

Rep. Smith's Autism CARES Act of 2024 (HR 7213): What Advocacy Groups Are Saying

Autism Speaks

"We are grateful for the leadership of Representative Chris Smith for not only championing the reauthorization of this historic legislation but crafting a forward-looking bill that will help spur progress in research, supports and services for years to come," said Keith Wargo, President and CEO, Autism Speaks. "Since co-founding the Congressional Autism Caucus in 2001, Rep. Smith has been a leader on every iteration of this important legislation, and we are deeply appreciative of his longstanding work on behalf of the autism community."

Autism Science Foundation

"All of us at the Autism Science Foundation want to express our thanks to the full membership and staff of the House Energy and Commerce Committee...as well as the work of the original sponsor of the Autism CARES Act of 2024, Congressman Chris Smith. The deliberative and iterative process they employed has led to passage of bill that is much improved from the Autism CARES Act of 2019."

Autism Society

"The Autism CARES Act, as amended, addresses some of the current needs by including research in Autism and aging, services for those with more complex needs, communication needs, and challenges in attracting and retaining developmental pediatricians, among other improvements."

Association of University Centers on Disabilities

"The CARES Act is crucial to maintaining and improving the monitoring, training, and research programs focused on improving the lives of children and adults with autism and other neurodevelopmental disabilities, and their families."

The Arc of the United States

"[The Autism CARES Act] responds to the challenges in attracting and retaining developmental pediatricians—a workforce critical to early diagnoses and access to interventions."

Profound Autism Alliance

"This is a great opportunity to make sure that autistic people who require lifetime, 24/7 care are actually included in clinical research."