

112<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6218

To provide for the establishment of the Autoimmune Diseases  
Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE (for herself, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. HANNA, Mr. RANGEL, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. TURNER of New York, Ms. CHU, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. MARINO, Mr. WOLF, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. KELLY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To provide for the establishment of the Autoimmune Diseases Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee, 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 “Mary Colella Auto-  
5 immune Disease Awareness Act of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES INTERDEPARTMENTAL CO-**  
2 **ORDINATING COMMITTEE.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Part B of title III of the Pub-  
4 lic Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 243 et seq.) is amended  
5 by adding at the end the following:

6 **“SEC. 320B. AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES INTERDEPARTMENTAL**  
7 **COORDINATING COMMITTEE.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish  
9 and maintain a committee, to be known as the Auto-  
10 immune Diseases Interdepartmental Coordinating Com-  
11 mittee (referred to in this section as the ‘Coordinating  
12 Committee’), for the purpose of formulating recommenda-  
13 tions for the coordination of governmental and private  
14 programs and activities relating to autoimmune diseases.

15 “(b) COMPOSITION.—The Coordinating Committee  
16 shall be composed of the following members (or their des-  
17 ignees):

18 “(1) The Assistant Secretary for Health, who  
19 shall serve as the Chair of the Coordinating Com-  
20 mittee.

21 “(2) The Assistant Secretary for Planning and  
22 Evaluation.

23 “(3) The Commissioner of Food and Drugs.

24 “(4) The Director of the National Institutes of  
25 Health.

1           “(5) The Director of the Centers for Disease  
2 Control and Prevention.

3           “(6) The Administrator of the Health Re-  
4 sources and Services Administration.

5           “(7) The Secretary of Education.

6           “(8) The Secretary of Defense.

7           “(9) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

8           “(10) The Commissioner of Social Security.

9           “(11) Such other Federal officials as the Sec-  
10 retary may designate or invite, as appropriate, to  
11 serve as members on the Coordinating Committee.

12          “(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In furtherance of the pur-  
13 pose described in subsection (a), the Coordinating Com-  
14 mittee shall—

15           “(1) develop criteria to be used in defining and  
16 identifying autoimmune diseases;

17           “(2) monitor Federal, State, and private activi-  
18 ties with respect to autoimmune diseases;

19           “(3) make recommendations regarding any ap-  
20 propriate changes to such activities, including rec-  
21 ommendations to the Director of NIH with respect  
22 to the strategic plan developed under paragraph (5);

23           “(4) make recommendations regarding public  
24 participation in decisions relating to autoimmune  
25 diseases;

1           “(5) develop and annually update a strategic  
2 plan for the coordination of governmental and pri-  
3 vate programs and activities relating to autoimmune  
4 diseases, including—

5                   “(A) proposed budgetary requirements;

6                   “(B) a summary of advances in auto-  
7 immune disease research related to causes, pre-  
8 vention, treatment, early screening, diagnosis or  
9 rule out, intervention, and access to services  
10 and supports for individuals with an auto-  
11 immune disease;

12                   “(C) an assessment of research that is  
13 being conducted on autoimmune diseases;

14                   “(D) an assessment of the ability of health  
15 care providers to identify and diagnose auto-  
16 immune diseases properly;

17                   “(E) an assessment of the quality of post-  
18 graduate continuing education programs on  
19 autoimmune diseases; and

20                   “(F) recommendations on education and  
21 continuing education on autoimmune diseases  
22 for health care providers; and

23           “(6) on a biennial basis, submit to the Congress  
24 such strategic plan and any updates to such plan.

25           “(d) FUNDING.—

1           “(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

2           To carry out this section, there is authorized to be  
3           appropriated \$250,000 for each of fiscal years 2013  
4           through 2016.

5           “(2) FUNDING SOURCE.—Funds for carrying  
6           out this section shall be derived exclusively from  
7           funds made available under section 241.”.

8           (b) CONFORMING CHANGE.—Section 409E of the  
9           Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284i) is amended  
10          by striking subsection (b).

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