

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

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 [*strike as unnecessary?*: (or the
16 Secretary’s designee)] shall—

17 “(1) [*Isn’t this already the case?*] act as the pri-
18 mary Federal official with responsibility for over-
19 seeing all research on autism spectrum disorders
20 conducted or supported by the National Institutes of
21 Health;

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

1 “(3) receive directly from the President and the
2 Director of the Office of Management and Budget
3 all funds available for autism spectrum disorder ac-
4 tivities of the National Institutes of Health;

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

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

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

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

1 “(8) maintain communications with all relevant
2 departments **[add: and agencies]** of the Federal
3 Government to ensure the timely transmission of in-
4 formation concerning autism spectrum disorders;
5 and

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

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 (c), by inserting “, biomate-
12 rials for induced pluripotent stem cells, biosamples
13 relevant to environmental exposures,” after “tis-
14 sues”.

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

17 Section 399BB(f) of the Public Health Service Act
18 (42 U.S.C. 280i–1(f)) is amended—

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

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