21 MORE.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to any
23 fiscal year for which the amount appropriated
24 under subsection (i) is \$6,700,000 or more, the
25 Secretary shall make grants from such amount

1 to protection and advocacy systems under this
2 section in accordance with subparagraph (B).

3 “(B) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—Subject to
4 paragraph (3), the amount of a grant to a pro-
5 tection and advocacy system under subpara-
6 graph (A) shall be equal to an amount bearing
7 the same ratio to the total amount appropriated
8 for the fiscal year involved as the population of
9 the State, Territory, or Consortium in which
10 the grantee is located bears to the cumulative
11 population of all States, Territories, and the
12 Consortium that receive such grants.

13 “(3) MINIMUM AMOUNTS.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount of a
15 grant under this section shall not be less
16 than—

17 “(i) in the case of a protection and
18 advocacy system located in a State,
19 \$120,000; and

20 “(ii) in the case of a protection and
21 advocacy system located in a Territory or
22 Consortium, \$60,000.

23 “(B) ADJUSTMENTS TO MINIMUM
24 AMOUNTS.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a
2 fiscal year (referred to in this subpara-
3 graph as the ‘current fiscal year’) in which
4 the total amount appropriated under sub-
5 section (i) is \$10,000,000 or more, and
6 such amount appropriated exceeds the
7 total amount appropriated under such sub-
8 section for the preceding fiscal year, the
9 Secretary shall increase the minimum
10 grant amounts under subparagraph (A) by
11 a percentage equal to the percentage by
12 which the total amount appropriated for
13 the current fiscal year exceeds the amount
14 appropriated for the previous fiscal year.

15 “(ii) EXCEPTION.—Clause (i) shall
16 not apply in the case that the total amount
17 appropriated for the current fiscal year is
18 less than the amount appropriated for any
19 fiscal year in the period between the date
20 of enactment of the Combating Autism Re-
21 authorization Act of 2011 and such cur-
22 rent fiscal year.

23 “(C) APPLICABILITY OF ADJUSTMENTS.—

24 An increase in the minimum grant amounts

1 under subparagraph (B) shall be effective for
2 each subsequent fiscal year.

3 “(4) LOWER APPROPRIATION YEARS.—In the
4 case of a fiscal year for which the amount appro-
5 priated under subsection (i) is insufficient to satisfy
6 the requirements of paragraph (3) for each protec-
7 tion and advocacy system that applies for a grant
8 under this section, the Secretary shall award grants
9 in the amounts described in paragraph (3) to as
10 many protection and advocacy systems as the
11 amount appropriated allows.

12 “(5) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-
13 section and subsection (e):

14 “(A) CONSORTIUM.—The term ‘Consortium’
15 means an American Indian Consortium,
16 as defined in section 102(1).

17 “(B) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means
18 each of the 50 States of the United States, the
19 District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of
20 Puerto Rico.

21 “(C) TERRITORY.—The term ‘Territory’
22 means American Samoa, the Commonwealth of
23 the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the
24 United States Virgin Islands.

1 “(e) CARRYOVER.—Any amount paid to a protection
2 and advocacy system that serves a Consortium, State, or
3 Territory for a fiscal year under this section that remains
4 unobligated at the end of such fiscal year shall remain
5 available to such system for obligation during the next fis-
6 cal year for the purposes for which such amount was origi-
7 nally provided.

8 “(f) DIRECT PAYMENT.—Notwithstanding any other
9 provision of law, the Secretary shall pay directly to any
10 protection and advocacy system that complies with the
11 provisions of this section, the total amount of the grant
12 for such system, unless the system provides otherwise for
13 such payment.

14 “(g) ADMINISTRATIVE, REPORTING, AND OVERSIGHT
15 REQUIREMENTS.—To the extent practicable, reporting,
16 monitoring, program financing, and other administrative
17 and oversight requirements established by the Secretary
18 under this section shall be consistent with the other ad-
19 ministrative, reporting, and oversight requirements for a
20 protection and advocacy system.

21 “(h) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each protection and advo-
22 cacy system that receives a payment under this section
23 shall submit an annual report to the Secretary concerning
24 the services provided to individuals with autism spectrum
25 disorders by such system.

1 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
2 carry out this section, there are authorized to be appro-
3 priated the following:

4 “(1) For fiscal year 2012, \$8,000,000.

5 “(2) For fiscal year 2013, \$9,000,000.

6 “(3) For fiscal year 2014, \$10,000,000.

7 “(4) For fiscal year 2015, \$11,000,000.

8 “(5) For fiscal year 2016, \$12,000,000.

9 “(j) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘protec-
10 tion and advocacy system’ means a protection and advo-
11 cacy system established under section 143.

12 “(k) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

13 “(1) APPROPRIATIONS OF LESS THAN
14 \$6,750,000.—For a fiscal year for which the amount
15 appropriated to carry out this section is less than
16 \$6,750,000, the Secretary shall set aside the greater
17 of—

18 “(A) 1 percent of the funds appropriated;

19 or

20 “(B) \$25,000, to make a grant to a na-
21 tional organization with experience in providing
22 training and technical assistance to protection
23 and advocacy systems to provide such training
24 and technical assistance.

