

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5756

To amend title I of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 to provide for grants and technical assistance to improve services rendered to children and adults with autism, and their families, and to expand the number of University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 2010

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

A BILL

To amend title I of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 to provide for grants and technical assistance to improve services rendered to children and adults with autism, and their families, and to expand the number of University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
3 “Training and Research for Autism Improvements Na-
4 tionwide Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL TRAINING INITIATIVES ON AUTISM SPEC-**
6 **TRUM DISORDERS.**

7 Title I of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance
8 and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15001 et seq.)
9 is amended by adding at the end the following:

10 **“Subtitle F—National Training Ini-**
11 **tiative on Autism Spectrum Dis-**
12 **orders**

13 **“SEC. 171. NATIONAL TRAINING INITIATIVE.**

14 “(a) GRANTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

15 “(1) GRANTS.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in con-
17 sultation with the Interagency Autism Coordi-
18 nating Committee, shall award multiyear grants
19 to eligible entities to provide individuals (includ-
20 ing parents and health, allied health, vocational,
21 and educational professionals) with interdiscipli-
22 nary training, continuing education, technical
23 assistance, and information for the purpose of
24 improving services rendered to children and
25 adults with autism, and their families, to ad-
26 dress unmet needs related to autism.

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 paragraph 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, children and
20 adults with autism and their families;

21 “(II) include individuals with au-
22 tism and their families as part of the
23 program to ensure that an individual-
24 and family-centered approach is used;

1 “(III) share and disseminate ma-
2 terials and practices that are devel-
3 oped for, and evaluated to be effective
4 in, the provision of training and tech-
5 nical assistance; and

6 “(IV) provide training, technical
7 assistance, interventions, services,
8 treatments, and supports under this
9 subsection statewide;

10 “(ii) providing assurances that the en-
11 tity will—

12 “(I) provide trainees under this
13 subsection with an appropriate bal-
14 ance of interdisciplinary academic and
15 community-based experiences; and

16 “(II) provide to the Secretary, in
17 the manner prescribed by the Sec-
18 retary, data regarding the number of
19 individuals who have benefitted from,
20 and outcomes of, the provision of
21 training and technical assistance
22 under this subsection;

23 “(iii) providing assurances that train-
24 ing, technical assistance, dissemination of

1 information, and services under this sub-
2 section will be—

3 “(I) consistent with the goals of
4 this Act, the Americans with Disabil-
5 ities Act of 1990, the Individuals with
6 Disabilities Education Act, and the
7 Elementary and Secondary Education
8 Act of 1965; and

9 “(II) conducted in coordination
10 with relevant State agencies, institu-
11 tions of higher education, and service
12 providers; and

13 “(iv) containing such other informa-
14 tion and assurances as the Secretary may
15 require.

16 “(D) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant received
17 under this subsection shall be used to provide
18 individuals (including parents and health, allied
19 health, vocational, and educational profes-
20 sionals) with interdisciplinary training, con-
21 tinuing education, technical assistance, and in-
22 formation for the purpose of improving services
23 rendered to children and adults with autism,
24 and their families, to address unmet needs re-
25 lated to autism. Such training, education, as-

1 sistance, and information shall include each of
2 the following:

3 “(i) Training health, allied health, vo-
4 cational, and educational professionals to
5 identify, evaluate the needs of, and develop
6 interventions, services, treatments, and
7 supports for, children and adults with au-
8 tism.

9 “(ii) Developing model services and
10 supports that demonstrate evidence-based
11 practices.

12 “(iii) Developing systems and prod-
13 ucts that allow for the interventions, serv-
14 ices, treatments, and supports to be evalu-
15 ated for fidelity of implementation.

16 “(iv) Working to expand the avail-
17 ability of evidence-based, lifelong interven-
18 tions; educational, employment, and transi-
19 tion services; and community supports.

20 “(v) Providing statewide technical as-
21 sistance in collaboration with relevant
22 State agencies, institutions of higher edu-
23 cation, autism advocacy groups, and com-
24 munity-based service providers.

