



Please Support (The Autism CARES Act of 2019)

The Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education & Support Act of 2019

These bills [H.R. 1058, introduced by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ) and S. 427, introduced in the Senate by Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ), respectively] would reauthorize the federal autism programs that were last reauthorized by the Autism CARES Act of 2014. These include research and surveillance initiatives at the NIH and CDC, initiatives to raise public awareness and increase early detection of autism, and funding to train health care providers and autism support specialists. The renewal emphasizes the fact that autism does not disappear at adulthood or at any stage of life, and that all of these programs need to account for people with autism across their lifespan.

The renewal would expand the original bill to include further research into the causes, diagnosis, and early and ongoing detection, prevention, and treatment of autism spectrum disorder across the lifespan. The bill also emphasizes a greater commitment to reducing disparities within the autism community by improving access to clinical services for youth and adults from diverse racial, ethnic, geographic, or linguistic backgrounds.

The 2014 bill authorized funding through 2019. The 2019 bill would renew the authorization through 2024. To sign on to H.R. 1078, or for more information, please contact Kelsey Griswold in Representative Chris Smith's office at kelsey.griswold@mail.house.gov. To sign on to S. 427, or for more information, please contact Stephen Lieberman in Senator Bob Menendez' office, at stephen_lieberman@menendez.senate.gov.