1 “(2) APPROPRIATIONS OF NOT LESS THAN
2 \$6,750,000.—For a fiscal year for which the amount
3 appropriated to carry out this section is not less
4 than \$6,750,000, the Secretary shall set aside 2 per-
5 cent of the funds appropriated to make a grant to
6 a national organization with experience in providing
7 training and technical assistance to protection and
8 advocacy systems to provide such training and tech-
9 nical assistance.

10 **“SEC. 172. NATIONAL TRAINING INITIATIVE.**

11 “(a) GRANTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

12 “(1) GRANTS.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in con-
14 sultation with the Interagency Autism Coordi-
15 nating Committee established under section
16 399CC of the Public Health Service Act, shall
17 award multiyear grants to eligible entities to
18 provide individuals with interdisciplinary train-
19 ing, continuing education, technical assistance,
20 and information for the purpose of improving
21 services rendered to individuals with autism
22 spectrum disorders and the families of such in-
23 dividuals, to address unmet needs related to au-
24 tism spectrum disorders.

1 “(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—To be eligible to
2 receive a grant under this subsection, an entity
3 shall be—

4 “(i) a University Center for Excel-
5 lence in Developmental Disabilities Edu-
6 cation, Research, and Service; or

7 “(ii) a comparable interdisciplinary
8 education, research, and service entity.

9 “(C) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An
10 entity that desires to receive a grant for a pro-
11 gram under this subsection shall submit to the
12 Secretary an application—

13 “(i) demonstrating that the entity has
14 capacity to—

15 “(I) provide training and tech-
16 nical assistance in evidence-based
17 practices to evaluate, and provide ef-
18 fective interventions, services, treat-
19 ments, and supports to individuals
20 with autism spectrum disorders and
21 the families of such individuals; and

22 “(II) establish a consumer advi-
23 sory committee that includes individ-
24 uals with autism spectrum disorder

1 and family members of individuals
2 with autism spectrum disorder;

3 “(ii) providing assurances that the en-
4 tity will—

5 “(I) provide trainees under this
6 subsection with an appropriate bal-
7 ance of interdisciplinary academic and
8 community-based experiences; and

9 “(II) provide to the Secretary, in
10 the manner prescribed by the Sec-
11 retary, data regarding the number of
12 individuals who have benefitted from,
13 and outcomes of, the provision of
14 training and technical assistance
15 under this subsection;

16 “(iii) providing assurances that train-
17 ing, technical assistance, dissemination of
18 information, and services under this sub-
19 section will be—

20 “(I) consistent with the goals of
21 this Act, the Americans with Disabil-
22 ities Act of 1990, the Individuals with
23 Disabilities Education Act, and the
24 Elementary and Secondary Education
25 Act of 1965; and

1 “(II) conducted in coordination
2 with relevant State agencies, institu-
3 tions of higher education, and service
4 providers; and

5 “(iv) containing such other informa-
6 tion and assurances as the Secretary may
7 require.

8 “(D) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant received
9 under this subsection shall be used to provide
10 individuals (including parents and health, allied
11 health, vocational, and educational profes-
12 sionals) with interdisciplinary training, con-
13 tinuing education, technical assistance, and in-
14 formation for the purpose of improving services
15 rendered to individuals with autism spectrum
16 disorders and the families of such individuals,
17 to address unmet needs related to autism spec-
18 trum disorders. Such training, education, as-
19 sistance, and information shall include each of
20 the following:

21 “(i) Training health, allied health, vo-
22 cational, and educational professionals to
23 identify, evaluate the needs of, and develop
24 interventions, services, treatments, and
25 supports (including housing, personal safe-

1 ty, and employment-related supports) for
2 individuals with autism spectrum dis-
3 orders.

4 “(ii) Developing, demonstrating, and
5 disseminating a standard curriculum for
6 the training of first responders, including
7 police, firefighters, emergency medical
8 technicians, and other law enforcement and
9 public safety officers.

10 “(iii) Training direct service profes-
11 sionals to provide housing and employment
12 related supports.

13 “(iv) Developing model services and
14 supports that demonstrate evidence-based
15 practices.

16 “(v) Developing systems and products
17 that allow for the interventions, services,
18 treatments, and supports to be evaluated
19 for fidelity of implementation.

20 “(vi) Working to expand the avail-
21 ability of evidence-based, lifelong interven-
22 tions; educational, employment, and transi-
23 tion services; and community supports.

24 “(vii) Providing statewide technical
25 assistance in collaboration with relevant

1 State agencies, institutions of higher edu-
2 cation, advocacy organizations, family
3 groups, and community-based service pro-
4 viders.

5 “(viii) Working to develop comprehen-
6 sive systems of supports and services for
7 individuals with autism spectrum disorders
8 and the families of such individuals, in-
9 cluding seamless transitions between edu-
10 cation and health systems across the life-
11 span.

12 “(ix) Promoting training, technical as-
13 sistance, dissemination of information,
14 supports, and services.