1 “(vi) Working to develop comprehen-
2 sive systems of supports and services for
3 individuals with autism and their families,
4 including seamless transitions between
5 education and health systems across the
6 lifespan.

7 “(vii) Promoting training, technical
8 assistance, dissemination of information,
9 supports, and services.

10 “(viii) Developing mechanisms to pro-
11 vide training and technical assistance, in-
12 cluding for-credit courses, intensive sum-
13 mer institutes, continuing education pro-
14 grams, distance based programs, and Web-
15 based information dissemination strategies.

16 “(ix) Promoting activities that sup-
17 port community-based family and indi-
18 vidual services and enable individuals with
19 autism and related developmental disabili-
20 ties to fully participate in society and
21 achieve good quality-of-life outcomes.

22 “(x) Collecting data on the outcomes
23 of training and technical assistance pro-
24 grams to meet statewide needs for the ex-

1 pansion of services to children and adults
2 with autism.

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

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

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

18 “(B) compile and disseminate strategies
19 and materials that prove to be effective in the
20 provision of training and technical assistance so
21 that the entire network can benefit from the
22 models, materials, and practices developed in
23 individual centers;

24 “(C) assist in the coordination of activities
25 of grantees under this subsection;

1 “(D) develop a Web portal that will pro-
2 vide linkages to each of the individual training
3 initiatives and provide access to training mod-
4 ules, promising training, and technical assist-
5 ance practices and other materials developed by
6 grantees;

7 “(E) serve as a research-based resource for
8 Federal and State policymakers on information
9 concerning the provision of training and tech-
10 nical assistance for the assessment, and provi-
11 sion of supports and services for, children and
12 adults with autism;

13 “(F) convene experts from multiple inter-
14 disciplinary training programs, individuals with
15 autism, and the families of such individuals to
16 discuss and make recommendations with regard
17 to training issues related to assessment, inter-
18 ventions, services, treatment, and supports for
19 children and adults with autism; and

20 “(G) undertake any other functions that
21 the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

22 “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
23 To carry out this subsection, there are authorized to
24 be appropriated \$17,000,000 for fiscal year 2011

1 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fis-
2 cal years 2012 through 2015.

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

6 “(1) GRANTS.—To provide for the establish-
7 ment of up to 4 new University Centers for Excel-
8 lence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Re-
9 search, and Service, the Secretary shall award up to
10 4 grants to institutions of higher education.

11 “(2) APPLICABLE PROVISIONS.—Except for
12 subsection (a)(3), the provisions of subsection (a)
13 shall apply with respect to grants under this sub-
14 section to the same extent and in the same manner
15 as such provisions apply with respect to grants
16 under subsection (a).

17 “(3) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this
18 subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to appli-
19 cants that—

20 “(A) are minority institutions that have
21 demonstrated capacity to meet the requirements
22 of this section and provide services to individ-
23 uals with autism and their families; or

24 “(B) are located in a State with one or
25 more underserved populations.

1 “(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

2 To carry out this subsection, there is authorized to
3 be appropriated \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years
4 2011 through 2015.

5 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 “(1) The term ‘autism’ means an autism spec-
7 trum disorder or a related developmental disability.

8 “(2) The term ‘interventions’ means edu-
9 cational methods and positive behavioral support
10 strategies designed to improve or ameliorate symp-
11 toms associated with autism.

12 “(3) The term ‘minority institution’ has the
13 meaning given to such term in section 365 of the
14 Higher Education Act of 1965.

15 “(4) The term ‘services’ means services to as-
16 sist individuals with autism to live more independ-
17 ently in their communities.

18 “(5) The term ‘treatments’ means health serv-
19 ices, including mental health services, designed to
20 improve or ameliorate symptoms associated with au-
21 tism.

22 “(6) The term ‘University Center for Excellence
23 in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research,
24 and Service’ means a University Center for Excel-
25 lence in Development Disabilities Education, Re-

1 search, and Service that has been or is funded
2 through subtitle D or subsection (b).”.

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