15 “(x) Developing mechanisms to pro-
16 vide training and technical assistance, in-
17 cluding for-credit courses, intensive sum-
18 mer institutes, continuing education pro-
19 grams, distance-based programs, and
20 Internet Web site-based information dis-
21 semination strategies.

22 “(xi) Promoting activities that sup-
23 port community-based family and indi-
24 vidual services and enable individuals with
25 autism spectrum disorders to fully partici-

1 pate in society and achieve good quality-of-
2 life outcomes.

3 “(xii) Collecting data on the outcomes
4 of training and technical assistance pro-
5 grams to meet statewide needs for the ex-
6 pansion of services to individuals with au-
7 tism spectrum disorders.

8 “(E) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—The amount
9 of a grant to any entity for a fiscal year under
10 this paragraph shall be not less than \$250,000.

11 “(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary
12 shall reserve 2 percent of the amount appropriated
13 to carry out this subsection for a fiscal year to make
14 a grant to a national organization with dem-
15 onstrated capacity for providing training and tech-
16 nical assistance to—

17 “(A) assist in national dissemination of
18 specific information, including evidence-based
19 best practices, from interdisciplinary training
20 programs, and when appropriate, other entities
21 whose findings would inform the work per-
22 formed by entities awarded grants;

23 “(B) compile and disseminate strategies
24 and materials that prove to be effective in the
25 provision of training and technical assistance so

1 that the entire network can benefit from the
2 models, materials, and practices developed in
3 individual centers;

4 “(C) assist in the coordination of activities
5 of grantees under this subsection;

6 “(D) develop an Internet portal that will
7 provide linkages to each of the individual train-
8 ing initiatives and provide access to training
9 modules, promising training, and technical as-
10 sistance practices and other materials developed
11 by grantees;

12 “(E) serve as a research-based resource for
13 Federal and State policymakers on information
14 concerning the provision of training and tech-
15 nical assistance for the assessment, and provi-
16 sion of supports and services for, individuals
17 with autism spectrum disorders;

18 “(F) partner with Federal, State, and local
19 advocacy organizations to ensure effective dis-
20 semination of research findings to individuals
21 on the autism spectrum;

22 “(G) convene experts from multiple inter-
23 disciplinary training programs, individuals with
24 autism spectrum disorders, and the families of
25 such individuals to discuss and make rec-

1 ommendations with regard to training issues re-
2 lated to assessment, interventions, services,
3 treatment, and supports for individuals with au-
4 tism spectrum disorders; and

5 “(H) undertake any other functions that
6 the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

7 “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
8 To carry out this subsection, there are authorized to
9 be appropriated the following:

10 “(A) For fiscal year 2012, \$20,000,000.

11 “(B) For fiscal year 2013, \$22,000,000.

12 “(C) For fiscal year 2014, \$24,000,000.

13 “(D) For fiscal year 2015, \$26,000,000.

14 “(E) For fiscal year 2016, \$28,000,000.

15 “(b) EXPANSION OF THE NUMBER OF UNIVERSITY
16 CENTERS FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENTAL DIS-
17 ABILITIES EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND SERVICE.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To provide for the estab-
19 lishment of up to 4 new University Centers for Ex-
20 cellence in Developmental Disabilities Education,
21 Research, and Service, the Secretary shall award up
22 to 4 grants to institutions of higher education in ac-
23 cordance with the requirements of this subtitle.

24 “(2) APPLICABLE PROVISIONS.—Except for
25 subsection (a)(3), the provisions of subsection (a)

1 shall apply with respect to grants under this sub-
2 section to the same extent and in the same manner
3 as such provisions apply with respect to grants
4 under subsection (a).

5 “(3) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this
6 section, the Secretary shall give priority to appli-
7 cants that—

8 “(A) are minority institutions that have
9 demonstrated capacity to meet the requirements
10 of this section and provide services to individ-
11 uals with autism spectrum disorders and the
12 families of such individuals; or

13 “(B) are located in a State with one or
14 more unserved or underserved populations.

15 “(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
16 To carry out this section, there are authorized to be
17 appropriated the following:

18 “(A) For fiscal year 2012, \$2,000,000.

19 “(B) For fiscal year 2013, \$2,200,000.

20 “(C) For fiscal year 2014, \$2,400,000.

21 “(D) For fiscal year 2015, \$2,600,000.

22 “(E) For fiscal year 2016, \$2,800,000.

23 “(5) DEFINITION.—In this subsection:

1 “(A) The term ‘minority institution’ has
2 the meaning given such term in section 365 of
3 the Higher Education Act of 1965.

4 “(B) The term ‘University Center for Ex-
5 cellence in Developmental Disabilities Edu-
6 cation, Research, and Service’ means a Univer-
7 sity Center for Excellence in Developmental
8 Disabilities Education, Research, and Service
9 that has been or is funded through subtitle D
10 or this subsection.”.

11 **SEC. 7. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

12 Not later than January 1, 2013, and each January
13 1 thereafter, the Secretary of Health and Human Services
14 shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress
15 a report concerning the implementation of this Act, includ-
16 ing the amendments made by this Act.

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